

Reducing Railroad Involved Collisions, Injuries and Deaths *Elmhurst, Illinois*

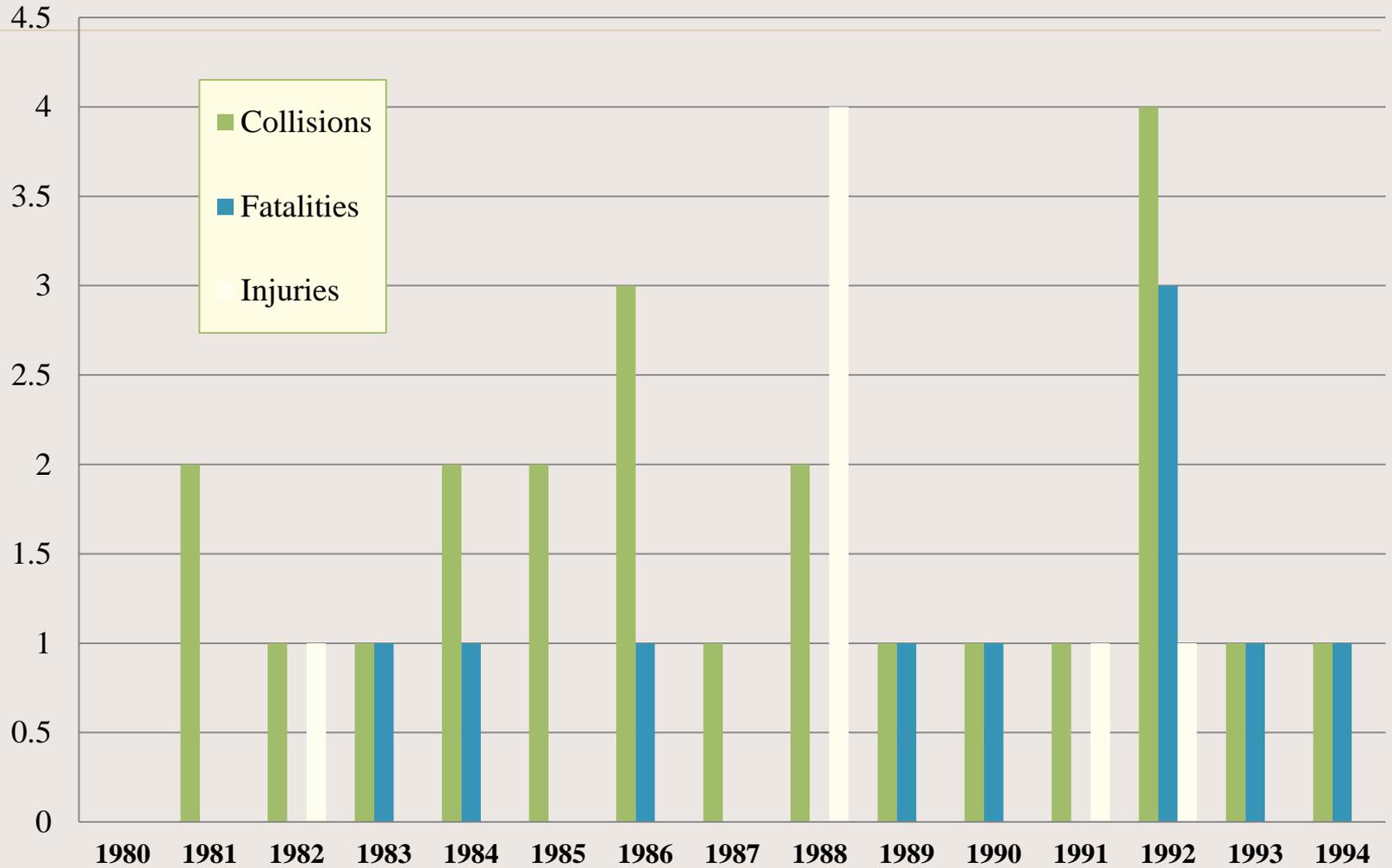
Deputy Chief Jim Kveton
Elmhurst Police Department
125 E. First St., Elmhurst, IL 60126
Phone (630) 530-3050
Fax (630) 530-3351
james.kveton@elmhurst.org



Elmhurst, Illinois

- Suburban Community
- 15 Miles West of Chicago
- 45,000 Residents
- 10 Square Miles
- Union Pacific, (IC) Canadian National
 - » 13 Vehicle Crossings, 1 Nature Path
- 2 Under Passes, 2 Bridges, 2 Ped. Underpasses
- 150 Trains Per Day

Collisions, Fatalities & Injuries: 1980 - 1994 for UP and CC&P



Chicago Metro Area (1994)

- 14 People Killed in 2 weeks
August 1994
- DuPage County Pedestrians vs.
Vehicle
- Elmhurst 1992-93, 3 Fatal RR
Collisions In 12 Month Period

The Problem

- Local Law Enforcement Approach
 - Sporadic Enforcement
 - Few Man Hours for Prevention
- Railroad Police Spread Thin
 - Few Officers Thousands of Miles
 - Very Few Safety Trainers
- IDOT, County Roads, PW Budgets

Higgins' Opinion / Jack Higgins





Commuter Behavior in 1991



Developing an Approach

- Public Information
- Engineering
 - Traffic Control Signs
 - Lane Separation
- Media
- Education
- Enforcement
- Re-Enforcement
- Continue to Re-Develop



Our Message is for Everyone



Traffic Control Devices

- Lights, Flashers and Bells
- Personalized Warning Signs
 - Crossings
 - Trespass
 - Specialty
- Traffic Flow Control





Use the Media

- News Papers, TV News, Radio, News Letters
 - Get to know local reporters
 - Cover Blitzes, Enforcement and Operation Lifesaver Classes
 - Free Space and Time for PSAs
- Local Cable
 - Produce Local PSAs Targeted Specifically for Your Community

Education and Enforcement

- Teach OL
 - Schools, Park Dist
 - Comm. Groups
 - Businesses
- Train Station Safety Blitzes
- Train and Re-Train Officers, Judges and Prosecutors
- Identify Target Locations
- Make Enforcement Irregular but Regular
- Pedestrians, Vehicles, at Crossings and Trespassing
- Use Your Imagination





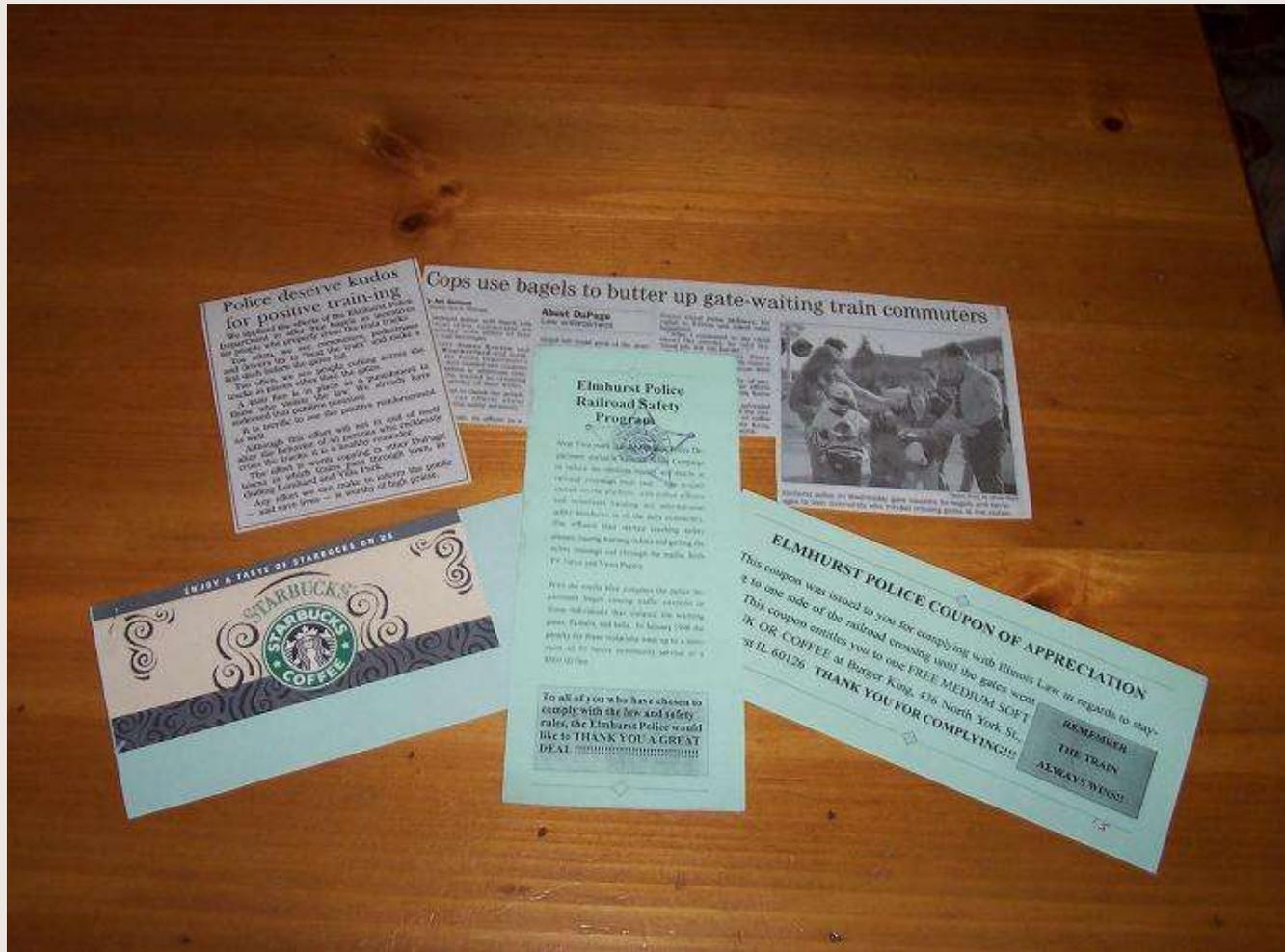
Secluded Locations



Commuter Behavior in 2011



Re-Enforce Proper Behavior



PEERS

Public Education and
Enforcement Research Study

Normal Year vs PEERS Year

- 103 Hrs of Prevention
 - 62 Hrs of Enforce
 - 40 Tickets Issued
 - 1,274 Students
 - 640 Flyer Contacts
- 484 Hrs of Prevention
 - 142 Hrs of Enforce
 - 255 Tickets Issued
 - 5,908 Students
 - 3,260 Flyer Contacts

Normal Year vs. PEERS Year

- 370% Increase in Prevention Hours
- 129% Increase in Hrs of Enforcement
- 538% Increase in Tickets Written
- 363% Increase in Students Taught
- 409% Increase in Handouts Given Out

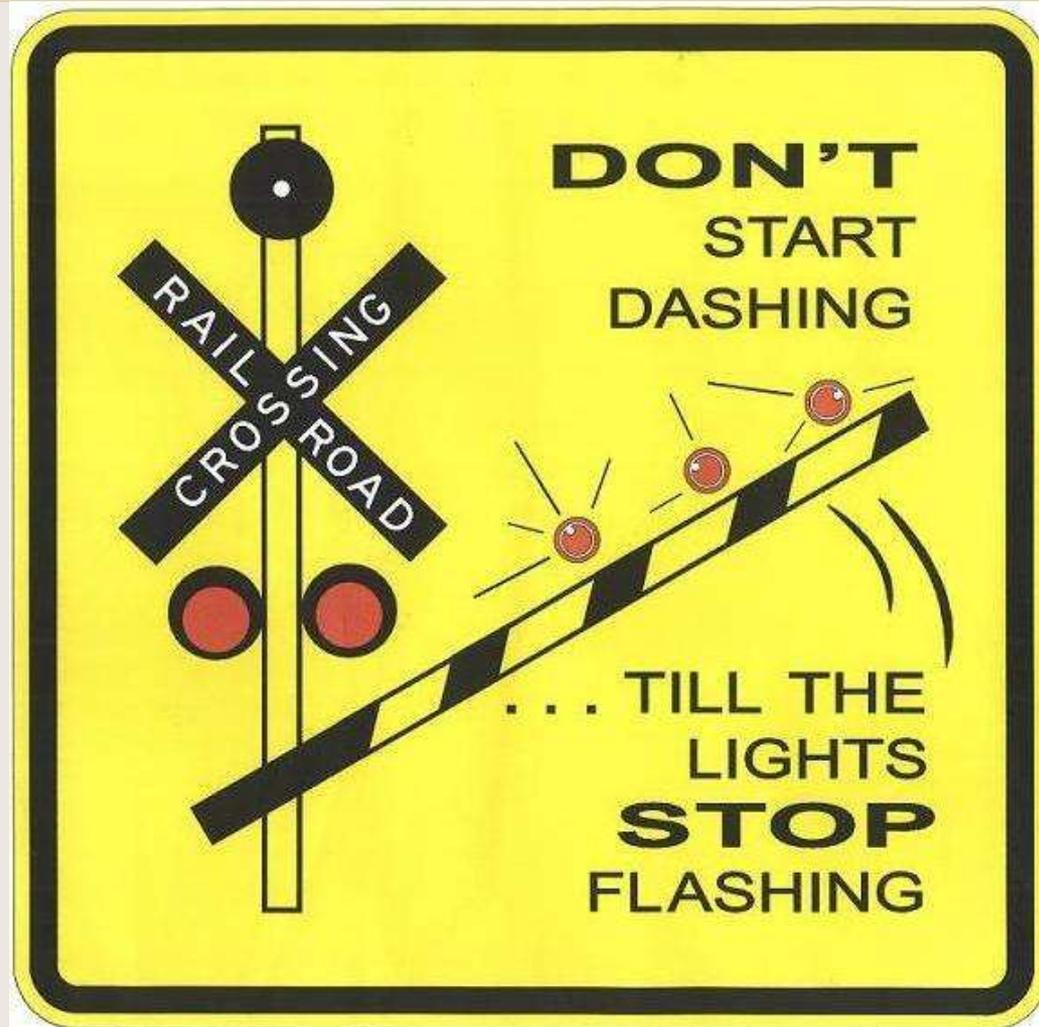
The Bachelor



Continuing to Re-Develop

- Continue Education / Enforcement / Engineering
- Continue to Develop New Ideas
- Stay in the Media
- Keep the Railroad Safety Concept in the Public's Mind All the Time
- The Only Bad Idea is One You Don't Try!

Trains Can Come on Any Track at Any Time From Any Direction



Safety Town Programs



Safety Train



Grade Crossing Prevention Banners



Channelization



Access to Secluded Areas



Nature Trail / Bike Path



New Warning Devices



Temporary Warning Systems



Interstate Highway Billboards

Public Service Announcements



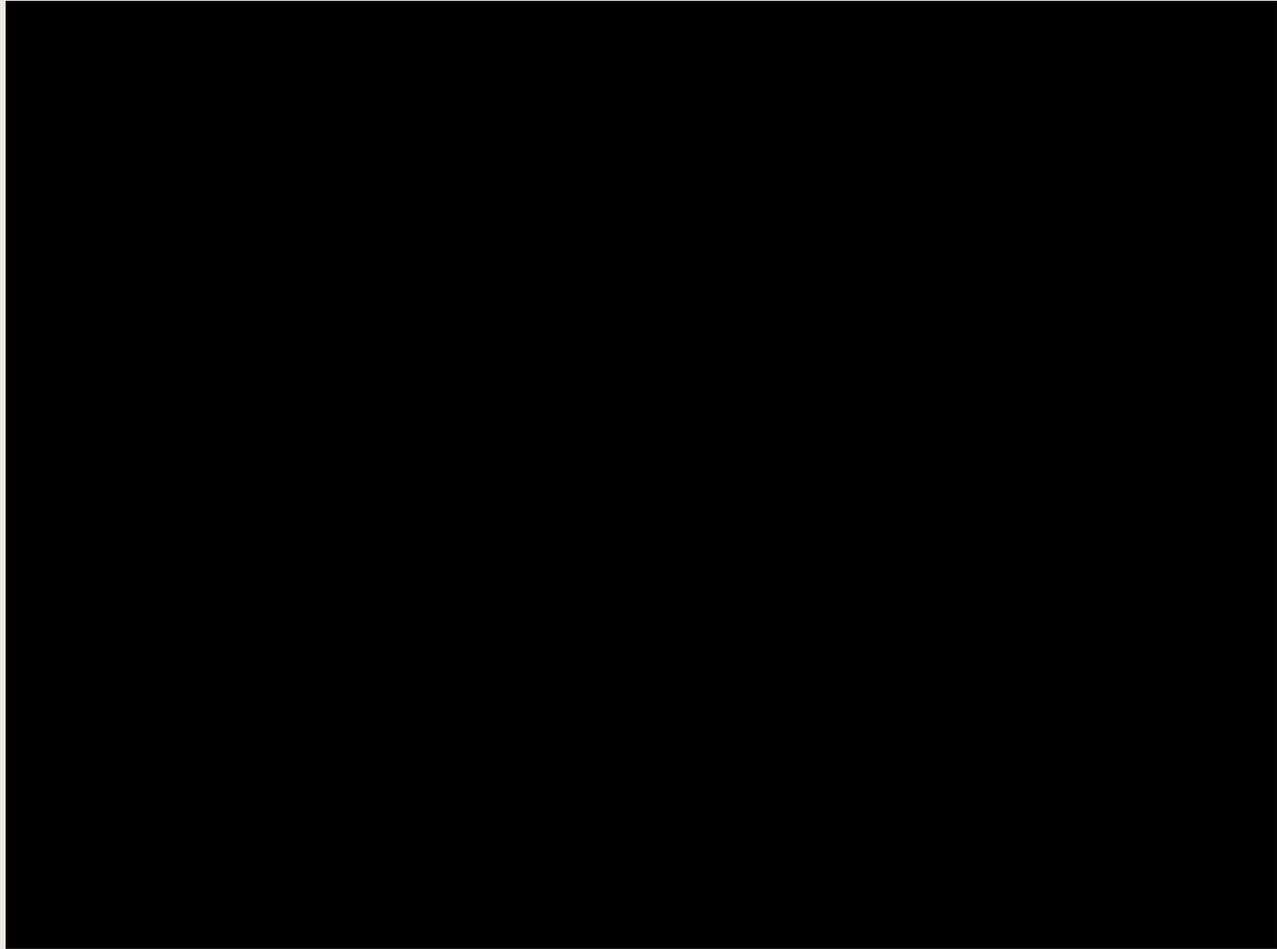
Second Train Warning



Public Service Theater Production



Public Service Theater Production

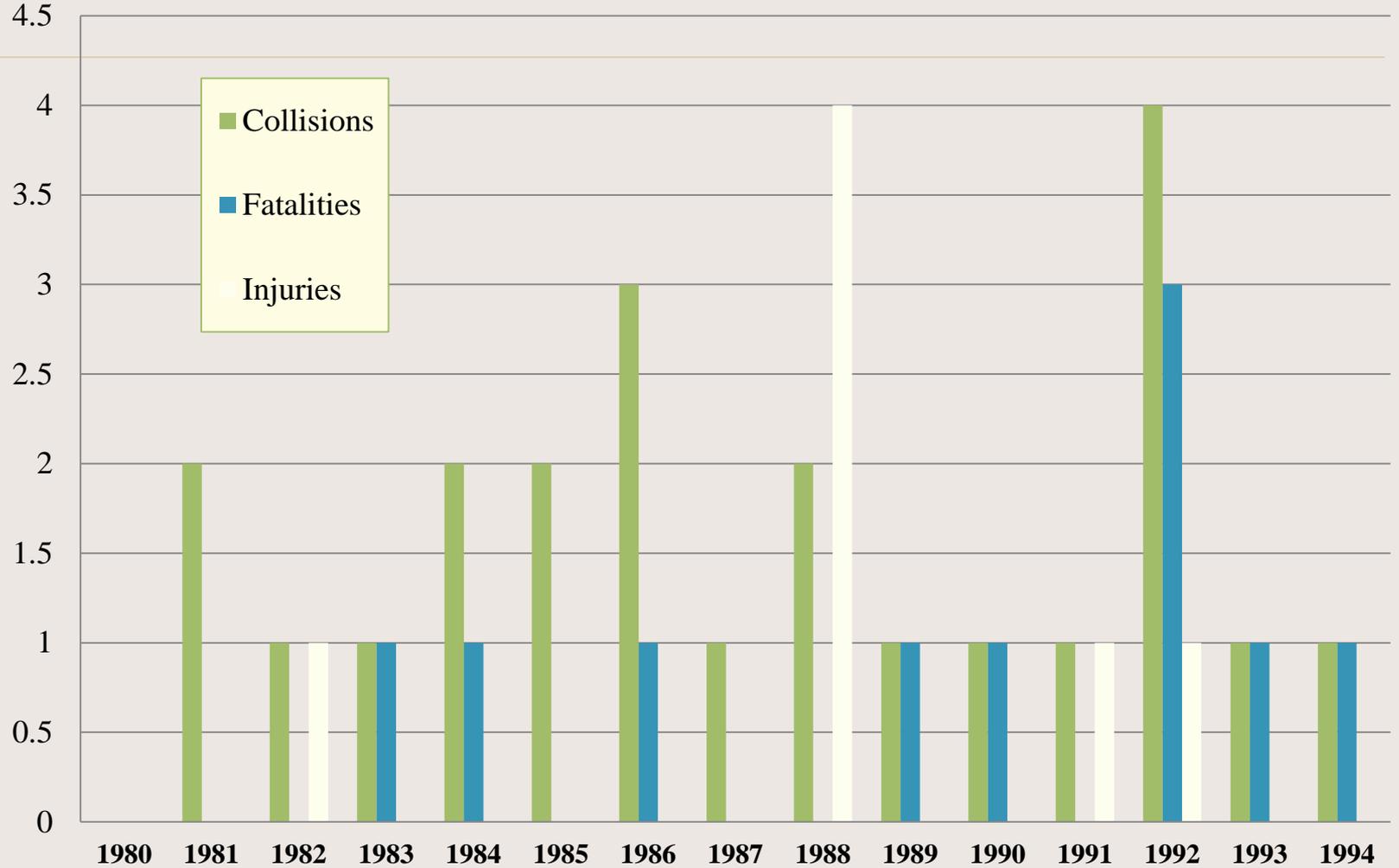


The Results

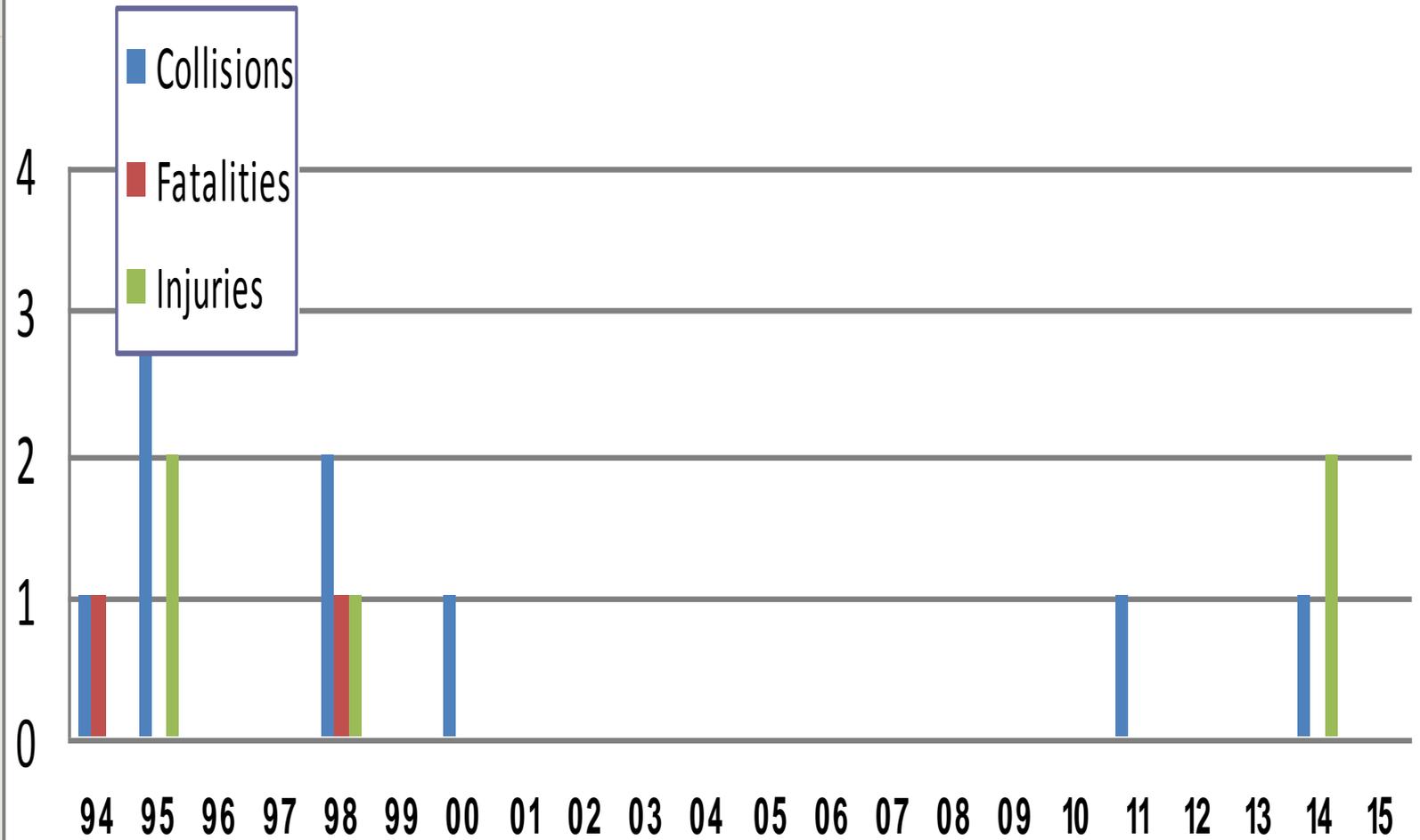
21 Years Later

- One Fatal Collision in 21 Years
- No Fatal Collisions in 17 Years
- Two Railroad Collision in 15 Years
- Significant Overall Railroad Involved Collision Reduction

Collisions, Fatalities & Injuries: 1980 - 1994 for UP and CC&P



Collisions, Fatalities & Injuries: 1994 - 2015 for UP



Societal Savings

Reducing Railroad Involved Collisions, Injuries and Deaths *Elmhurst, Illinois*

Deputy Chief Jim Kveton
Elmhurst Police Department
125 E. First St., Elmhurst, IL 60126
Phone (630) 530-3050
Fax (630) 530-3351
james.kveton@elmhurst.org

