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September 15, 2008

Mayor
John A. Ostenburg

Village Trustees
Mae Brandon
Bonita Dillard
Gary Kopycinski
Kenneth W. Kramer
Robert McCray
Georgia O'Neill

Village Clerk
Sheila McGann

Village Manager
Thomas Mick

Village Hall
350 Victory Drive
Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 748-1112

**DownTown
Management Office**
226 Forest Blvd.
(708) 503-8153

Fire Department
156 Indianwood Blvd.
(708) 748-5605

Freedom Hall
410 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 747-0580

Health Department
350 Victory Drive
(708) 748-1118

Police Department
200 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 748-4700

**Recreation and
Parks Department**
350 Victory Drive
(708) 748-2005

Phillis Johnson-Bell
STB Finance Docket No. 35087
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 200423-0001

Dear Ms. Johnson-Bell:

On behalf of the approximately 24,000 residents of the Village of Park Forest, I wish to be on record in regard to the proposed merger of the Canadian National Railroad (CN) with the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Co. (EJ&E). The staff of the Village of Park Forest already has submitted material regarding the concerns that our elected officials, professional staff, and residents have regarding this matter. I wish only to add an official sanction to the previously submitted information.

The increased rail traffic that will pass through our corporate limits as a result of the CN and EJ&E merger will be especially problematic for our residents – and also for residents of several nearby communities – at the intersection of the current EJ&E tracks and Western Avenue on the eastern edge of our municipality. Western Avenue is a heavily traveled roadway throughout the day and evening; the delays that will be caused by the increased rail traffic will interfere with individuals who are going to and from places of employment, with students who are traveling to and from school, with safety and security personnel who will be functioning on behalf of citizens in need, and with a number of others who have need to travel Western Avenue on a regular basis. I urge you to support our insistence that this issue be addressed in connection with approval of the merger proposal.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter that will have dramatic effects on the quality of life for residents of Park Forest and several other suburbs of Chicago.

Sincerely,

John A. Ostenburg
John A. Ostenburg
Mayor

Copy: Manager of the current EJ&E tracks and Western Avenue on the eastern edge of our municipality. I wish to be on record in regard to the proposed merger of the Canadian National Railroad (CN) with the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Co. (EJ&E). The staff of the Village of Park Forest already has submitted material regarding the concerns that our elected officials, professional staff, and residents have regarding this matter. I wish only to add an official sanction to the previously submitted information.