

# **National Train Show – Chattanooga 2026**

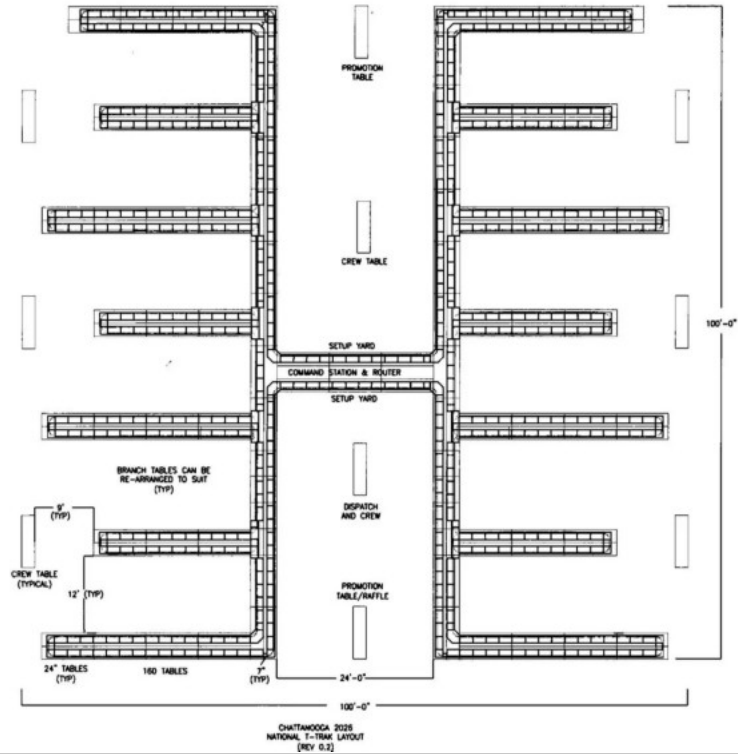
Presented to ZoomTRAK (NRail.org) 11/16/2024

## **Prototypical Operations in T-TRAK**

**Bob Schaffer**  
**Green Valley Railroad Club**

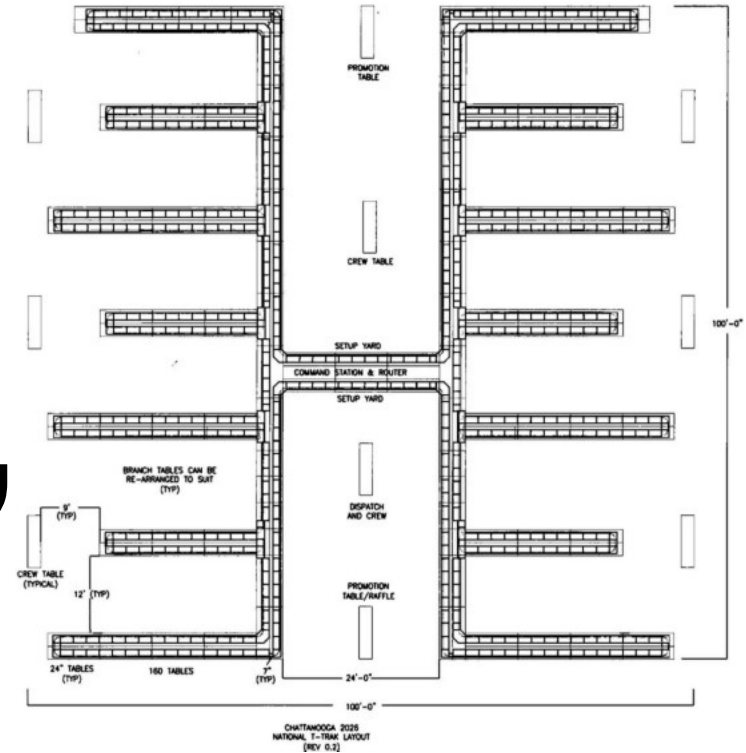
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# Record Size!



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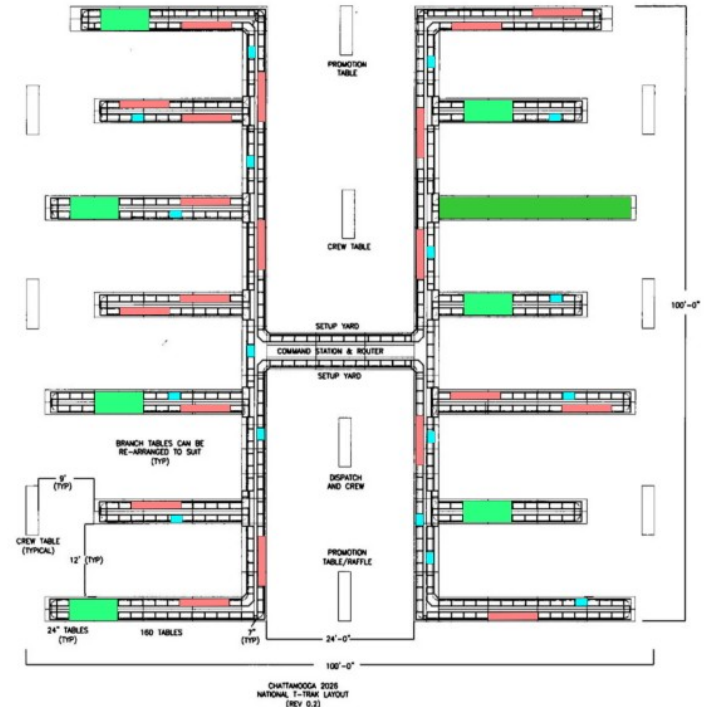
# First Ever, Truly Prototypical, Operations



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The colored squares represent the different sized OPSmods that we need to enable operations.

<http://www.gvrrclub.org/OPSplan.php>



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## Goals:

- Be fun
- Be compatible with normal T-TRAK layouts
- Be easy to setup and run
- Be easy for operators to understand and participate

## Era:

- Late 1930's
  - ◊ More ton-miles of goods and products
  - ◊ More passenger-miles
  - ◊ More interesting/complex railroading

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### **The actual operations session should provide participants with the feel of prototypical operations.**

- Train crews will have Track Warrants specifying arrival and departure times at each location.
- Yard and terminal crews will have a separate switch list for each train detailing how the consist should be built.
- Meets will occur at passing sidings as the trains move across the layout.
- Some simplifications will be needed, both because of the inherent limitations of T-TRAK as well as the lack of previous experience operating on this "show" layout.

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## Three Pillars of a T-TRAK Operations Session

OPS  
Planning  
Committee

TT-OPS  
Software

OPSmods

## **National Train Show – Chattanooga 2026**

# **OPS Planning Committee**

The T-TRAK OPS Planning Committee will be responsible for making most of the decisions about the planned operating sessions at the convention.

**Would you like to be part of the T-TRAK OPS Planning Committee?**

Send an email to: [bob@gvrrclub.org](mailto:bob@gvrrclub.org)

Your help is both needed and appreciated.



## **TT-OPS Software**

The TT- OPS software is used to simulate a complete operations session. Output includes:

- Train Schedule
- Meets Schedule
- Track Warrants
- String-line Diagram
- Switch Lists

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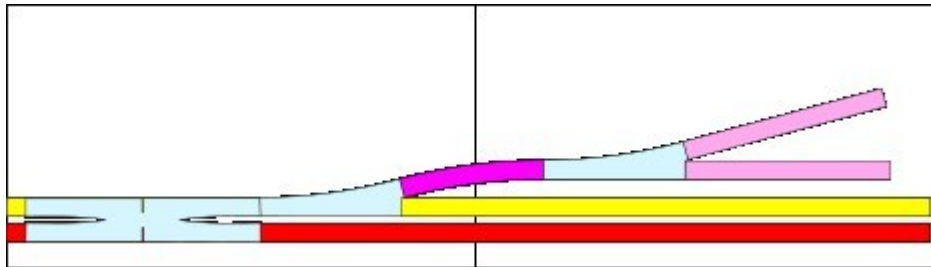
# OPSmob

An OPSmob is our term for a group of T-TRAK modules that are used as a single entity during a T-TRAK Operating Session

OPSmods will vary in size from just a Single Station Module, to an industrial switching area on set of four double modules, all the way up to a stub-end passenger terminal which uses over forty single-module-equivalents

## Why Do We Need OPSmods?

This Will Not Work!



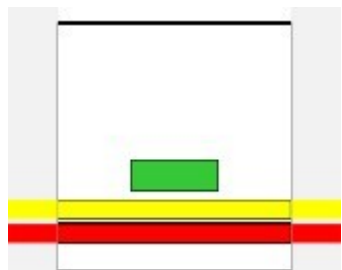
We need to get rid of the Yellow Line

# **OPSmob Examples**

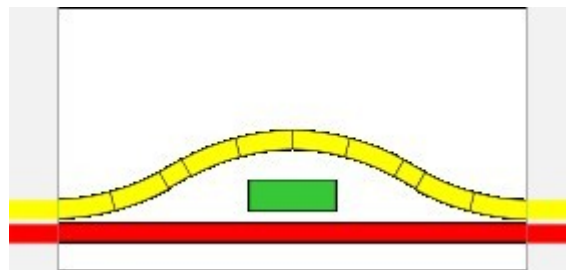
- Construction details are left to the modeler
- Examples are just that, examples

## OPSmold Examples

**Station**  
single module  
310mm



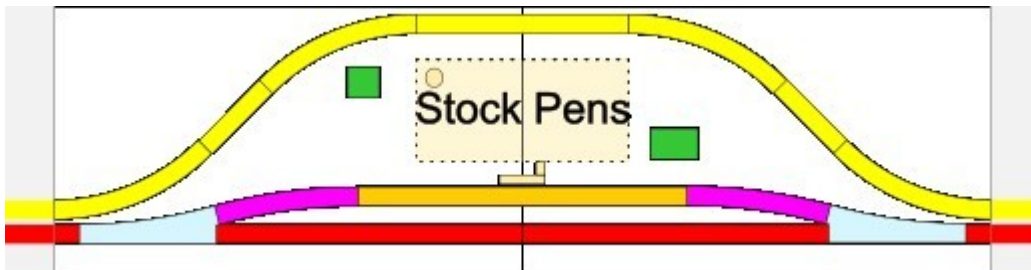
**Station**  
double module  
620mm



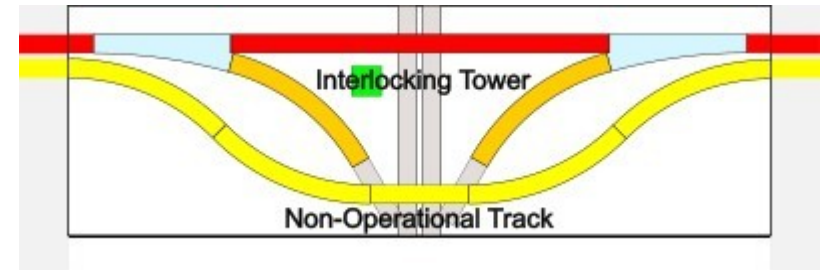
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## OPSmod Examples

**Livestock Rest Area**  
two double modules  
1240mm



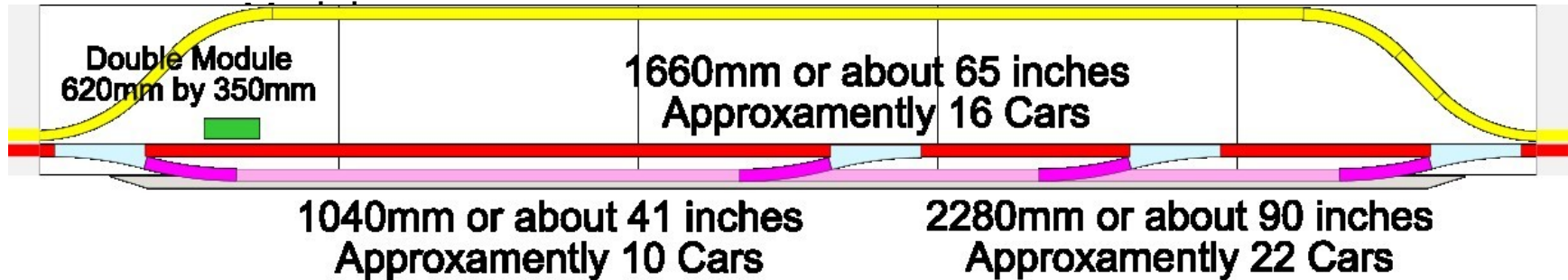
**Interchange**  
triple module  
930mm



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## OPSmod Examples

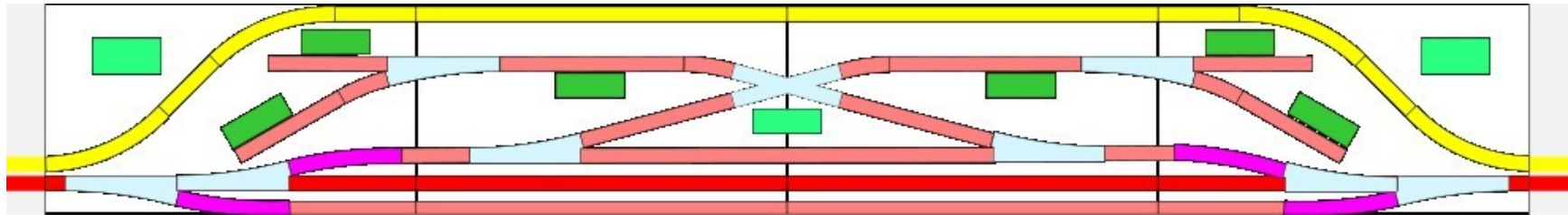
Showing Siding Lengths with 3, 4, and 5 Double



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## OPSmob Examples

Four Doubles - Industrial/Commercial Switching Area





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## OPSmob Examples

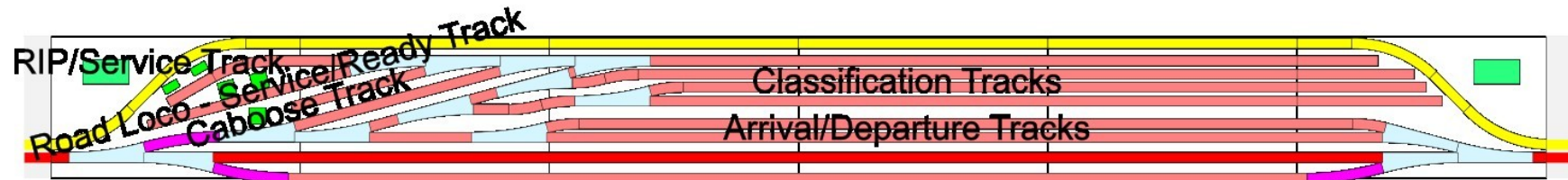
Five Doubles - 7 Track Staging Yard



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## OPSmob Examples

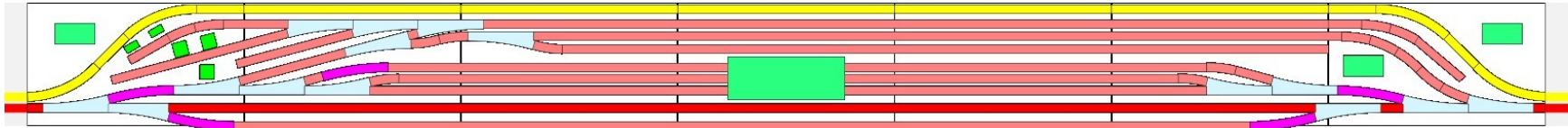
Six Doubles - Classification Yard



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## OPSmob Examples

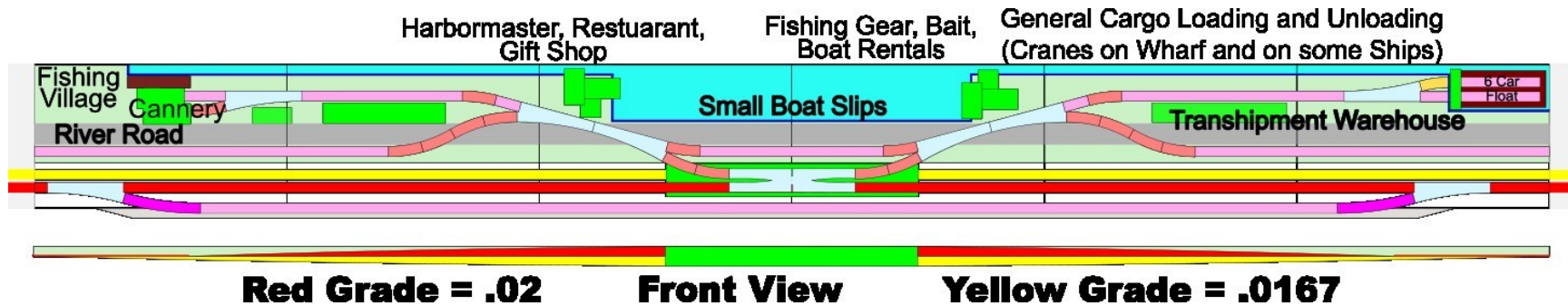
### Seven Doubles - Pass-through Terminal



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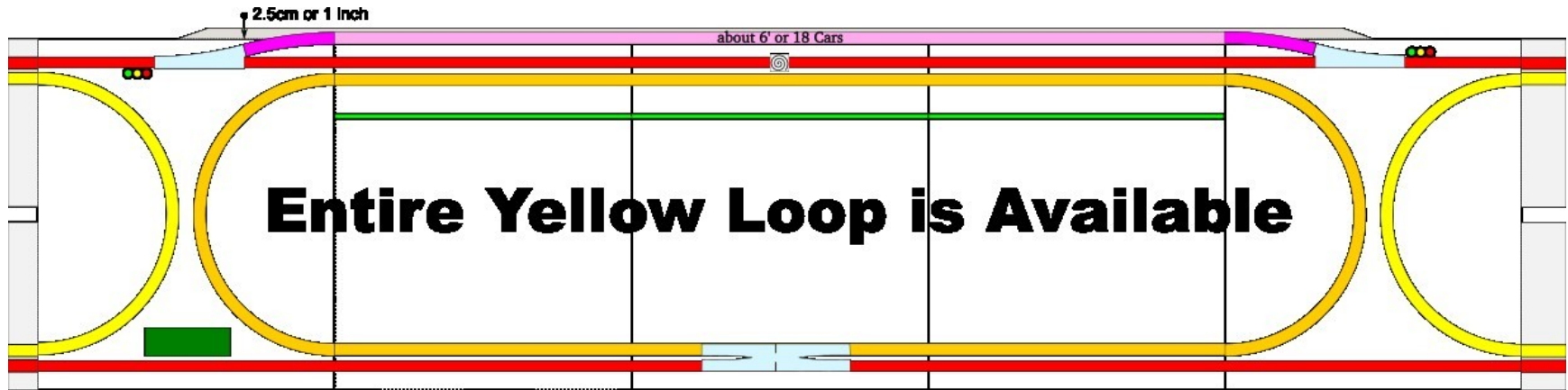
## OPSmod Examples

6 Double Modules with Red Line Elevated above Yellow Line



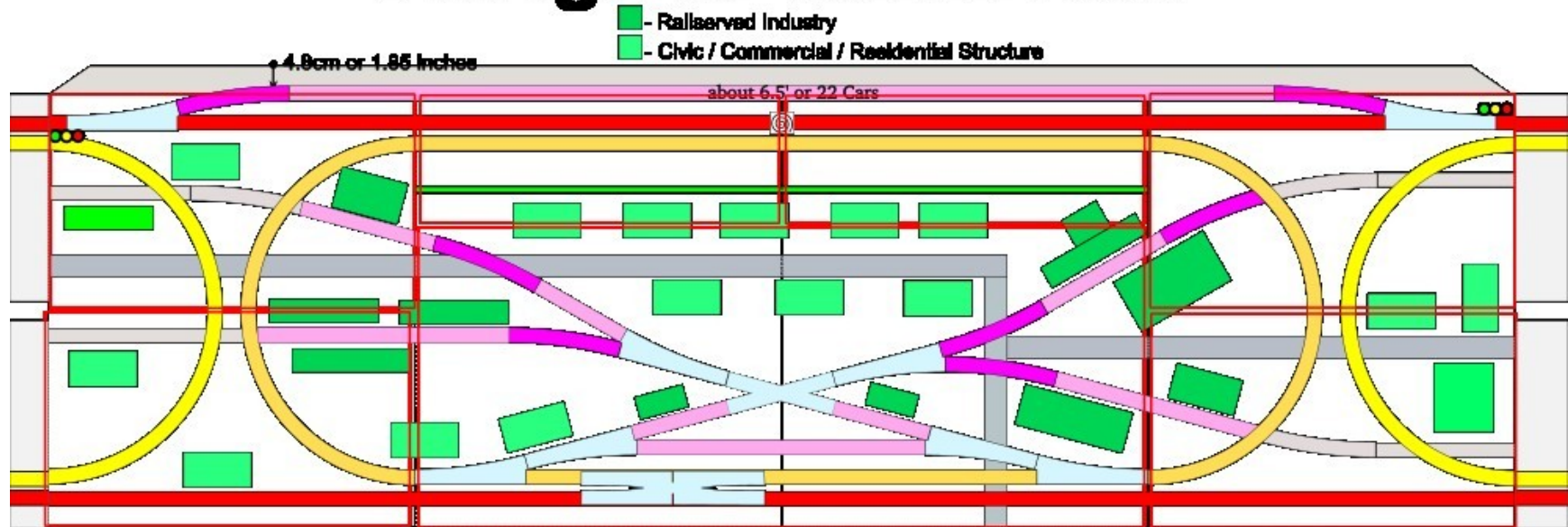
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## OPSmold Examples



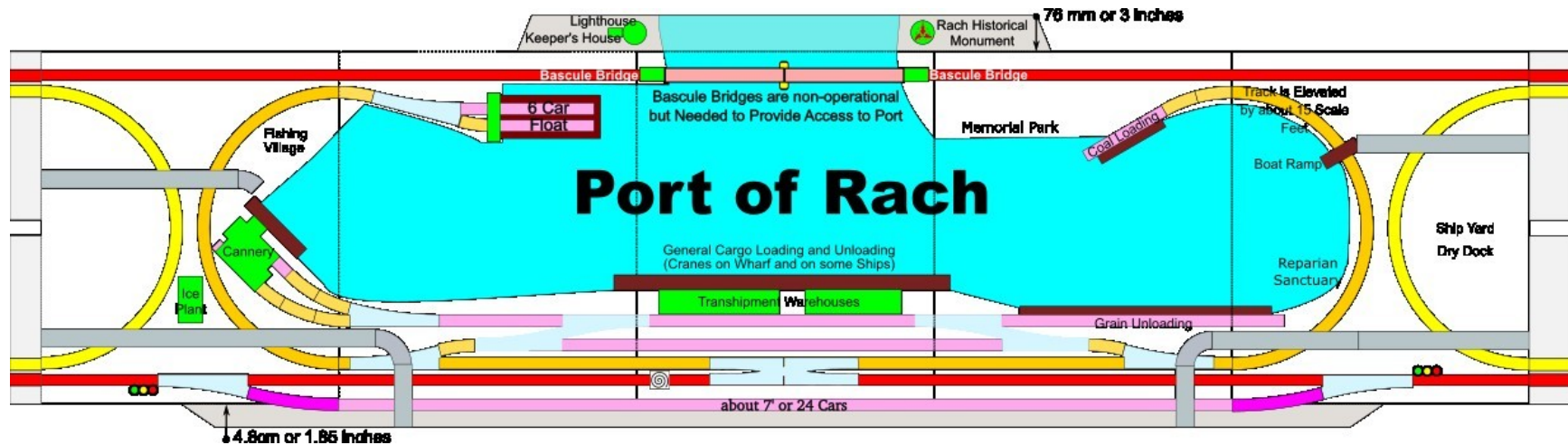
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## Village of Smallville



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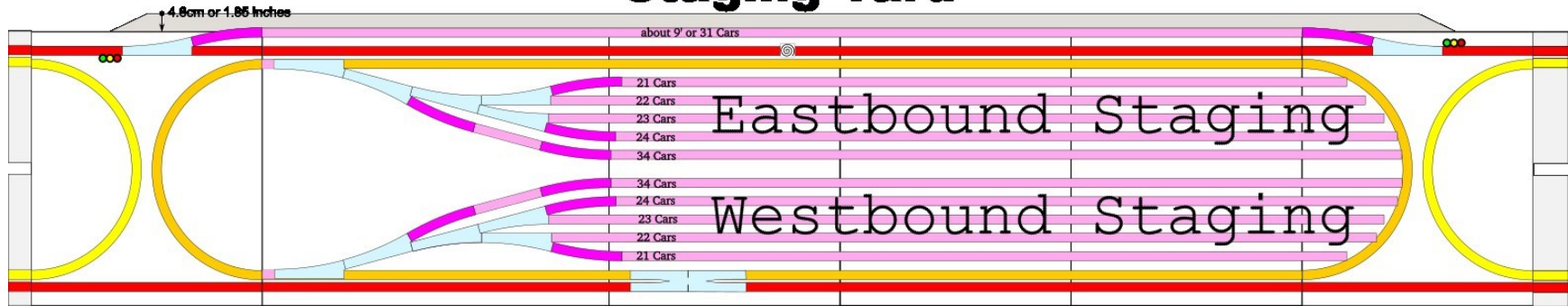
## OPSmod Examples



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## OPSmod Examples

### Staging Yard

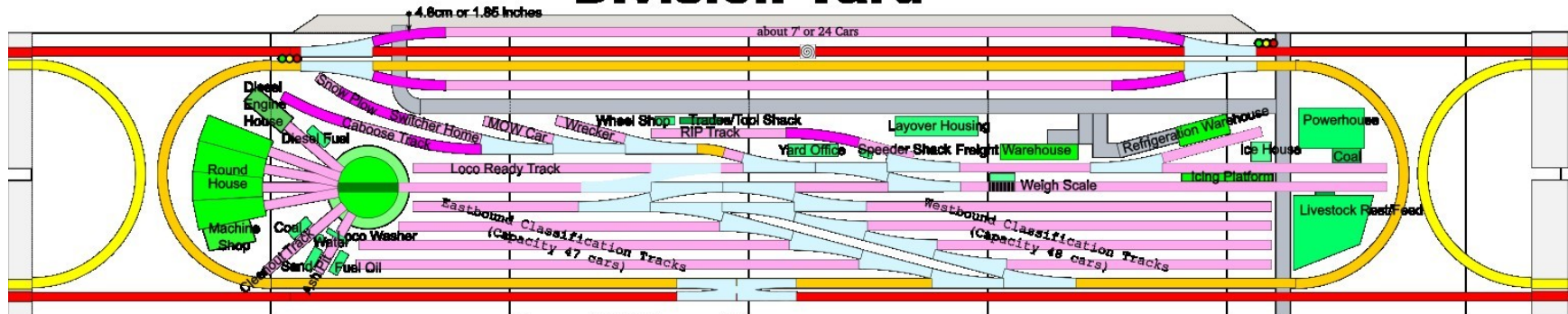


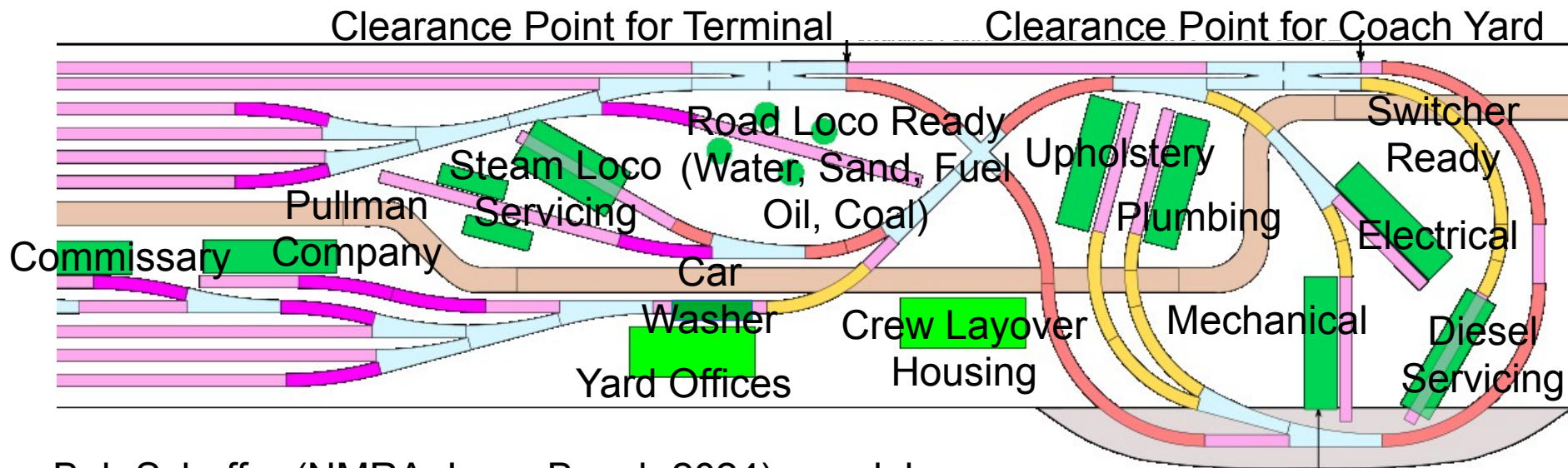
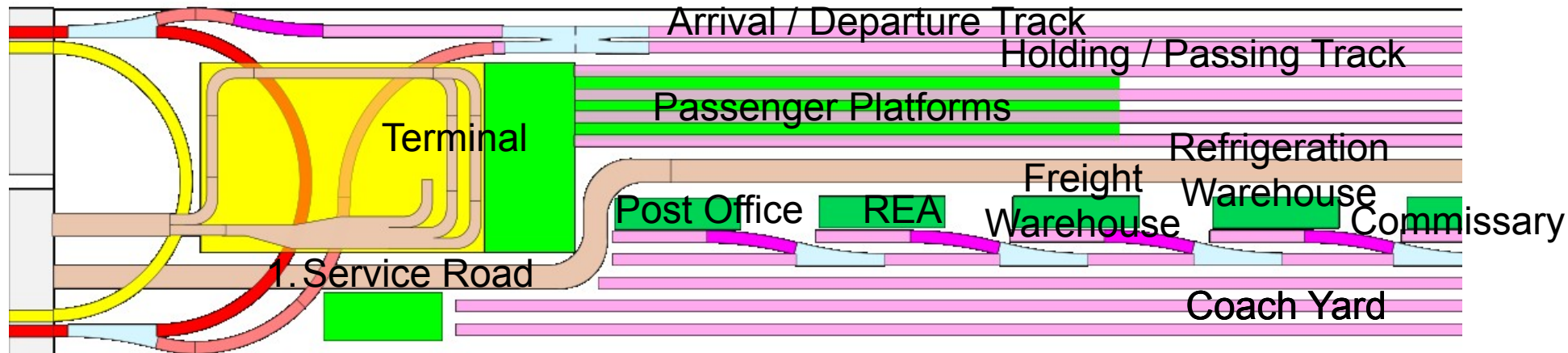


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## OPSmod Examples

### Division Yard



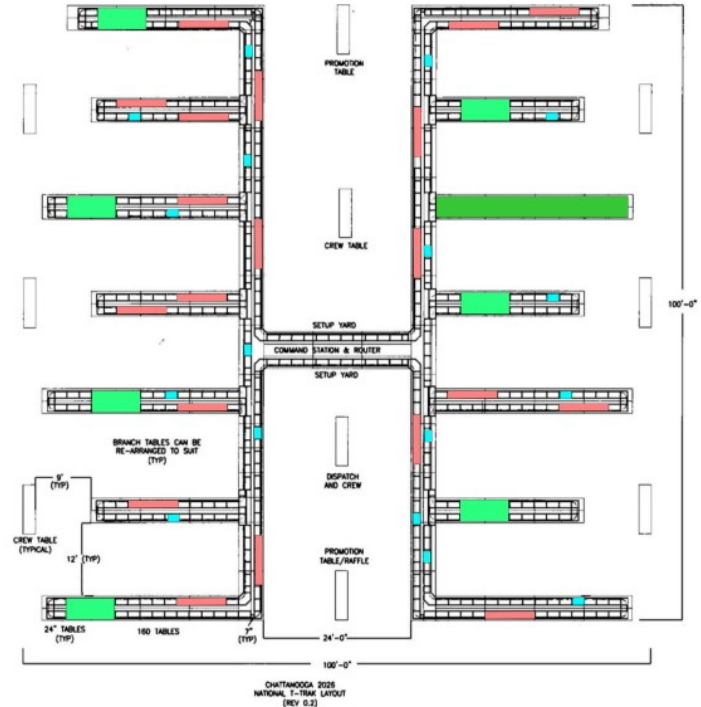


●● Bob Schaffer (NMRA: Long Beach 2024) [gvrrclub.org](http://gvrrclub.org)

122 mm or 4.75 inches

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Lets have  
***REAL*** OPS  
instead of just  
train running!



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Yes, you can design better OPSmods!  
Send a copy of your OPSmod to [bob@gvrrclub.org](mailto:bob@gvrrclub.org)  
I'll share it next month on ZoomTRAK!

**Comments!**

**Questions?**