



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 9/13/2017
Time: 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Chair Walser called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Behroozi, Kirsch, Lee, Levin, Mazzara, Meyer, Nash, Walser, Weiner
Absent: None
Staff: Assistant Public Works Director Nikki Nagaya, Senior Transportation Engineer Angela Obeso, Assistant Engineer Kevin Chen

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Reports and Announcements

Staff Chen provided a summary of Council actions on transportation related items at past City Council meetings since the August 9, 2017 Commission meeting. Staff Chen and Obeso provided project updates on:

- Transportation Master Plan
- Willow Road / U.S. 101 Interchange Construction
- Dumbarton Transportation Corridor Study
- Santa Cruz Avenue Sidewalk Project

Staff Chen and Commissioner Levin provided a summary of upcoming community meetings.

E. Public Comment

- Jen Wolosin shared information on an upcoming Speaker Series organized by Parents for Safe Routes and highlighted the importance of safe routes.

F. Regular Business

F1. Approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of August 9, 2017

Commissioner Nash provided the following correction ([Attachment](#)):

- Item H1, change "...Muller..." to "...Mueller..."
Commissioner Kirsch reported on scheduling a future meeting with Councilmember **Mueller** to discuss Middle Plaza at 500 El Camino Real.

ACTION: Motion and second (Kirsch/Levin) to approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of August 9, 2017 with suggested edit, passes (8-0-1, Meyer abstains).

- F3. Recommend a preferred alternative to the City Council for the Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Study (Staff Report# 17-008-CSC)

Staff Obeso and project consultant provided a presentation ([Attachment](#)).

Public Comments:

- Diane McGrath spoke on the need to improve the Encinal Avenue Caltrain crossing and provided recommendations.
- Steve Schmidt spoke in support of a viaduct through City boundaries.
- William Brown spoke in support of Alternative C but preferred viaduct if feasible, and then asked for clarification on pedestrian circulation around the station.
- Joseph P. Davis spoke about bicycle connectivity, and then asked for clarifications on parking impacts, station access, and Planning Commission's rationale for recommending Alternative A.

ACTION: Motion and second (Mazzara/Levin) to recommend Alternative C to the City Council, passes (6-3-0; Kirsch/Meyer/Weiner dissent).

- F2. Nominate and appoint new Commission members for vacated subcommittee seats

Chair Walser led a discussion.

ACTION: Commissioner Meyer volunteered and selected to the Safe Routes to School Program Subcommittee by acclamation.

G. Informational Items

- G1. Update on major project status

Staff Chen provided project updates on:

- Bus Shelter Installation in Belle Haven
- Oak Grove, University, Crane Bicycle Improvement Project

Staff Chen responded to questions on:

- Safety improvement on Willow Road and O'Brien Drive
- Curb ramp improvement on El Camino Real and Creek Drive

- G2. Update on upcoming Commission meeting schedule

Staff Chen provided a summary of agenda items for upcoming meetings.

H. Committee/Subcommittee Reports

- H1. Update from Middle Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Rail Crossing Subcommittee

Commissioner Kirsch reported main takeaways from a meeting with Councilmember Mueller.

- H2. Update from Multimodal Subcommittee

Commissioner Levin reported main takeaways from a community meeting on the Dumbarton Transportation Corridor Study and expressed interest in initiating discussions on Transportation

Demand Management.

H3. Update from Oak Grove, University, Crane Bicycle Improvement Project Subcommittee

Commissioners provided their observations and feedback.

H4. Update from Safe Routes to School Program Subcommittee

Chair Walser reiterated the upcoming Speaker Series organized by Parents for Safe Routes. Commissioner Behrooz spoke about Walk and Roll to School Day.

H5. Update from Transportation Master Plan Subcommittee

No additional update.

I. Adjournment

Chair Walser adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

F1 Attachment

Complete Streets Commission



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 8/9/2017
Time: 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Chair Walser called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Behrooz, Kirsch, Lee, Levin, Mazzara, Nash, Walser, Weiner, Welton
Absent: Meyer
Staff: Assistant Public Works Director Nikki Nagaya, Assistant Engineers Kevin Chen

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Reports and Announcements

Staff Chen provided a summary on past Council actions on transportation related items at the past City Council meeting since the July 12, 2017 Commission meeting. Staff Chen and Commissioner Kirsch provided a summary of volunteering opportunities. Staff Chen and Commissioner Behrooz provided details on the upcoming Downtown Block Party. The Commission thanked Commissioner Welton, in her last meeting as a Commissioner, for her service to the City.

E. Public Comment

- Pamela Jones spoke about the Dumbarton Corridor Study. Commissioner Levin shared future project public meeting details and noted she made public comments as a local resident at the last SamTrans Board meeting.

F. Regular Business

F1. Approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of July 12, 2017

Commissioners Kirsch and Mazzara provided the following correction and clarification ([Attachment](#)):

- Item F2 “ACTION”, change “...weekdays...” to “...weekends...”
ACTION: Motion and second (Kirsch/Weiner) to support Option 3 for Marcussen Drive, implementing a residential parking permit effective between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except **weekends** and holidays, passes (8-1-1; Mazzara dissented; Meyer absent).
- Item F5 “ACTION”, change “...advance this project,” to “...further this project when appropriate,”
ACTION: Motion and second (Levin/Behrooz) to encourage the City Council to **further this project when appropriate** passes (9-0-1; Meyer absent).

ACTION: Motion and second (Levin/Welton) to approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of July 12, 2017 with suggested edits, passes (9-0-1; Meyer absent).

- F2. Approve installation of red curbs and removal of one non-conforming on-street parking space at 1330 Hoover Street (Staff Report# 17-005-CSC)

Staff Chen provided a presentation ([Presentation](#)).

ACTION: Motion and second (Behroozi/Weiner) to approve staff recommendation with Commissioner Weiner's recommendation to lengthen proposed red curbs to 7 feet, passes (9-0-1; Meyer absent).

- F3. Approve installation of red curb and removal of two on-street parking spaces on Santa Cruz Avenue adjacent to Fremont Park (Staff Report# 17-006-CSC)

Staff Chen provided a presentation ([Presentation](#)).

ACTION: Motion and second (Behroozi/Welton) to approve staff recommendation, passes (8-0-1-1; Kirsch abstained, Meyer absent).

- F4. Nominate a Commissioner to serve on the Transportation Master Plan Oversight and Outreach Committee (Staff Report# 17-007-CSC)

Staff Chen provided a presentation ([Presentation](#)).

ACTION: Commission nominates Commissioner Levin by acclamation.

- F5. Recommendation to the City Council to send a letter of support for the County of San Mateo Bicycle Marking Improvement Project (Santa Cruz Avenue between Sand Hill Road and Alameda de las Pulgas)

Commissioner Kirsch led a discussion.

ACTION: Motion and second (Kirsch/Welton) to authorize Commissioner Kirsch to draft a letter of support, and through staff, solicit individual commissioner feedback and finalize it. Based on feedback, Commissioner Kirsch and Chair Walser to decide if letter can be forwarded to City Council for approval or further public Commission discussion is required. Motion passes (9-0-1; Meyer absent).

G. Informational Items

- G1. Update on the Citywide Safe Route to School Program

Staff Nagaya provided an update on the Citywide Safe Route to School Program.

- G2. Brown Act and Conflicts of Interest update

Staff Chen provided an update on Brown Act and Conflicts of Interest.

G3. Major project status updates

Staff Chen provided project updates on:

- Bus Shelter Installation in Belle Haven neighborhood
- Oak Grove, University, Crane Bicycle Improvement Project
- Santa Cruz Avenue Sidewalk Project
- SamTrans led Dumbarton Transportation Corridor Study

G4. Upcoming Commission meeting schedule

Staff Chen provided a summary of agenda items for the next meeting.

H. Committee/Subcommitte Reports

H1. Update from Middle Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Rail Crossing Subcommittee

Commissioner Kirsch reported on scheduling a future meeting with Councilmember Mueller to discuss Middle Plaza at 500 El Camino Real.

H2. Update from Multimodal Subcommittee

Commissioner Levin reported on scheduling a future community meeting to discuss the SamTrans led Dumbarton Transportation Corridor Study.

H3. Update from Oak Grove, University, Crane Bicycle Improvement Project Subcommittee

Staff Chen and Nagaya provided a project implementation update.

H4. Update from Safe Routes to School Program Subcommittee

Chair Walser reported a subcommittee meeting will take place in the near future.

H5. Update from Transportation Master Plan Subcommittee

No additional update.

I. Adjournment

Chair Walser adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Complete Streets Commission

September 13, 2017

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Agenda

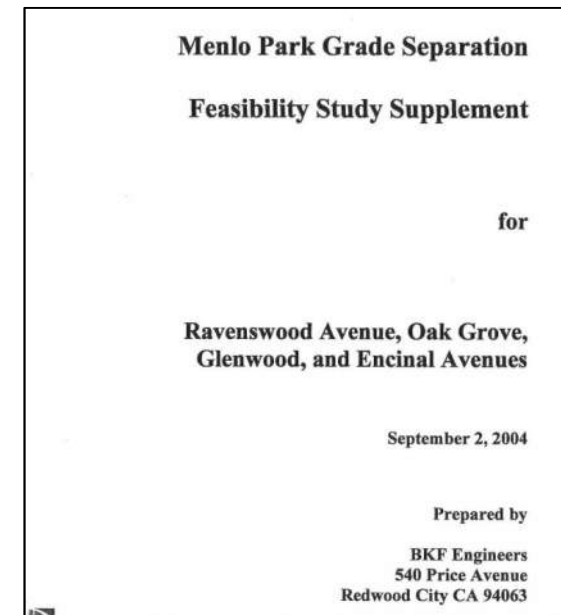
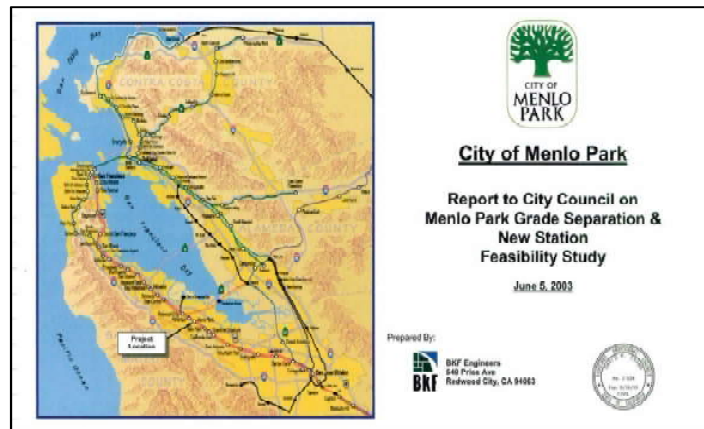
- Project Background
- Alternatives Analysis
- Feedback Summary
- Next Steps
- Commission Discussion
- Commission Recommendation

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Project Background

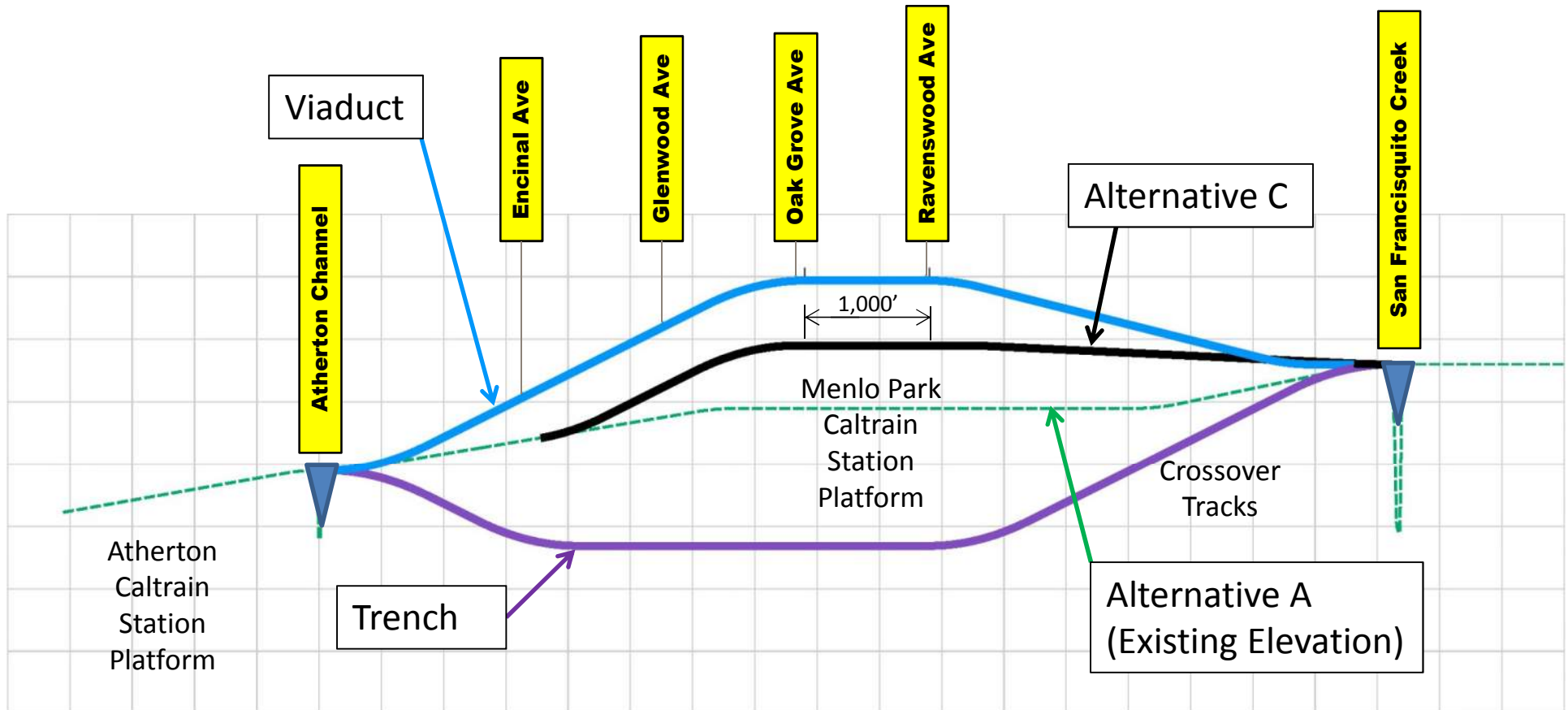
- Previous Studies
- Measure A Grant Funds
- Project Study Report (PSR)



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Rail Profiles



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Current Project Scoping

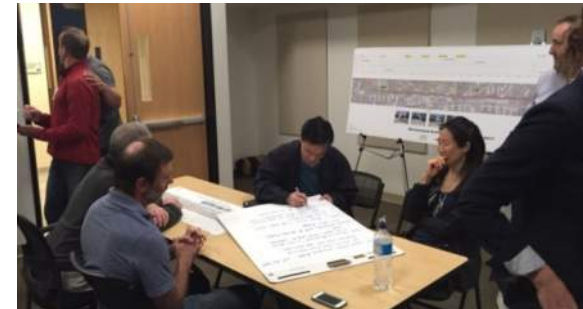
- March 2015: Rail Subcommittee Meeting
- May 2015: Council direction
- Summer-Fall 2015: Caltrain and SMCTA coordination
- December 2015: Request for Proposals Issued
- March 2016: Consultant contract awarded

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Community Outreach to Date

- Public Meetings
 - May 2, 2016
 - October 4, 2016
 - June 7, 2017
- Rail Information Meeting
 - March 20, 2017
- Property/Business Owners
 - May 2016 – August 2017



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Community Outreach to Date

- Commission Meetings

- Parks & Recreation Commission – May 25, 2016
- Library Commission – June 13, 2016
- Transportation Commission – November 9, 2016
- Bicycle Commission – November 14, 2016
- Planning Commission – December 5, 2016
- Planning Commission – September 11, 2017
- Complete Streets Commission – September 13, 2017

- City Council Meetings

- February 7, 2017
- April 4, 2017
- October 10, 2017

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



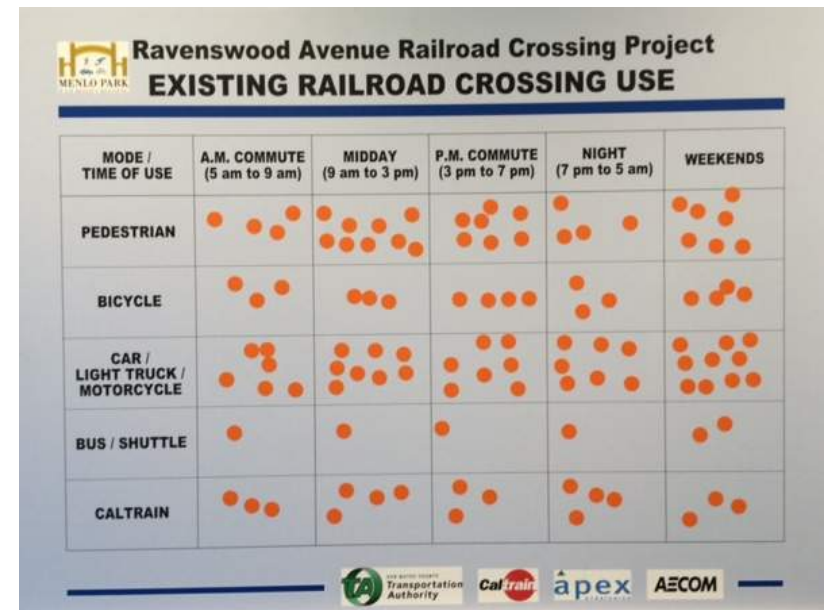
Community Feedback

- **Recurring Themes:**

- More Grade Separations
- Minimize Height of the Railroad
- Improve Pedestrian & Bicycle Access and Safety
- Improve Connectivity between Alma St & Ravenswood Ave
- Coordinate with other Projects
- Minimize Driveway Impacts
- Inform owners about Property Impacts
- Station Configuration
- Aesthetics

- **Wish List Items:**

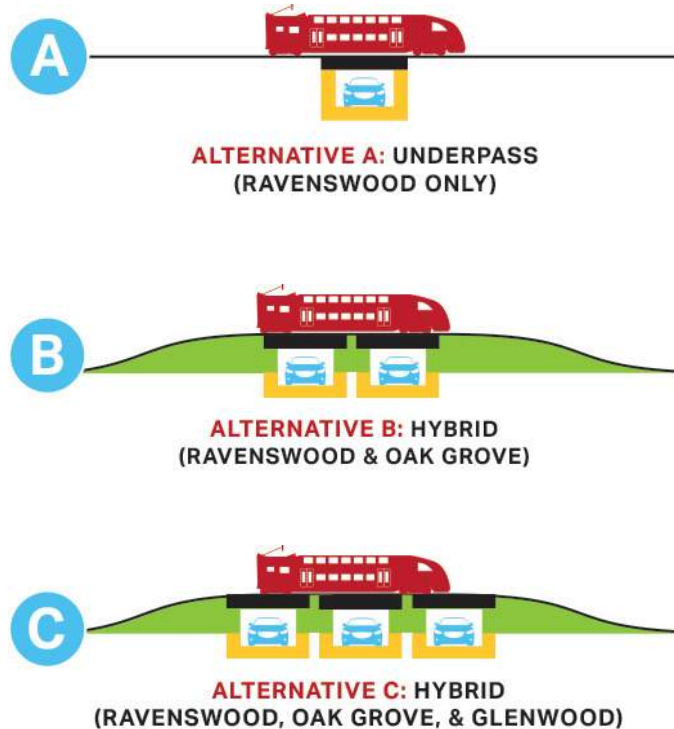
- Menlo Park as a “Quiet Zone”
- Grade Separation at Encinal
- Railroad Trench/Tunnel through the City
- Viaduct in lieu of a Wall



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Alternatives

- Alternatives Evaluated



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Alternative A

3D Animation Flyover

See video on project webpage: www.menlopark.org/ravenswood

RAVENSWOOD AVE. RAILROAD CROSSING PROJECT “ALTERNATIVE A” SPIN CAMERA

THE ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING AND LANDSCAPING DETAILS SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING VIDEO ARE CONCEPTUAL IN NATURE ONLY. THESE DETAILS WILL NOT BE FINALIZED UNTIL THE DESIGN PHASE OF THE PROJECT

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project





Alternative C

3D Animation Flyover

See video on project webpage: www.menlopark.org/ravenswood

RAVENSWOOD AVE. RAILROAD CROSSING PROJECT “ALTERNATIVE C” RAVENSWOOD ANIMATION

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Traffic Patterns/Circulation



Alternative A

- No access to Alma St
- No access to Merrill St and Alma Ln
- Increased traffic on Laurel St
- Minor diversion of traffic from Oak Grove Ave and Glenwood Ave

Alternative A & Alternative C

- Improves safety
- Reduces vehicle delays
- Enhances connectivity

Alternative C

- Maintains full access to Alma St
- Maintains access to Merrill St and Alma Ln
- Future traffic signals along Glenwood Ave at Laurel St and Middlefield

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Alternative A – Ravenswood/Laurel

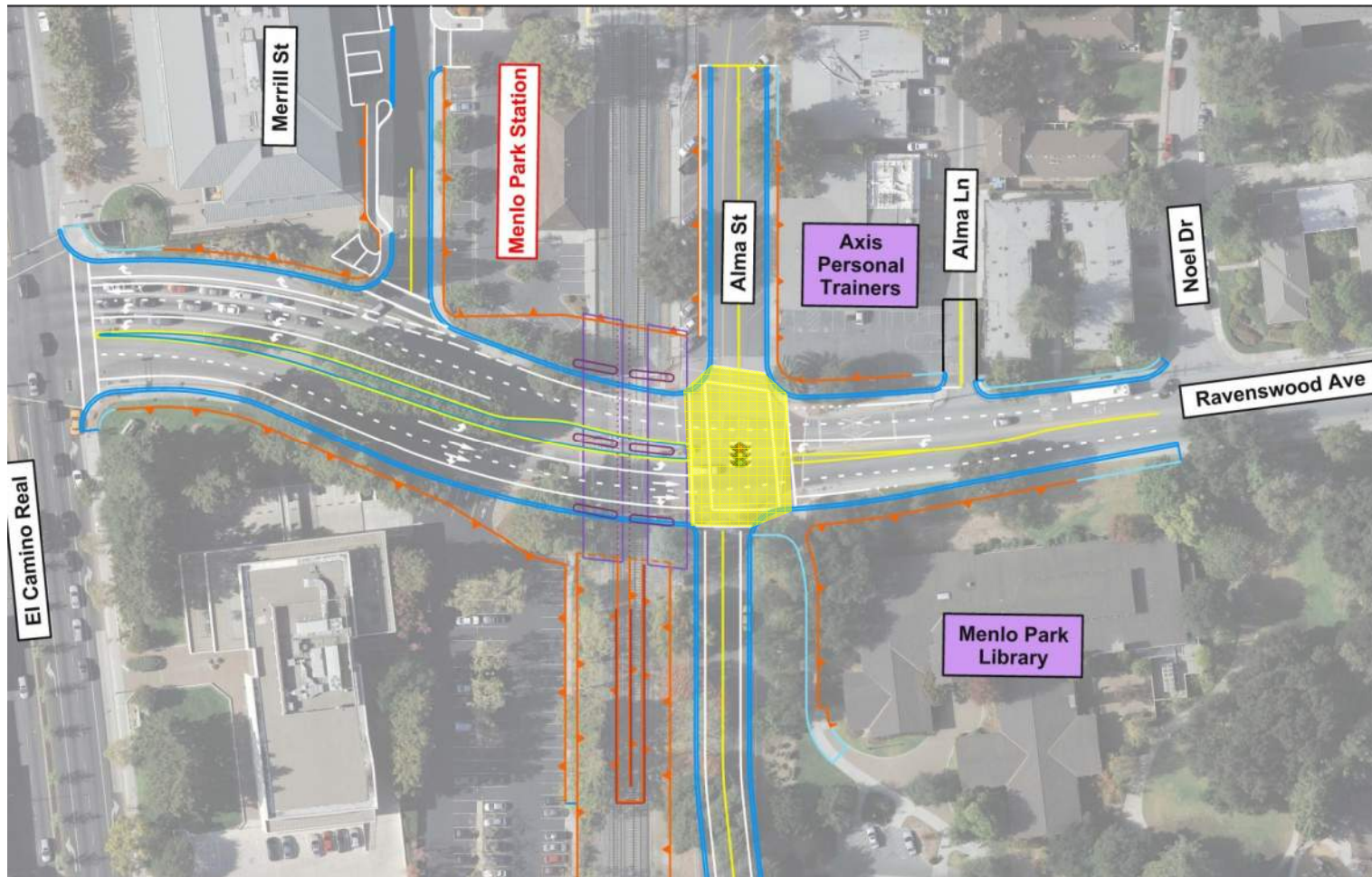


Add Right Trap Lane on Eastbound Ravenswood at Laurel

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Alternative C – Ravenswood/Alma Street

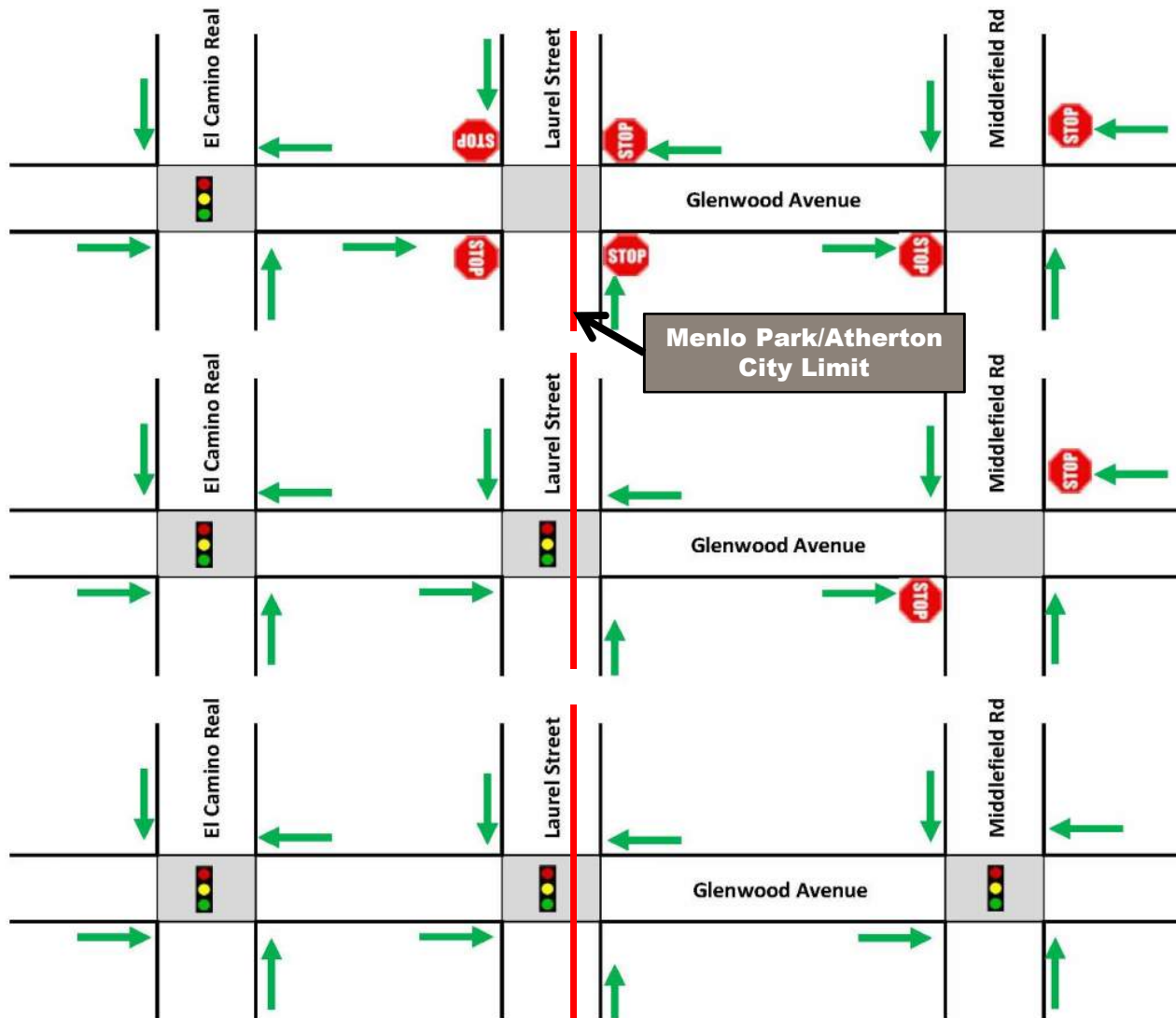


Full Access Intersection at Ravenswood and Alma

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Alternative C – Glenwood Options



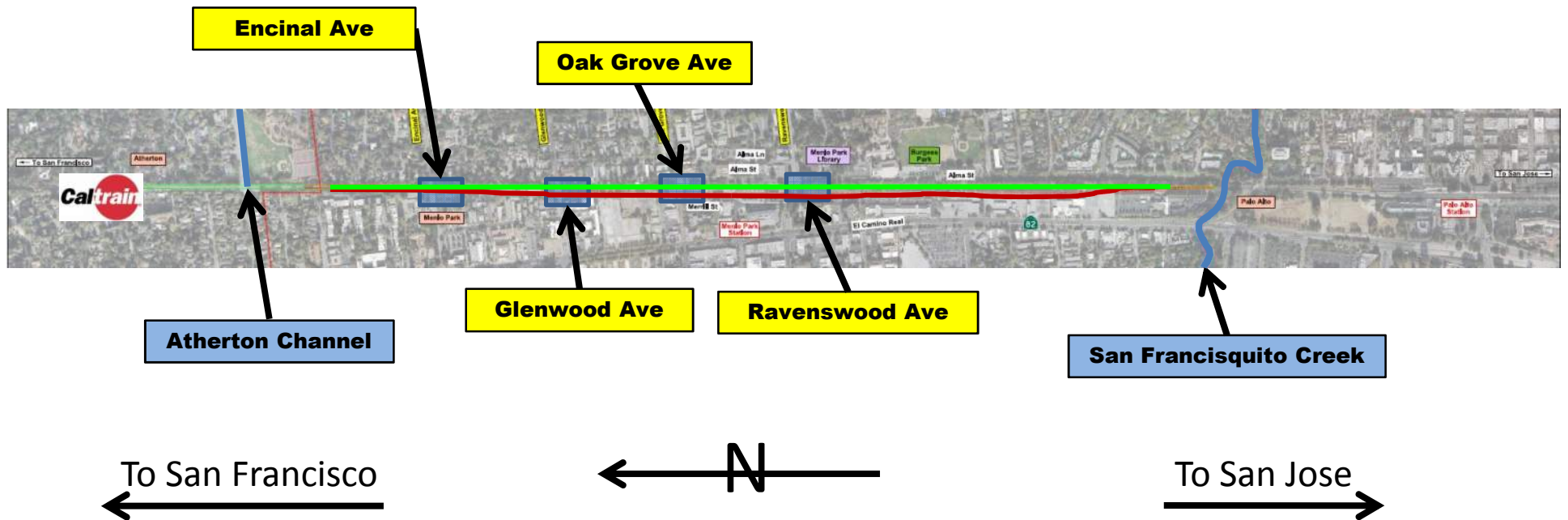
No Build
(With Project)

Laurel Intersection
Signalized

Middlefield
Intersection
Signalized

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

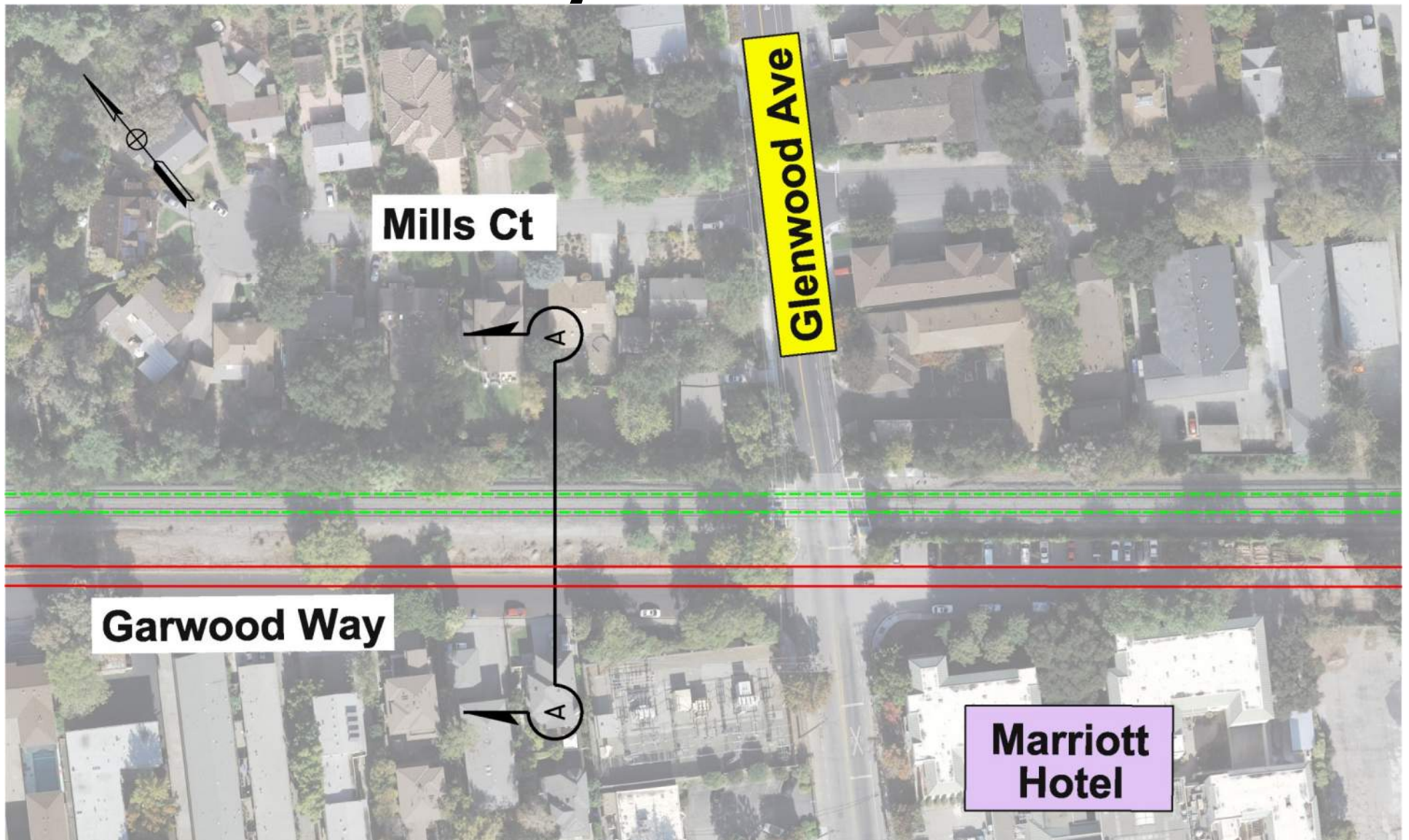
Shoofly



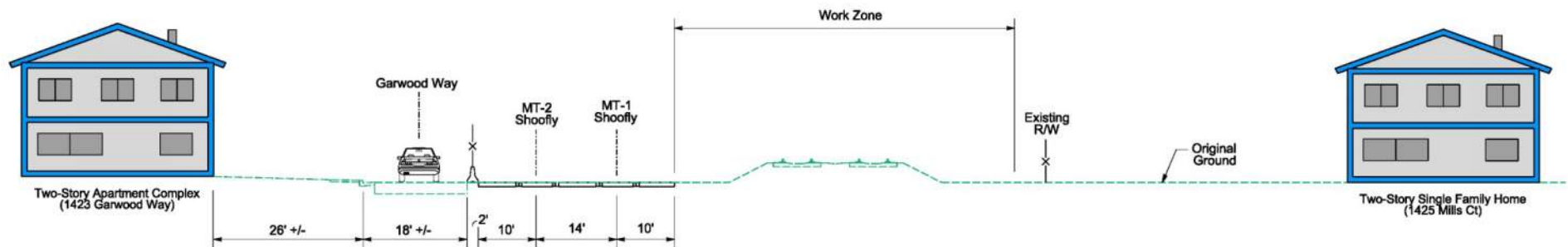
Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Shoofly at Glenwood



Temporary Condition



Section A-A (Looking North) Garwood Way - 200 feet North of Glenwood Ave

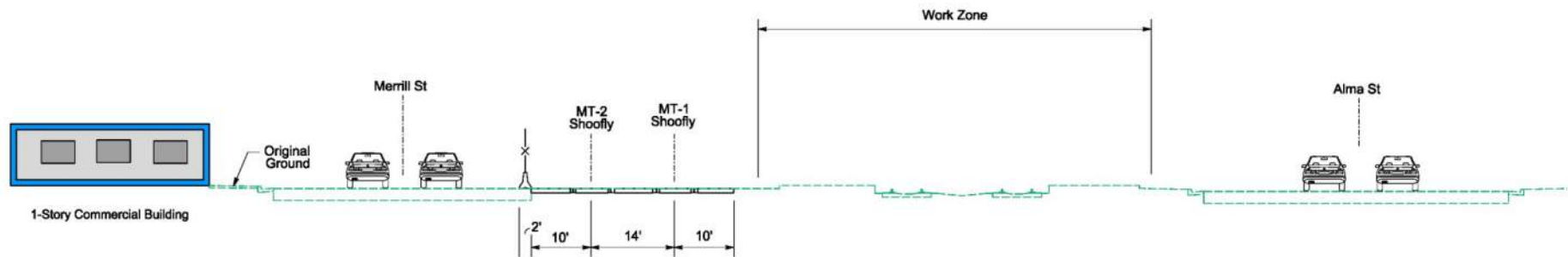
Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Shoofly at Caltrain Station



Temporary Condition



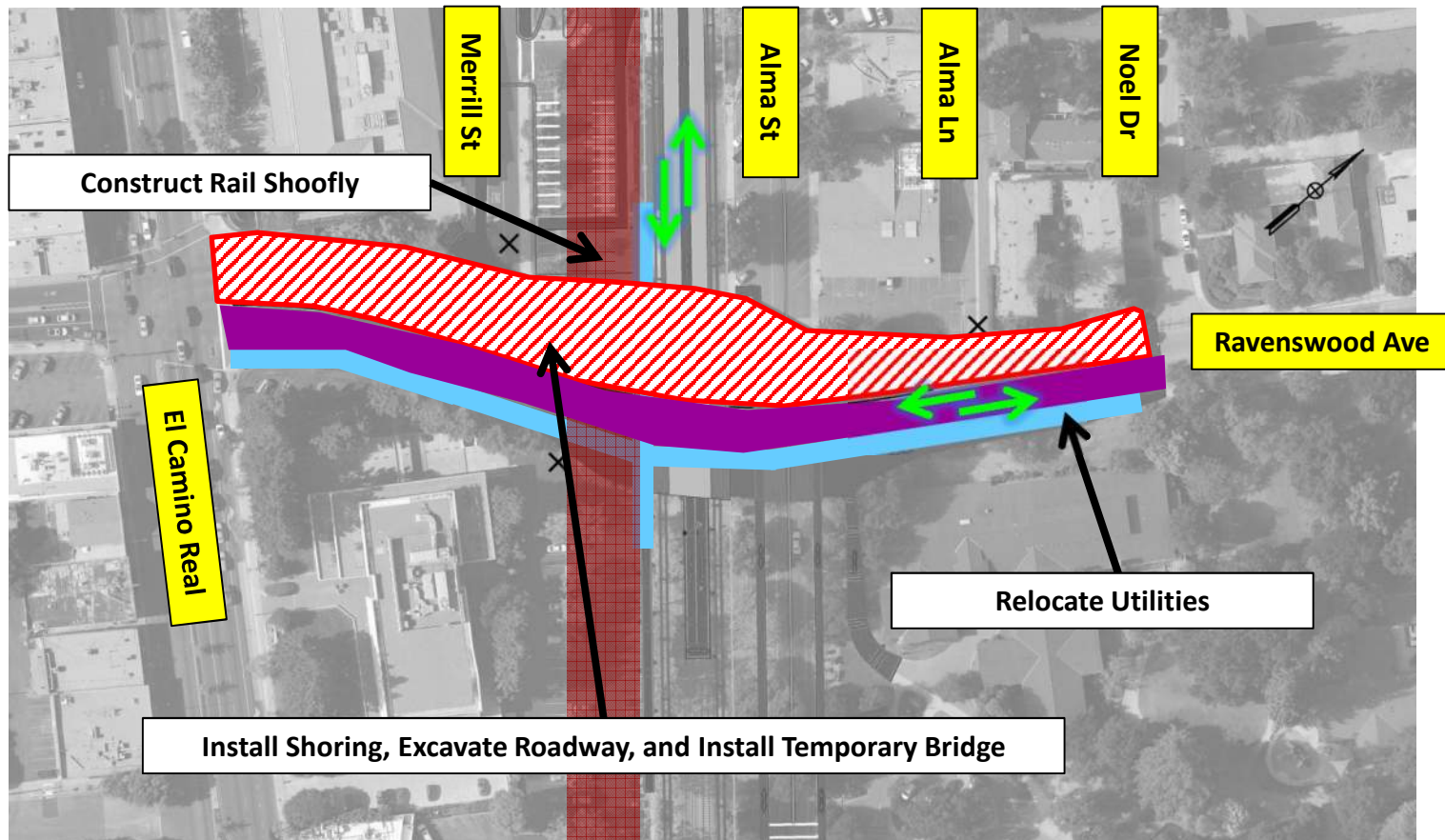
Section B-B (Looking North) 600 feet North of Ravenswood Ave

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Alternative A – Stages 1 & 2

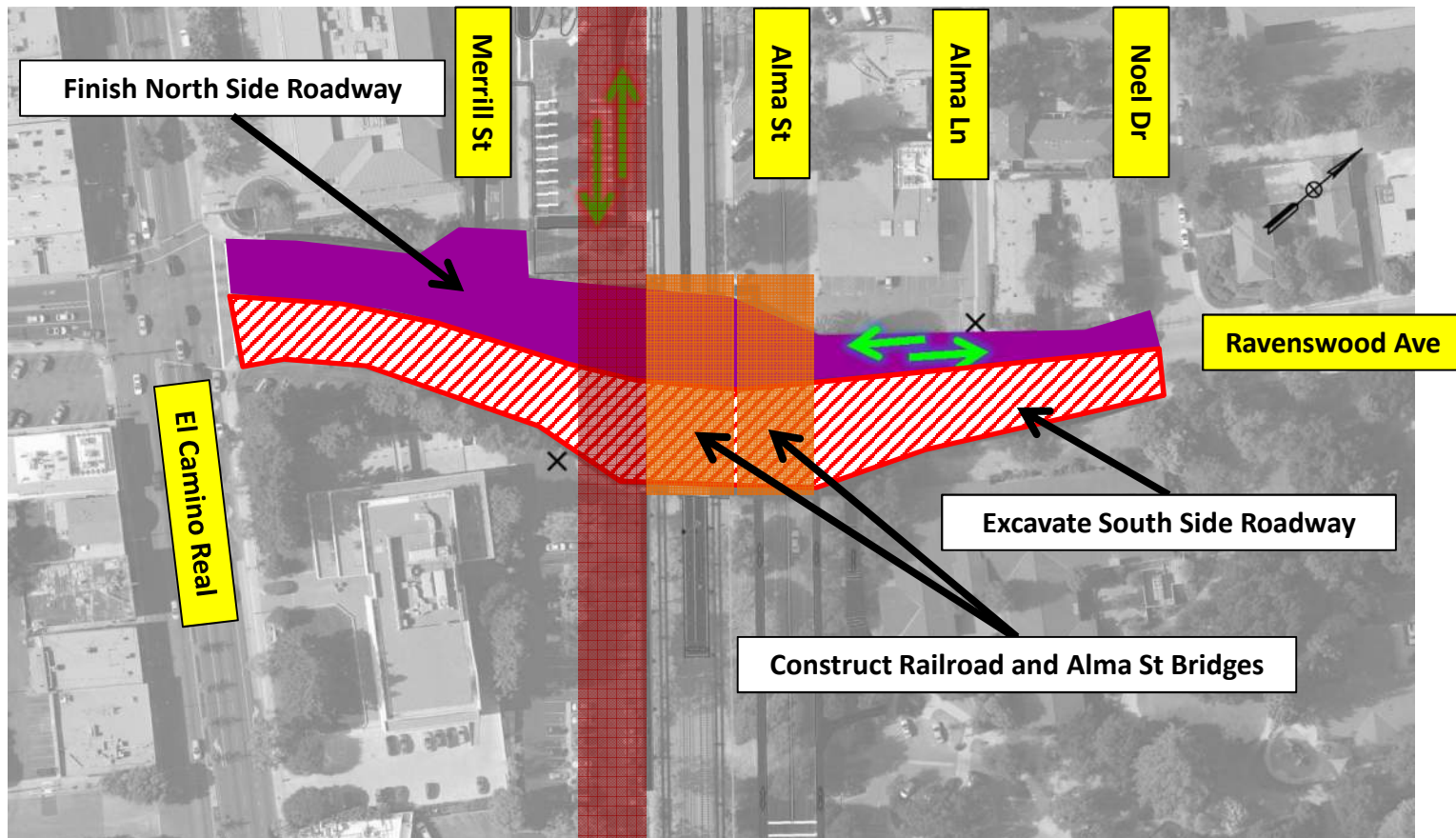
- Relocate Utilities
- Install shoring, excavate roadway, and install temporary bridge
- Construct shoofly



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Alternative A – Stage 3, 4 & 5

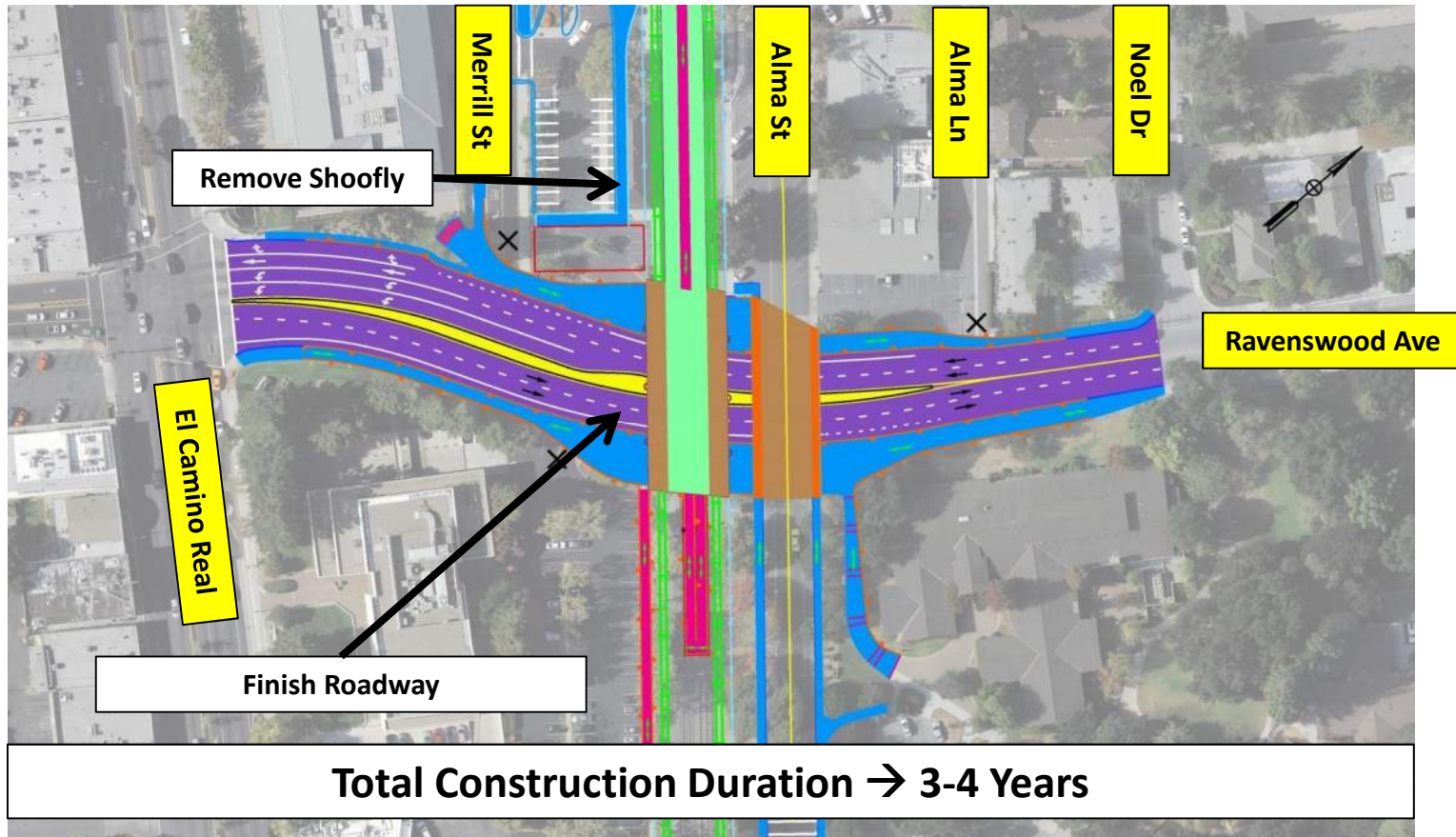
- Shift railroad to shoofly
- Finish north side roadway
- Excavate south side roadway
- Construct Railroad and Alma St Bridges



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Alternative A – Stage 6, 7 & 8

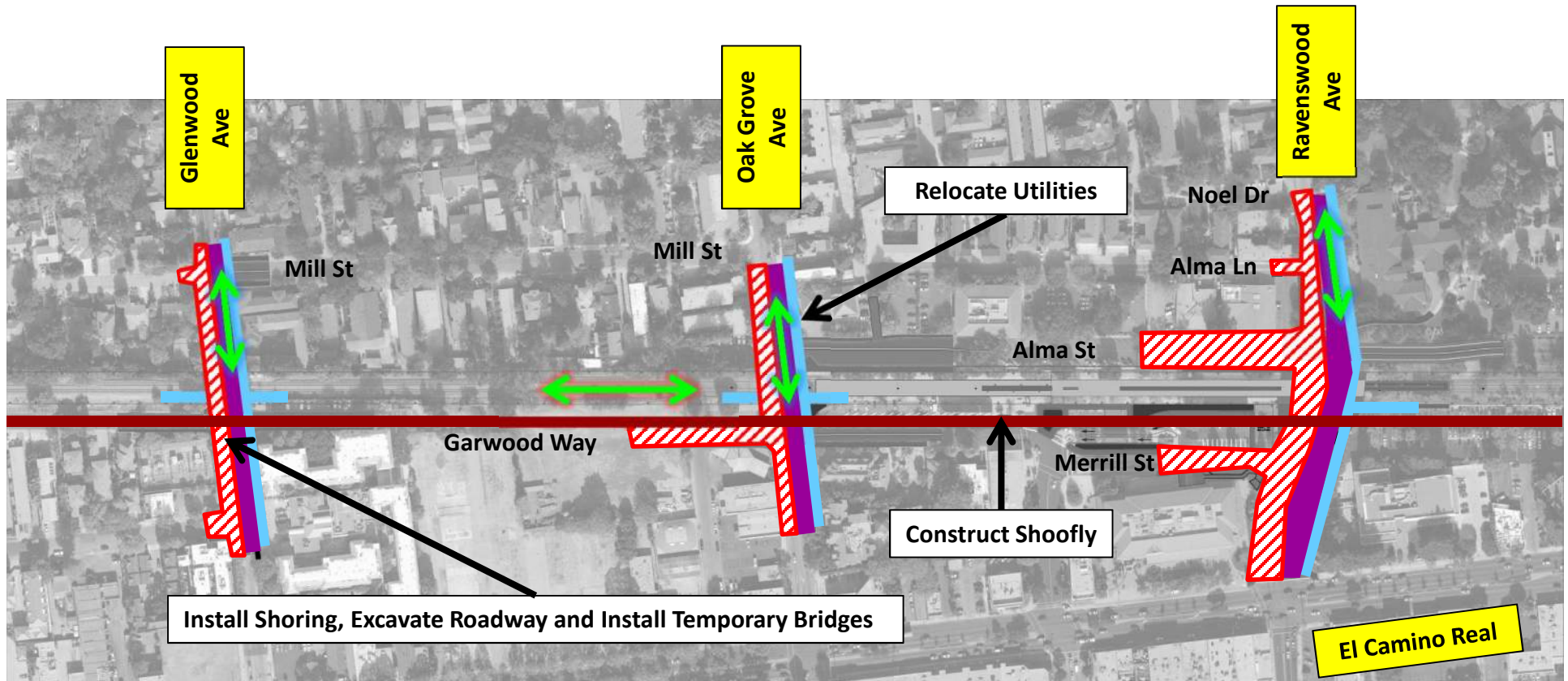
- Finish Roadway
- Remove shoofly



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Alternative C – Stage 1 & 2

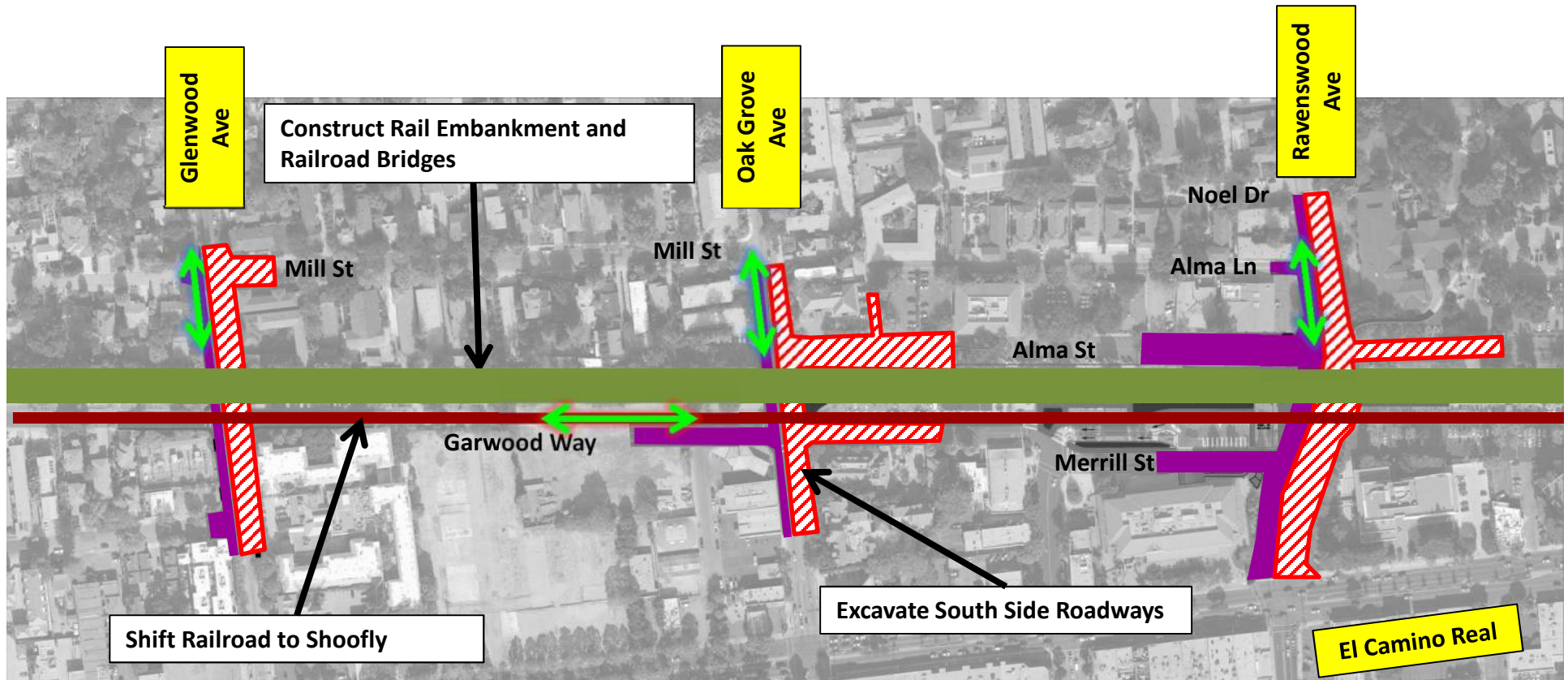
- Relocate Utilities
- Install shoring, excavate roadway, and install temporary bridge
- Construct shoofly



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Alternative C – Stage 3, 4 & 5

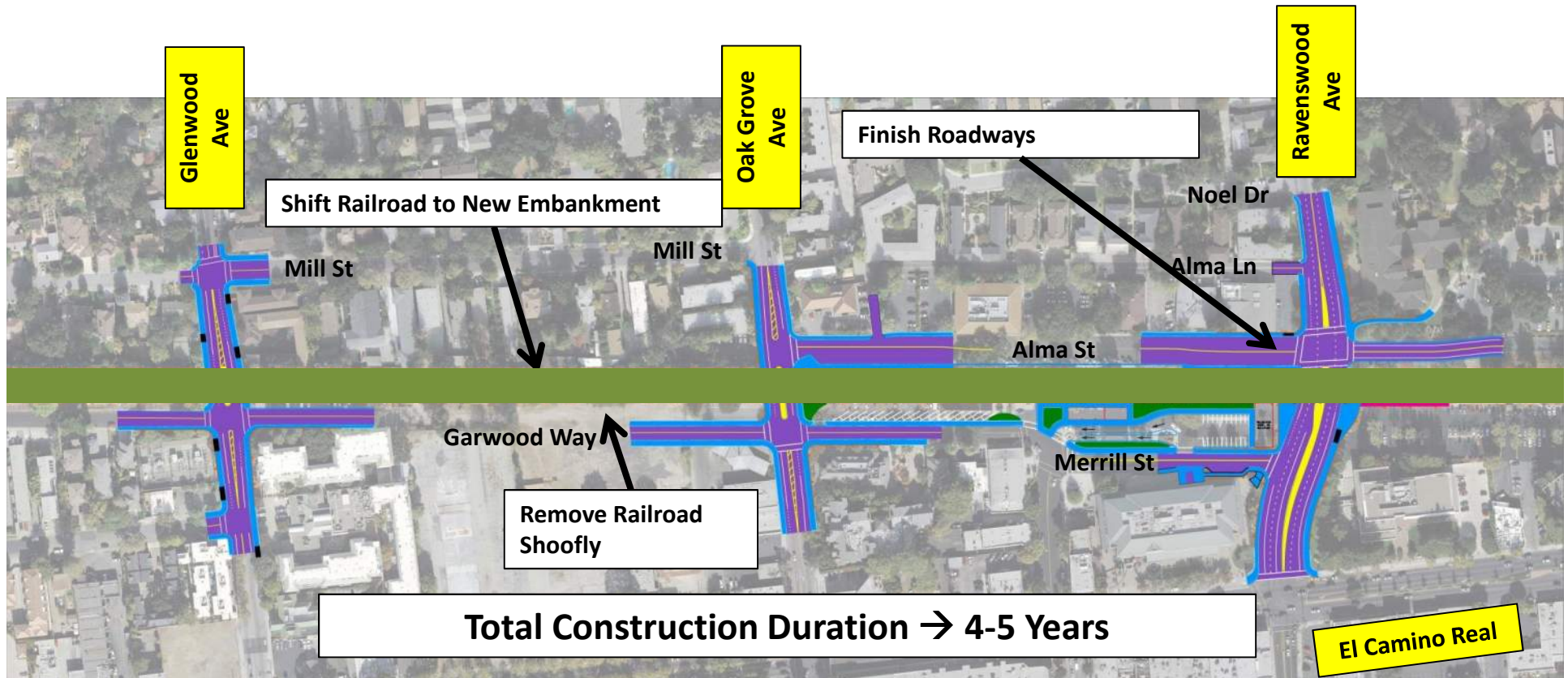
- Shift railroad to shoofly
- Construct rail embankment and railroad bridges
- Excavate south side roadways



Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Alternative C – Stage 6, 7 & 8

- Shift railroad to new embankment
- Finish roadways
- Remove railroad shoofly

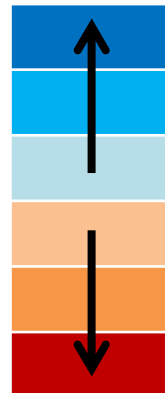


Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

Alternatives Matrix

	A	C	
Alternatives →			
Reduce Potential Rail/Vehicle Conflict			Three grade separations for Alt C vs. one for Alt A
Improve East/West Connectivity			More grade separations, better east/west mobility across town
Improve East/West Ped/Bike Access			Increased safety and connectivity for Alt C
Reduce Potential Horn & Gate Noise			With elimination of at-grade crossings, horn or gate noise will potentially be reduced
Maintain Alma St/Ravenswood Ave Connection			No direct access to/from Ravenswood from/to Alma St for Alt A
Increase Visual Impacts			Railroad profile remains at current elevation for Alt A
Minimize Property/Driveway Impacts			More impacts to properties with 3 grade separations, Alt C
Minimize Disruption During Construction			Fewer roads and properties impacted during construction for Alt A
Improve Traffic Pattern Predictability			Improved traffic circulation for Alt C
Order of Magnitude Cost	\$160-200M*	\$310-390M*	Lower overall cost for Alt A

Improvement



Impact

* Preliminary (Subject to Change)

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Community Feedback

(from June 7, 2017 Public Meeting)

Alternative A or C?

A

Alternative A: Underpass
(Ravenswood Only)

C

Alternative C: Hybrid
(Ravenswood, Oak Grove, & Glenwood)

- > 85% Support for Alternative C
 - More grade separations
 - Better east-west connectivity
- Some Support for Alternative A
 - Highest volume location
 - Lowest construction cost
- Continued Interest
 - Trench alternative
 - Viaduct alternative
- Construction Considerations

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Property & Business Owners Feedback

- Minor to no effects prefer Alternative C
- Moderate effects prefer Alternative C
- Major effects prefer Alternative A
- Concerns about construction impacts

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Next Steps

- Planning Commission Recommendation
September 11, 2017
- Complete Streets Commission Recommendation
September 13, 2017
- City Council Action on Preferred Alternative
October 10, 2017

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project



Thank You

For More Information:

Visit Us at: <http://www.menlopark.org/Ravenswood>

Email Us at: Transportation@menlopark.org

Ravenswood Avenue Railroad Crossing Project

