

SPRINGFIELD FLYOVER

Tier 2 Environmental Assessment

Elected Officials Briefing
September 30, 2014



**ILLINOIS
HIGH-SPEED RAIL**
CHICAGO TO ST. LOUIS



Study Area



Study Area Boundaries

- Stanford Avenue on the north
- Interstate 72 on the south
- MacArthur Boulevard on the west
- South Second Street on the east

Project Background

- Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision (ROD) in December 2012
- Rail grade separated overpass (or flyover)
 - Union Pacific (UP) and Norfolk Southern (NS) trains cross each other at-grade
 - UP trains currently wait for clearance – creating delays
 - Recommendation: realign tracks and elevate rail line

Environmental Assessment

- National Environment Policy Act (NEPA) 1969
 - Necessary for federal funding
 - Purpose and Need
 - Reasonable Alternatives
 - Environmental, social and economic impacts avoided, minimized, or mitigated
- Find best solution with least impacts for best value

Project Purpose and Need

Enhance high-speed passenger rail service

- Increase safety for trains and passengers
- Meet high-speed rail on-time performance requirements
- Reduce railroad delays and congestion from using shared track

Evaluation Criteria for Alternatives

- Meet purpose and need
- Avoid or minimize environmental impacts
- Reduce costs
- Consider public input



Environmental Impacts

- New right-of-way
- Commercial and residential displacements
- Agriculture
- Air quality
- Wetlands/water quality
- Noise/vibration
- Threatened/endangered species
- Historic/prehistoric sites
- Special waste
- Section 4(f) lands (parks)
- Aesthetics

Public Involvement

- Stakeholder letters
- Local governmental officials meetings
- Public meetings
- Community presentations
- Project video/website
- Newsletters
- Media briefings/statements
- Public comments

Study Timeline



Submit Comments/Additional Information

Provide input on Springfield Flyover and environmental impacts

- **Visit our website:** www.idotHSR.org/SpringfieldFlyover
- **Follow us on Facebook:**
www.facebook.com/IllinoisHighSpeedRail
- **Call us:** 1-855-IDOT-HSR (436-8477)
- **Write Us:** Illinois Department of Transportation
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