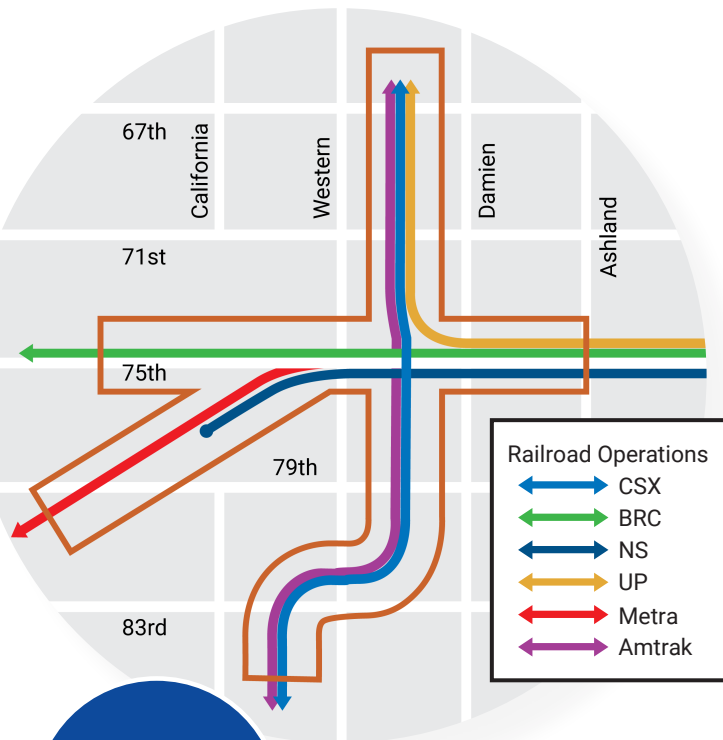


71ST STREET GRADE SEPARATION

GS19

About

The 71st Street Rail Grade Separation project will construct a road-rail grade separation of the CSX freight line over 71st Street. Construction began in October 2022 and completion is anticipated in the third quarter of 2027. GS19 is being delivered alongside the Forest Hill Flyover (P3), which opened in November 2025. Together, the two projects represent an estimated \$380 million investment, anchored by a \$132 million federal Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant awarded in 2018 and combined with more than \$260 million in state, local, and private railroad funding.



Location



71st Street and Bell Avenue in Chicago
(between Damen and Western Avenues)

Communities Benefited

- Chicago IL
- Englewood
- Auburn Gresham



75thcip.org

**Project
Location
Map**

Daily Trains Affected



FREIGHT TRAINS

30

METRA

35

Rail Infrastructure Improvements

- ✓ GS19 will replace the at-grade crossing with a new grade-separated structure that carries the CSX freight line above a lowered 71st Street.



Community Benefits

SAFETY BENEFITS

- Improves safety and provides more reliable travel for the surrounding community.
- Reduces the daily wait time for people walking, bicycling, and driving along 71st Street when trains pass.
- Eliminates the potential for train-vehicle conflicts.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Project improvements will positively impact environmental factors on the corridor, including:

- **Air quality** - Removal of this at grade crossing will significantly reduce road emissions with vehicles no longer idling while waiting for the train to pass.



About the CREATE Program

The Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program is a nationally significant public-private partnership working to modernize and improve the Chicago region's rail network. Through 70 coordinated infrastructure projects, CREATE is helping reduce rail congestion, improve safety, increase efficiency for freight and passenger rail service, and enhance mobility for communities across the region. The program includes track, signal, grade separation, and roadway improvements that support the movement of people and goods throughout the Chicago area and across the nation.

Learn more at [CREATEPROGRAM.ORG](https://createprogram.org)