



# Village of Northbrook

1225 Cedar Lane

Northbrook, Illinois 60062

847.272.5050

Fax 847.272.1892

www.northbrook.il.us

March 23, 2017

Justine Syndello  
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:

Please accept this letter as the Village of Northbrook's endorsement of the Village of Glenview's proposal for a freight train impact study for the A-20 holding track as outlined in President James Patterson's letter dated March 23, 2017.

As you may know, the Village shares the Village of Glenview's concerns about the potential impacts of this project on businesses and neighborhoods located near and adjacent to the track. To that end, we believe a freight train impact study will clarify the full impact of this project for all stakeholders. 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 and businesses living and working 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 track 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 Village Manager Richard Nahrstadt at (847) 664-4010.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Frum  
Village President

CC: Governor Rauner

---

**PRESIDENT**

Sandra E. Frum

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

James A. Karagianis  
Todd A. Heller

A.C. Buehler III  
Kathryn L. Ciesla

Michael W. Scolaro  
Robert P. Israel

**VILLAGE CLERK**

Debra J. Ford

**VILLAGE MANAGER**

Richard A. Nahrstadt

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