

RESOLUTION # 2008-03

WHEREAS, the Canadian National (CN) Railroad has submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Surface and Transportation Board (STB) to acquire the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern (E.J. & E.) Railway; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition, if approved by the STB, is projected to result in a significant increase in the number of daily trains from 6 trains to 28 trains per day with a projected train length of up to 10,000 linear feet; and

WHEREAS, such an increase in freight traffic would significantly contribute to increased traffic congestion, grade-crossing risk, blockages of bicycle and pedestrian crossings, air and noise pollution, and hazardous materials risk; and

WHEREAS, the E. J. & E. line crosses five major north/south roadways of Gougar Road, Nelson Road, Cedar Road, Spencer Road, and Schoolhouse Road in New Lenox; and

WHEREAS, Gougar Road and Cedar Road are both major north/south arterial routes through the Township providing current roadway access to both I-80 and I-355; and

WHEREAS, all five E. J. & E. rail crossings are "at-grade" which will result in significant vehicle traffic congestion and back-up impacting north/south access through the Township; and

WHEREAS, both Police and Fire responses will be significantly impacted by the increased railway traffic resulting in significant longer response times of emergency vehicles, drastically affecting the health, safety, and welfare of New Lenox residents.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of New Lenox objects to the adverse impacts created by the sale of the E. J. & E. to Canadian National Railroad and, if approved, requests that the STB condition their approval on requiring CN to perform and pay for mitigation for the above mentioned adverse impacts.

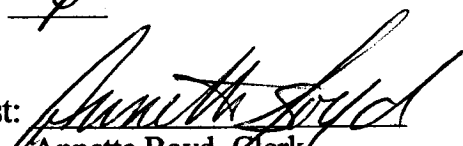
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of New Lenox calls upon its State and Federal representatives to assist in petitioning the STB to require CN to mitigate all negative impacts connected with its proposed acquisition of the E. J. & E.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2008.

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Attest:


Annette Boyd, Clerk


William McCollum, Supervisor