

# Curriculum Vitae

Brian Vercausse, P.E.  
Rail Safety Program Administrator  
Illinois Commerce Commission

## EDUCATION

**Purdue University, West Lafayette** (*December 1994* - B.S. Civil Engineering)  
Completion of Cooperative Education Program with IDOT (1991-1994)  
Track & Cross Country (1991-1993)

**LICENSE** Professional Engineer (Civil) since 1999

## EXPERIENCE ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

January 2019+	Rail Safety Program Administrator
2015 to 2019	Assistant Rail Safety Program Administrator
2005 to 2015	Rail Safety Specialist IV - Traffic Signal Interconnect and Project Management
2000 to 2005	Rail Safety Specialist III

**Project Manager** - maintain and improve the safety of highway-rail crossings within the Chicago six county region for all railroads and highway agencies. This includes at-grade crossings and their warning devices, bridges, pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. For special projects or as need arose, filled Project Manager duties statewide and supervised other Commission Staff.

**IDOT High Speed Rail Corridor, Chicago to St. Louis** - coordinated the roadway design and construction activities for the installation of four quadrant gates along the corridor from Chicago to Springfield. Built upon prior four quadrant gates designs completed by the Commission to develop design guidelines and construction sequence used along corridor.

**Expert Witness and Staff Representative, Administrative Law Hearings** - provide testimony and enter Staff appearances in rail safety cases - contested and uncontested. Provide filings as needed including Motions, Citations, Stipulated Agreements, Agreed Orders, Staff Reports, and Staff Position.

**Traffic Signals interconnected with Railroad Devices** - 300+ locations. Conduct regular inspections, and the review and approval of modifications by local highway agencies or railroads (planning through operation phases). Developed Commission guidelines and requirements with Staff Interconnect team. Participated in NTSB and other post-crash investigations and assessments to improve safety at interconnect and other highway-rail crossings.

**Media and Presentations** – conduct press and on-air interviews related to various rail safety matters and projects in Illinois, including crossing blockages and delay. Completed presentations locally and nationwide providing updates, guidance, and highlighting the efforts of the ICC. (California, Wisconsin, Texas, University of Illinois – Global Crossing Symposium, DuPage Railroad Safety Council, Mexico Regulatory delegation, Washington D.C. / FRA ICC Grade Crossing Protection Fund, Proposed Legislative Changes to Mitigate Trespassing; among others.)

**National Activities / Honors** – *National Academy of Science, Transportation Research Board* – advisor/team member on development of a synthesis paper / update on traffic signal interconnect design and operations. Served as moderator in nationwide webinar presentation. *National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD)* – member, Chapter 8, Railroad Warning Devices. *2011 Lauren Elizabeth Wilson Award* – “Public Sector Champion of Railroad Safety” – DuPage Railroad Safety Council.

## EXPERIENCE: ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

3/2000 to 12/2000 Federal Aid Engineer – Bureau of Local Roads, C.E. IV  
1999 to 2000 Statewide Technical Trainer - IDOT Program Development Courses  
1996 to 2000 Project and Environmental Studies, C.E. III – (IDOT District 1, Programming)  
1996 Construction Management, C.E. I - District 1, Bureau of Construction  
1995 to 1996 Traffic Signal Operations, C.E. I - District 1, Bureau of Traffic  
1991 to 1995 Cooperative Education – IDOT / Purdue (Construction, Design, Programming)

***Bureau of Local Roads*** - Main duties included project and consultant management to assist local agencies with their roadway, bridge, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. Provided updates to elected officials and municipal representatives as to project letting, design, and planning status. Projects ranged in value from \$50,000 to \$47 million. Concurrent with normal duties, served as an ***instructor in IDOT's Statewide Technical Training Program***, for Phase I project development. Received Best Overall Class- and "Best Overall Instructor" honors for year 2000.

***Bureau of Programming*** - Completed Phase I, project and environmental studies. Worked in both In-House and Consultant Sections, where responsibilities included traffic engineering, geometric design and analysis, assessment of right-of-way, public coordination, and environmental (NEPA) studies. Major emphasis on coordination with municipalities citizens elected officials, consultants, other departments, and other branches of government. Example projects and honors:

**Interstate 290, "The Hillside Strangler"** - worked with numerous public agencies and private firms to meet an unprecedented schedule. Ensure proper engineering and environmental studies were completed in accordance with state and federal requirements. This \$97 million interstate, interchange, and urban road project consisted of many engineering and land acquisition challenges, and included extensive coordination with consultants, municipalities, utility companies, railroads, property owners, the media, and elected officials. Of over 1100 engineers, earned IDOT's 1999, "Engineer of the Year" award for the completion of the Phase I portion of this project.

**17th Avenue over Salt Creek, Village of North Riverside** - \$1.4 million bridge reconstruction project with Cook County Forest Preserve coordination and bike path design and accommodations. This project was also on accelerated schedule with extensive coordination with local communities. In 1998, received District 1, Bureau of Programming nomination for Engineer of the Year.

**Illinois Route 19 (Irving Park Road), Austin Avenue to Ashland Avenue**- \$8 million project including vertical clearance improvements at the Union Pacific Railroad bridge near Ravenswood. extensive coordination with alderman, state representatives, and with the City of Chicago. Developed first set of District guidelines, defining criteria for placement of landscaped medians along State routes and received Garden Club of Illinois, Roadside Beautification Award in 2000.

**Bureau of Construction** - Inspected project work, tested various materials, and quantified contractor progress. Specific jobs included resurfacing, sound/sight wall construction, traffic signal interconnect, and drainage inspection.

**Bureau of Traffic** - Completed the inspection, design modification, and monitoring of traffic installations throughout the Chicago area. In 1995, to assess safety problems in the wake of the Fox River Grove school bus/Metra crash, performed District wide inventory of signalized intersections, which are interconnected with railroad warning devices.