

From Idea to Implementation:

How Transportation Projects Are Born in Chatham County



Chatham County Transportation Team



How do we identify projects?

1. Citizen Concerns
2. Maintenance & Resilience Needs
3. Studies & Long-Range Planning



Citizen Concerns

- Often the clearest origin for projects
- Signal improvements
- Traffic Calming
- Pedestrian Projects

Examples: US-80 Sidewalk Project, Garrard Avenue Improvement Project, Chevis Road Improvement Project, Green Island Road Path



Maintenance & Resilience Needs

- Identified by Public Works during routine maintenance
- Goal to eliminate areas of flooding, area isolation during storm events
- Example: Walthour Slope Stabilization
- Resurfacing



Road Resurfacing Program

- Routine Maintenance beyond filling pot holes
- Pavement Condition Index
- Scores available online at engineering.chathamcountyga.gov



Study Driven Projects

- Majority of Large Projects stem from studies
- CORE MPO
 - Congestion Management Plan
 - MTP 2050 Plan
 - Freight Management Plan

Examples: Ogeechee Road Corridor Study, SR 204 at Pine Grove Intersection Study, Quacco Road Widening, Little Neck Road Reconstruction



PRESIDENT STREET RAILROAD CROSSING ELIMINATION STUDY

Chatham County



Chatham
County
GEORGIA



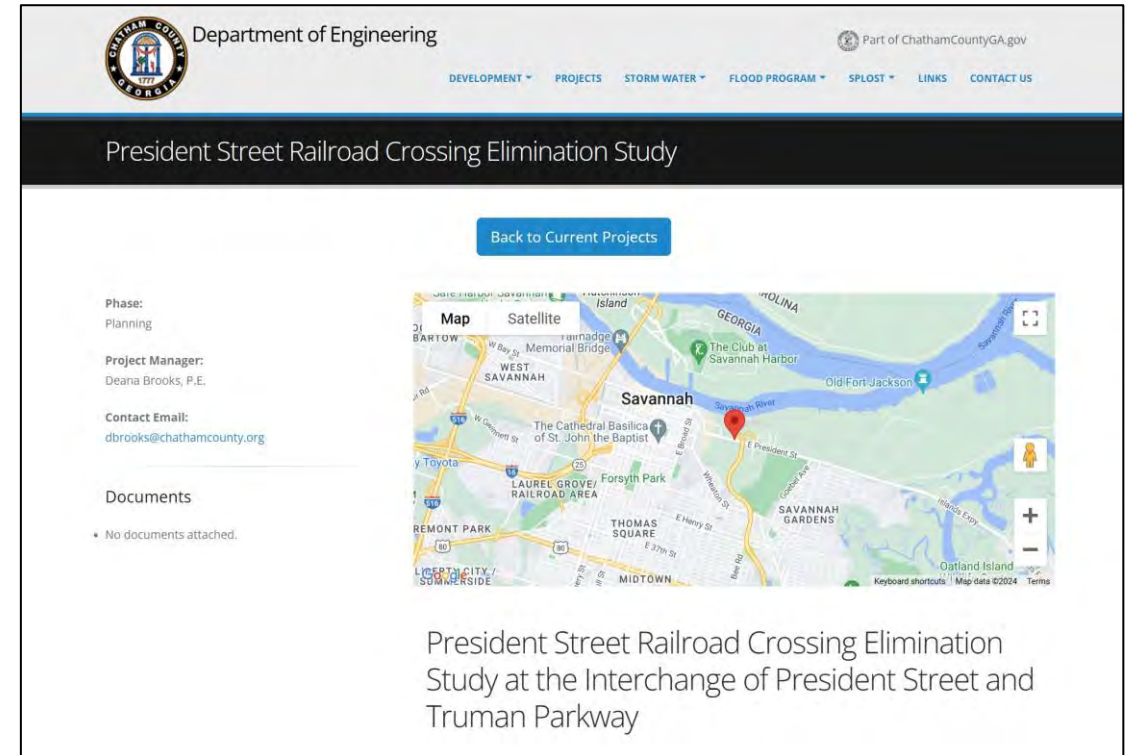
STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Web Content

Social Media

Public Meetings

- Industry Specific
- Community Meetings (3)
- Public Information Meeting



The screenshot displays the Chatham County Department of Engineering website. The header includes the Chatham County logo, the text "Department of Engineering", and a link to "Part of ChathamCountyGA.gov". A navigation menu lists "DEVELOPMENT", "PROJECTS", "STORM WATER", "FLOOD PROGRAM", "SPLOST", "LINKS", and "CONTACT US". The main heading is "President Street Railroad Crossing Elimination Study". Below this, there is a "Back to Current Projects" button. The project details section shows: "Phase: Planning", "Project Manager: Deana Brooks, P.E.", and "Contact Email: dbrooks@chathamcounty.org". The "Documents" section states "No documents attached.". A map of Savannah, Georgia, is shown with a red pin at the intersection of President Street and Truman Parkway. The map includes labels for "Savannah", "Savannah River", "Old Fort Jackson", "The Club at Savannah Harbor", "The Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist", "Forsyth Park", "LAUREL GROVE RAILROAD AREA", "THOMAS SQUARE", "REMONT PARK", "LIBERTY CITY / SUMMERSIDE", "MIDTOWN", "SAVANNAH GARDENS", and "Oatland Island". The map also shows "Map" and "Satellite" views, a "Keyboard shortcuts" link, and "Map data ©2024 Terms".

President Street Railroad Crossing Elimination Study at the Interchange of President Street and Truman Parkway

[Chatham County Department of Engineering - Project Detail \(chathamcountyga.gov\)](http://chathamcountyga.gov)

[CORE MPO Studies \(thempc.org\)](http://thempc.org)

SAVANNAH & OLD FORT (SVHO) WHARF LEAD TRACK YARDS NORTH OF CROSSING



Concept Alternates Considered

Description

- Construct 3rd westbound lane between Truman Pkwy ramps
- Extend through crossing, tie into existing roadway

Benefits

- Provides additional 1,100 feet for WB queued vehicles
- Canal bridge and E President Street can accommodate this lane; no additional construction necessary
- 50% increased capacity to expedite WB post- blockage dissipation
- Additional lane for hazmat/busses to stop at crossing without affecting moving queue
- Smoother WB morning peak flow from Truman Pkwy, no merge required



Description

- Grade separate E President St over RR, directly intersect Truman Pkwy on structure before returning to grade
- 6-lane E President St typical section (3 lanes each direction)
- Double NB/WB Left-turn lanes to/from Truman Pkwy
- Continuously moving westbound thru lanes, signal control for left-turns to and from Truman Pkwy

Benefits

- Eliminates blocked crossings
- Consolidates existing two intersections into one
- Provides continuous free-flow movement for heavy morning inbound traffic to Savannah

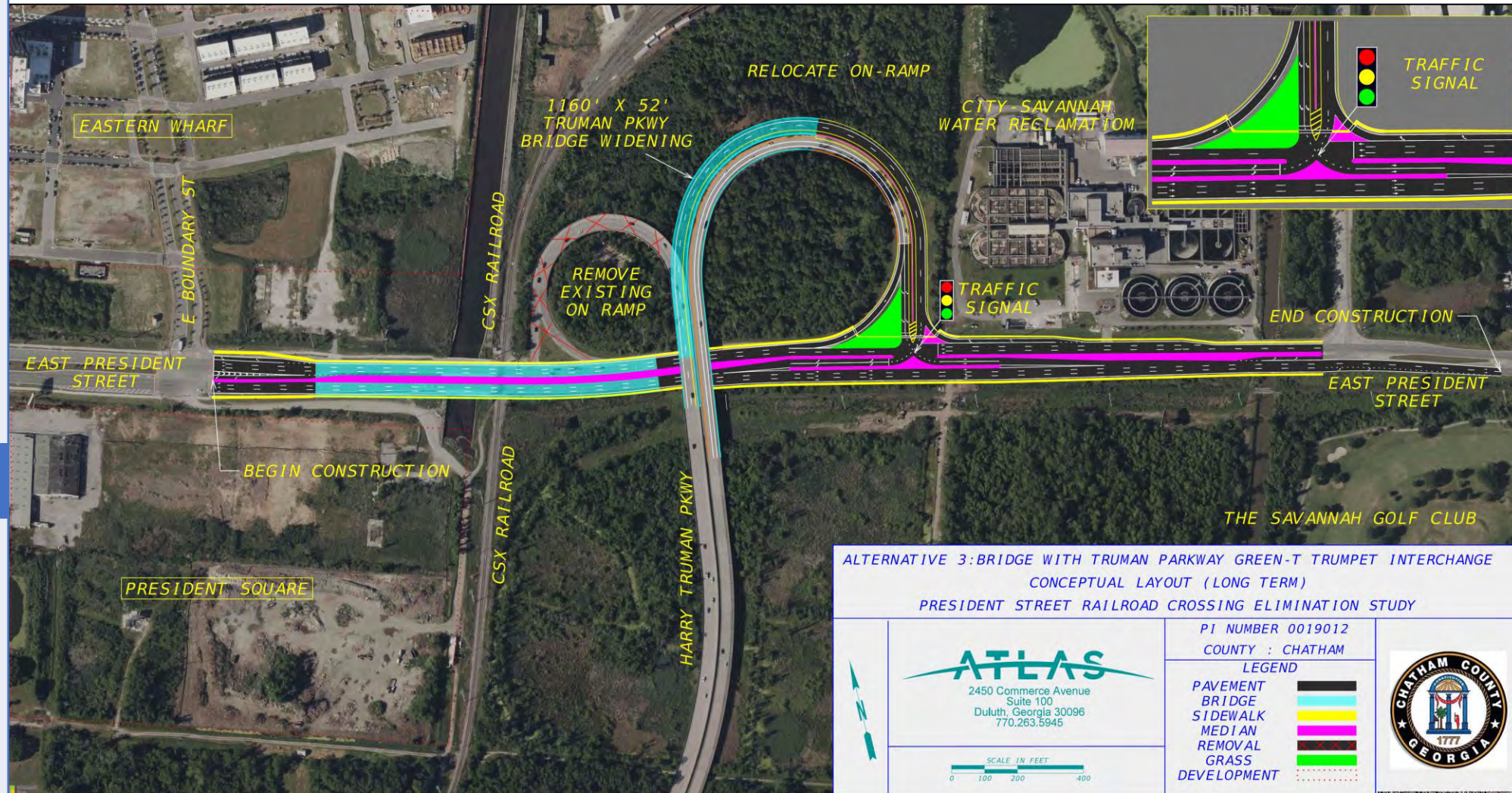


Description

- Grade separate E President over RR, return to grade west of bridge overpass
- 6-lane E President Street typical section (3 lanes each direction)
- Double EB / SB Left-turn lanes to/from Truman Pkwy
- Continuously moving eastbound thru lanes, signal control for left-turns to and from Truman Pkwy

Benefits

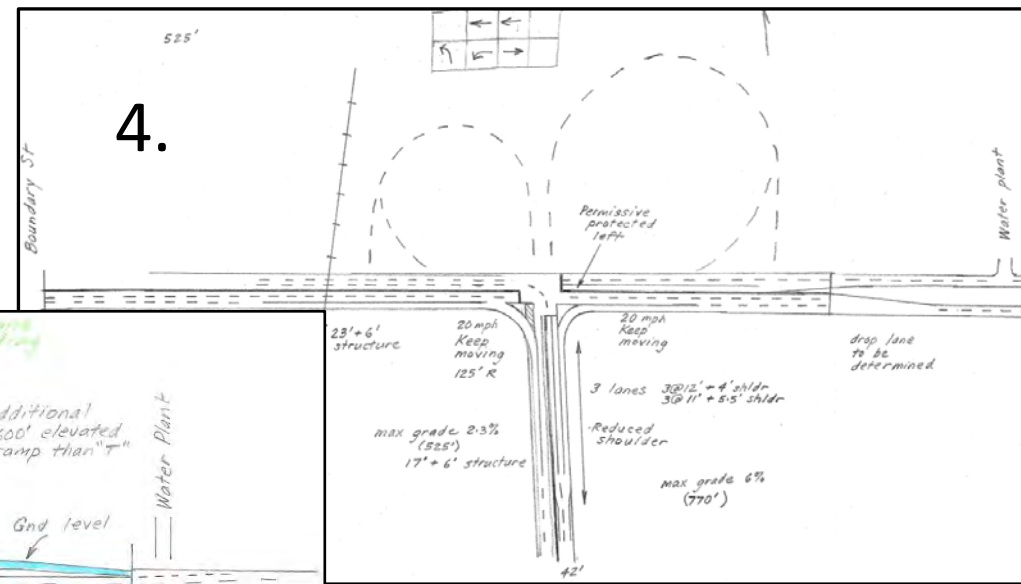
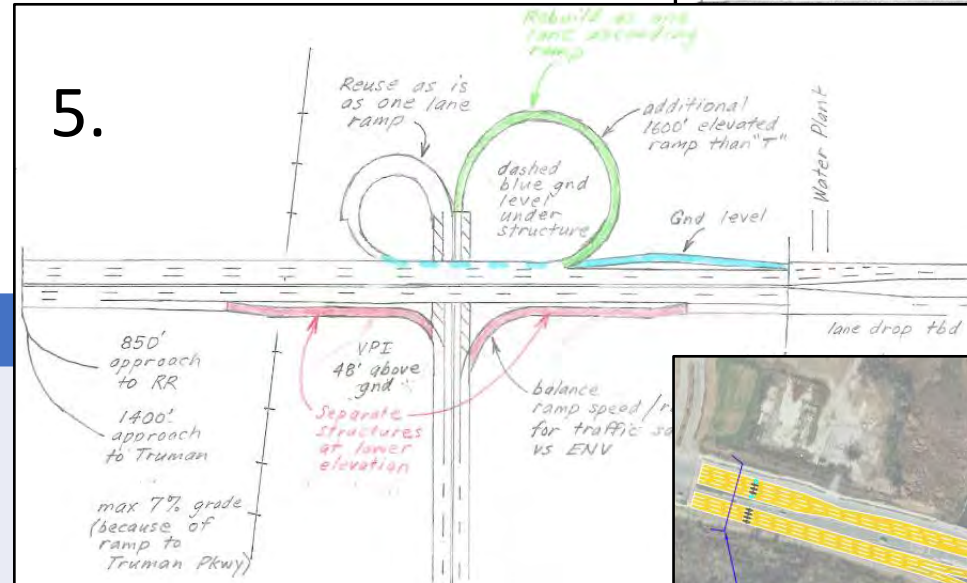
- Eliminates blocked crossings
- Consolidates existing two intersections into one
- Provides continuous free-flow movement for heavy morning inbound traffic to Savannah
- Can be constructed at two separate projects for easier phased implementation



Alternates No Longer Considered

Description

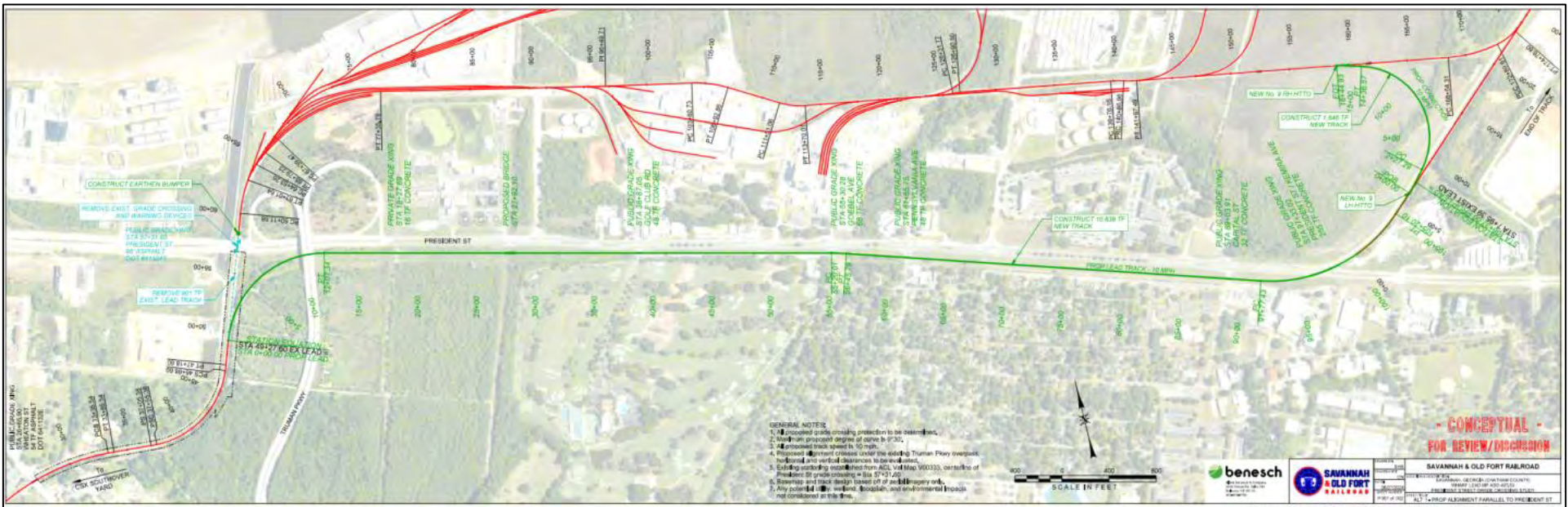
4. Elevated Regular T Intersection
 - Single signal-controlled intersection
 - Excessive delay on all approaches
5. Elevated Reverse Cloverleaf Interchange
 - Reverse of existing configuration with Truman Pkwy lowered to grade, and E President elevated; revise ramps accordingly
6. Free-flow Flyover Interchange
 - All movements accommodated by free-flow flyover ramps, no signalized intersections



Alternative 7 – RR Realignment

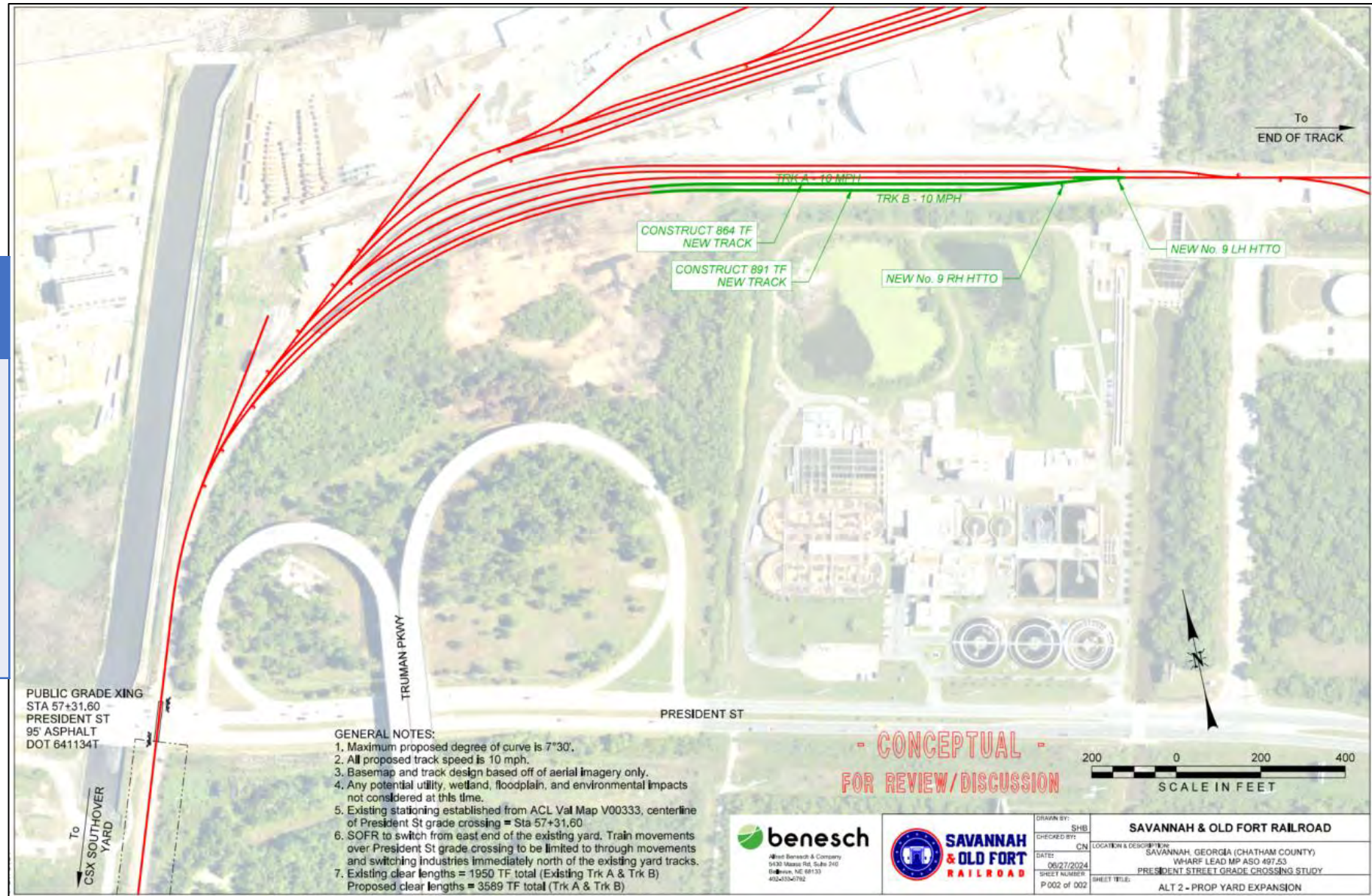
- Add approximately 1100 TF of new track construction and two new turnouts
- Former Central of GA ROW, currently owned by Norfolk Southern
- At least one bridge would be required
- Seven new at grade crossing would be constructed
- Neighborhood Impacts

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Alternative 8 – Yard Track Extensions

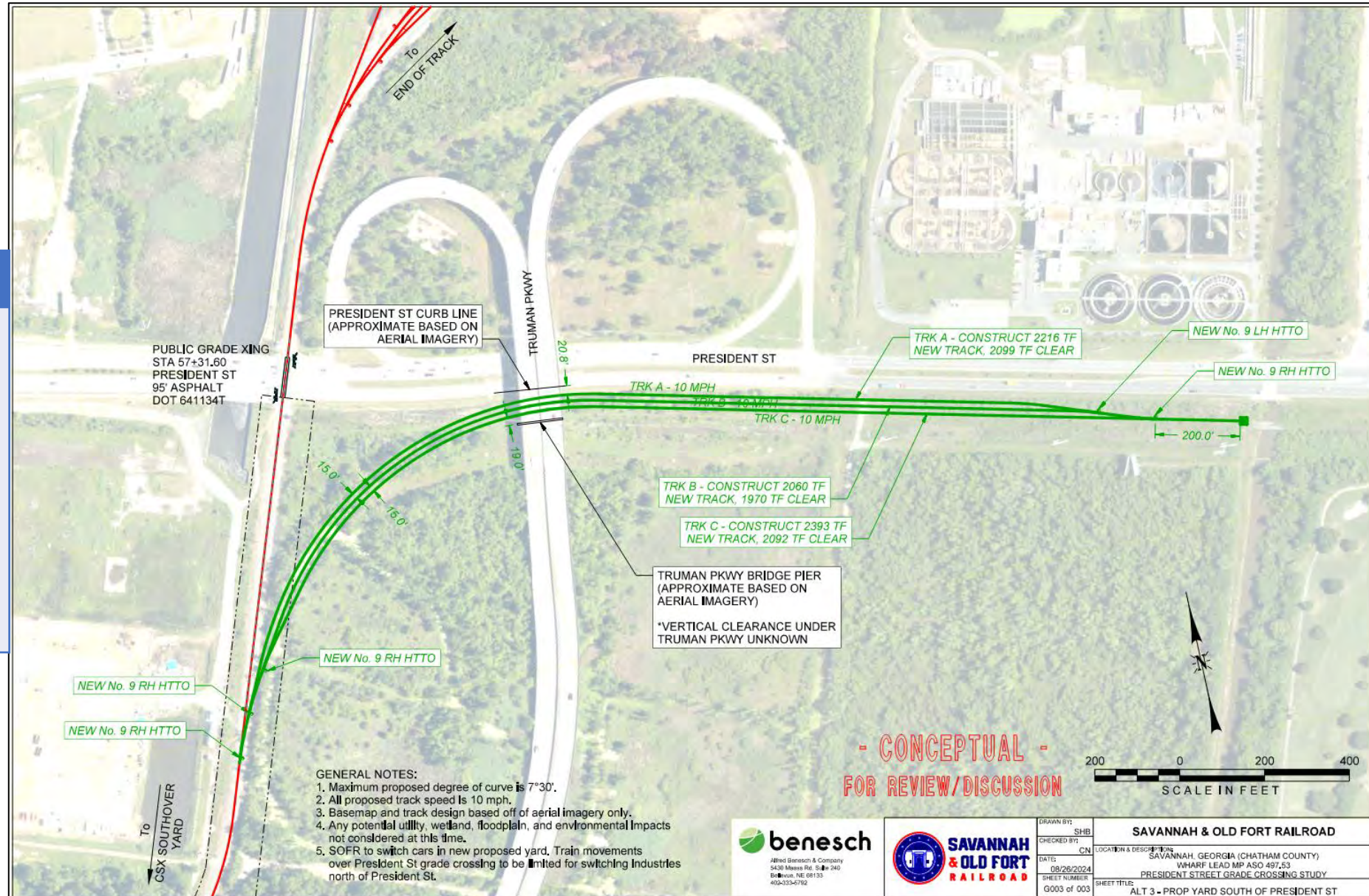
- Extend existing yard tracks to allow for switching operations from the east
- Would not eliminate all switching across E President St
- 2000 TF of new track construction and two new turnouts



Alternative 9 –

- Construction of approximately 6670 TF of new track and new yard
- Variable reduction for total number of train movements across President St
- Environmental Impacts (Wetlands)
- Requires coordination and agreement between WATCO, CSX and NS

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Thank you!

Deana Brooks, PE

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Engineering.ChathamCountyGA.gov



GET INVOLVED!

SR 204 @ Pine Grove Study
Public Information Open House

August 19, 2025
4pm to 7pm

Coastal Botanical Gardens