

Emily Decraene #9

Social Studies, 2nd hour

February 11, 2008

CN Railway

Barrington is currently trying to purchase the CN Railway. This is one of the hottest topics going around in the area. Why this is so popular is that not many of the Barrington citizens are happy about this for various reasons.

One reason people are not happy are danger hazards. One danger hazard is how close the train tracks are from houses. Some of the tracks are as close as about fifty yards. If a train for some reason went off track it could easily crash into one of the houses near by. Another hazard is toxic fumes that could be released if a train crashed which could lead to the village of Barrington having to evacuate. The last hazard is that many kids walk to school every day and many kids walk either over or by EJ&E railways everyday. The more trains that pass each day, the greater change of getting hit each day.

Another reason is that this would create more traffic in the Barrington area. This would cause transportation to take longer to get around which would include busses. Other than kids crossing the railways so do busses. This could delay busses twenty minutes. And in the case of a bus getting stuck on the railway could cause a huge tragedy.

The CN Railway will do nothing to our community but cause more damage. It will cause more traffic and will increase the possibility of many danger hazards. The CN Railway needs to be stopped and soon because once Barrington officially purchases it, it could be there for ever.

Dear Representative, Melissa Bean,

I am hoping you realize what impact this will have on our community. I have only lived here for 3 years and have found everyday impossible to get around this community.

When we went thru the Rt. 12 mess, several stores lost or closed up business, because no one wanted to take Rt. 12. They still want to stay away from it anyway, because it is still is heavily traveled.

Rt. 12 is impossible. For 2 years we lived with it being under construction with major tie ups, finally done and we still have tie-ups. The road cannot handle the amount of cars that need to use it, along with all the extra traffic of the shopping malls and strip malls that have popped up along Rt. 12. There are not really any good alternates because every road around here is tied up. The impact to Rt. 12 will be more horrendous then it is now, as people trying to turn onto S. Ela Rd from Rt. 12 will cause a major backup as the track is not that far from Rt. 12. Ela road is the road most of Lake Zurich residents have to use to get the Barrington Train station to go work.

The train also impacts Rt22, Old Rand road to get to town, Oakwood and Old McHenry Roads. Every morning and evening these roads are completely grid lock.

We do not have a lot of alternative roads here to bypass the train intersections. More trains and longer trains we put us into a standstill.

Theodore Mazurkiewicz
Resident of Lake Zurich

Surface Transportation Board

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