BOARD OF EDUCATION / ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES NORTHBROOK / GLENVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT 30

Office of the Superintendent

January 4, 2017

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Re: Chicago-Milwaukee Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor Draft Environmental Assessment

I am writing to formally comment on the UPRR Siding Extension at A-20 Project, part of the Chicago-Milwaukee Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor proposal. The UPRR Siding Extension at A-20 project calls for the construction of a holding track for freight trains of up to 10,000 feet in length. This extension project will run through a significant amount of Northbrook / Glenview School District 30 which serves over 1100 students in grades pre-K through 8. Also, trains that would be slowing down or accelerating from rest as they cross the tracks could change a two-minute delay for a train moving 50 mph to a 30-minute delay. These delays would impact one of our bus routes along with parent traffic to and from school that cross the tracks on Techny.

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Glenview and the Village Board of the Village of Northbrook both unanimously voted to reject the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) that was released as they called for additional examination of harms posed by this project, which included the call for a full Environmental Impact Statement. Both villages also shared significant concerns regarding the need for this project.

On behalf of the Northbrook/Glenview Board of Education and over 1100 children of District 30, I write this letter of support for the call for a full Environmental Impact Statement. The environmental and noise pollution caused by trains stopping with engines idling and then starting up adjacent to neighborhoods within our district coupled with potential delays for traffic to and from school do pose concerns. The impact these trains will have on noise, traffic, and air quality deserve full study and consideration before this project proceeds.

Sincerely,

Brian K. Wegley, Ed. D.

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Superintendent – Northbrook/Glenview School District 30