



March 23, 2017

Justine Sydello
Deputy Chief of Staff
Illinois Department of Transportation
69 West Washington Street, Suite 2100
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: Request for Freight Train Impact Study

Dear Ms. Syndello:

The Village of Glenview appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and representatives from the Governor's Office on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 to review the Village's concerns related to the proposed UPRR A-20 freight train holding track (A-20) listed in the draft Chicago-Milwaukee Intercity Passenger Rail Program Environmental Assessment (EA). While the Village of Glenview is supportive of the efforts to add three roundtrip trains to Amtrak's Hiawatha service between Chicago and Milwaukee (Project), the Village continues to strongly object to the construction of A-20 adjacent to Glenview's residential neighborhoods.

At our meeting it was acknowledged that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) was dedicated to reviewing various alternatives and was putting forth significant effort to work through our community's concerns with the A-20 holding track. In concert with IDOT's commitment and due to the overall lack of operational and environmental impact data of freight train operations in the EA, Glenview is requesting a Freight Train Impact Study be conducted for A-20 and all other sections of proposed holding track in Illinois associated with this Project.

The transparent release of current freight train operational data and modeling to determine the impacts associated with the proposed A-20 and other proposed freight holding tracks, will help all stakeholders and communities adjacent to the Project understand how freight trains entering, standing, and exiting holding tracks will affect our adjacent neighborhoods and at-grade crossings. The Freight Train Impact Study should include the following information:

- The operational modeling freight data that indicates the need for the holding tracks (as a result of increased Hiawatha service).
- Operational data (number of trains per day, operating times, train length (current and projected), delay time at intersections, etc.) of the train intersections south and north of proposed holding tracks, as congestion in these areas are understood to be the primary cause of the freight traffic delays.
- Release of the operating agreements between the passenger and freight rail operators for the intersections impacting A-20 operations and other proposed holding tracks to understand how the intersections operate and the opportunities for improvement.
- The data on current operations adjacent to the proposed holding tracks should be compared with projections of freight train travel assuming both poor and favorable economic conditions. There is no guarantee or regulation preventing the freight lines from increasing activities compared to the Project's proposed activity and the true potential impacts of the proposed holding tracks should be known.

- Detailed data on air quality, noise, and other health and safety impacts for residents living adjacent to the proposed holding tracks.
- Detailed data overviewing the potential impact on local traffic (including emergency services) at grade-crossings as a result of the holding tracks and specifically on Techny Road and West Lake Avenue.

Thank you for following up and coordinating the requested Freight Train Impact Study. If you have additional questions regarding this submission, please contact Interim Village Manager Don Owen at (847) 904-4478.

Sincerely,



James R. Patterson, Jr.
Village President

CC: Governor Rauner
Illinois Secretary of Transportation Blankenhorn
Elliot A. Ramos, Illinois Department of Transportation
Arun Rao, Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Andrea Martin, Federal Railroad Administration
US Senator Durbin
US Senator Duckworth
US Congresswoman Schakowsky
US Congressman Schneider
US Secretary of Transportation Foxx
State Senator Biss
State Senator Morrison
State Senator Silverstein
State Representative Fine
State Representative Nekritz
State Representative Gabel
State Representative D'Amico