

CHESTER TIMES – February 15, 1909

PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE TO BE BUILT AT NORWOOD – Plans Received  
For the Structure Across the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's Tracks

Rev. S.G. Shannon, clerk of Norwood Council has received the complete plans of a bridge to be constructed across the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's tracks at Winona Avenue. The proposed structure will be of iron and will be similar in construction to the span at Amosland. The plans submitted by the railroad company are merely in the shape of a proposition, however, and it is now up to the borough Council whether to accept or reject the company's offer to make the proposed improvement.

In offering to erect this bridge the company requires that the borough must renounce the company of the necessity of maintaining the grade crossing at the station for the convenience of people who desire to cross the tracks without using the bridge and of continuing the service of a watchman. This part of the company's proposition, which has been submitted before and which has been discussed by Council, is strongly objected to by the solons and the probabilities are that the company's proposition in its entirety will be submitted to the citizens at a public meeting held for that purpose.

The only street that has a crossing over the tracks is Amosland Road. Trains for Philadelphia find it necessary to cross the tracks at the station. The trucks are fenced off and each of the two fences is equipped with a gate which are opened and shut by a special watchman, precautions which lessen the danger of people being struck by trains.

For several years the people of Norwood have been clamoring for a bridge at Winona Avenue, which thoroughfare leads into the heart of the west side district. Finally, the matter was taken up by the railroad company, whose proposition is favorable as far as the proposed erection of the bridge is concerned, but that part which excludes the use of the grade crossing and does away with the services of a watchman does not meet with the approval at Council.

The question of constructing a tunnel beneath the tracks at Winona Avenue has also been discussed, but this plan is objected to by the people of the borough who use teams. They argue that a subterranean passage would be of no use to them unless it was large enough to admit of the passage of horses and wagons.

It is believed, however, that the citizens of the borough will accept the company's proposition, as it is generally conceded that the construction of an overhead bridge at Winona Avenue would not only prove a great convenience but would add to the valuation of properties on both sides of the railroad.

It is the general opinion of the residents of Norwood and Prospect Park that before many years the railroad company will abandon both local stations and erect modern depot midway between the two boroughs. A few years ago the company considered this improvement, and although it was understood at the time that plans were being prepared for the central station, nothing definite was done in the matter.