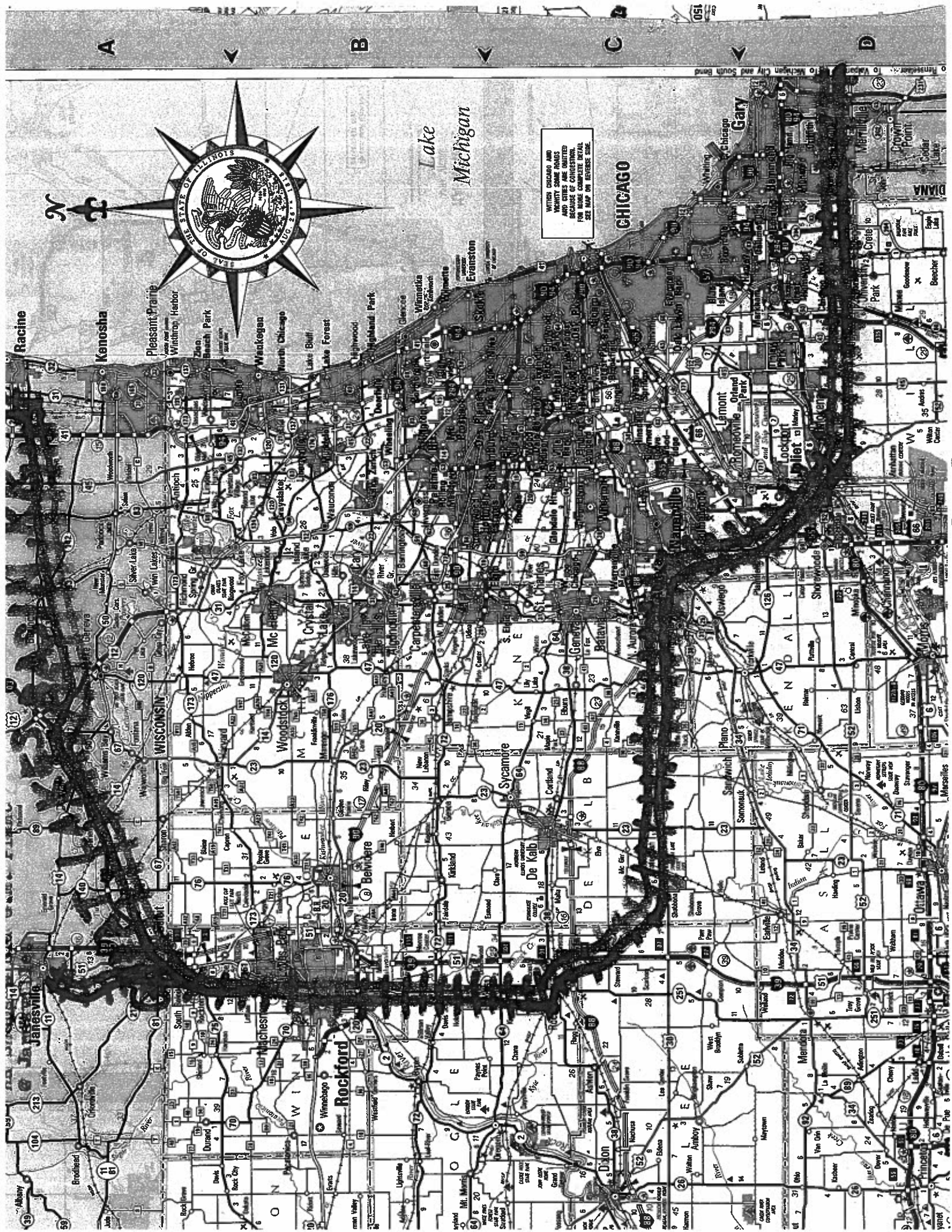


Dear Mr. Dave Navecky, The New Outer Belt Railroad

I'm all for it! This just what we need! This new RR would improve prosperity, transportation, for Janesville and Rock County. The General Motors Plant could be used for RR shops and RR construction equipment. This would mean more jobs and employment for labor. However, did the promoters explore other RR routes around Chicago?

1. What about the Elgin, Joliet, & Eastern RR or "The Outer Belt" between Waukegan, Elgin, Aurora, Joliet, & Gary? 'Tis now run by the Canadian National RR.
2. What about revitalizing the Lake Michigan car ferry service between Wisconsin and Michigan? The C.&O., Ann Arbor, and Grand Trunk RRs. once ran carferry service between Wisconsin and Michigan. The old boats could be redone for this trade route.
3. What about building a new railroad bridge at the Mackinac Straits? This would form a northern route from Mpls.-St. Paul and Winnipeg to Detroit, Toledo, New York and other eastern points.
4. What about rerouting east and west trains further to the south via St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans? The old Wabash RR (now N.S.RR) route could be used to reroute trains from Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Des Moines, via Moberly, Mo., Decatur, Ill. to Detroit, Toledo, Buffalo, New York, and other eastern points.
5. The best bet and cheapest way is to use the present RR systems better. Co-ordinate and update whatever they got now. I suggest better signaling, co-ordination, and co-operation between the various railroads.
6. If the farmers are worried about RRs cutting across their land, I suggest use the present RR tracks wherever possible. A new second track could then be laid next to the first track as a passing lane.
7. I suggest changing to the old Milw. Rd. Southwestern route between Sturtevant and Beloit on the northern route. 'Tis half abandoned but can be rebuilt without harming farm land. Then this new outer belt RR bypass could then go via Milwaukee, Sturtevant, Beloit, Rockford, Rochelle, on the old Milw. Rd. on the northern and western routes, and then east on the BNSF to Aurora, the E.J.&E. to Joliet, Gary, Indiana, and points east to New York. Maybe the Great Lakes Basin RR Co. should join forces with the Wisconsin Southern RR to complete this new outer belt RR.
8. I also suggest a new commuter RR service from Milwaukee to Waukesha, White-water, Milton, Janesville, Beloit, and Rockford.
9. On the con side, where are the promoters of the Great Lakes Basin RR going to get the money from? It could be a billion dollar boondoggle. Where are they going to get customers from? Rival RRs would starve them out. Do they have an inside track? The pun is intended! The chances are, it's all for nothing! My suggestion is cheaper to co-ordinate the existing RRs.
10. I've done a lot of research on this stuff! I've plotted possible routes on old RR atlases, Highway maps, RR books, etc. I don't know if this proposed RR bypass is any faster than the RR grid-lock in Chicago. Maybe about the same.

Happy Rails! Glen Snyder



A

B

C

D



Lake Michigan

WITHIN CHICAGO AND VICINITY SAME DATES BECAUSE OF CONGESTION. FOR MORE COMPLETE DETAIL SEE MAP ON REVERSE SIDE.

CHICAGO

Gary

Racine

Kenosha

Pleasant Prairie

Winthrop Harbor

Zion

North Chicago

Waukegan

Lake Bluff

Lake Forest

Highwood

Deerfield

Winnetka

Wilmette

Skokie

Northbrook

Rolling Meadows

Wilmette

Winnetka

Skokie

Northbrook

Rolling Meadows

Wilmette

Winnetka

Skokie

Northbrook

Rolling Meadows

Wilmette

Winnetka

Skokie

Northbrook

Janesville

Rockford

Peoria

Springfield

Champaign

Urbana

Decatur

Normal

Macomb

Quincy

Streator

La Grange

Yorkville

Marion

Shelbyville

Paris

Franklin

Waverly

Windsor

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Docket No. FD 35952,395
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