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September 8, 2008

Board Member W. Douglas Buttrey
Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. W. Douglas Buttrey:

We are writing this letter as extremely concerned citizens of Lake Zurich. We have lived in Lake Zurich for 4 years. We decided to buy a house in Lake Zurich 4 years ago because of the unique charm of a smaller community with all of the conveniences and advantages that are found in larger, more populated suburb. We are planning on raising our family here and have every hopes of staying here long term. However, the community as we know it is in jeopardy due to the Canadian National RR plans. There is no disputing the concerns that there will be major negative impacts to the current community of having six times more trains a day that are two times in length. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that the frequency of trains will not increase past this amount in the future as well.

First of all, the noise pollution associated with increase train traffic will disturb our community. We currently enjoy a peaceful, quiet environment that is conducive to family living and community and school district activities. Secondly, the traffic flow patterns in and out of the community will be greatly inhibited. This especially affects residents in certain areas that are "trapped" until the long trains pass. It also negatively affects school transportation timing and availability to students. Thirdly, it stunts the growth of our community as it detracts new business and residents. Potential new inhabitants realize that the increased train traffic will make Lake Zurich an area to avoid and go around rather than an area to drive to and give patronage. Most importantly, there are many safety concerns that exist with the CN plan. We have schools in close proximity to the tracks. The traffic on the tracks may cause potential hazards for students. Another safety concern is the potential for derailment and toxic spills. Finally, it will reduce the ability for residents and service organizations (police, fire, ambulance) to respond in times of emergency to those that need help or need to get to a location for help.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter. We sincerely hope it conveys the love and satisfaction we feel for the current Lake Zurich community and the deep concern that the CN will change the community in the wrong direction away from a wonderful place to live, shop, eat, and visit.

Sincerely,

Matthew and Tiash Milazzo

Matthew Milazzo 9-8-2008

Tiash Milazzo 9-8-2008