

03509, 050208. ROGERS. 60525. S.N. LTM



TOWNSHIP OF LYONS

6404 JOLIET ROAD COUNTRYSIDE, ILLINOIS 60525

PATRICK T. ROGERS
Supervisor

MARY JO NOONAN
Clerk

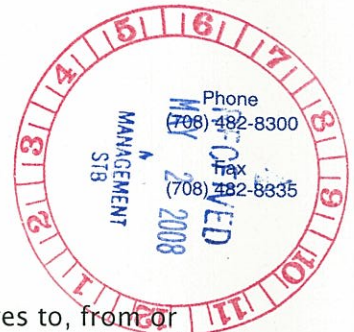
BARBARA WEYRICK
Assessor

ERIK R. PECK
Collector

STEVEN M. LANDEK
Highway Commissioner

TRUSTEES
RUSSELL HARTIGAN
THOMAS WM. GARRETTE, JR.
TIMOTHY M. SPRAGUE
MARY VAN ALLEN

RESOLUTION 2008-07



WHEREAS, one third of the nation's freight rail traffic moves to, from or through the Chicago area every year making it the transportation hub of North America, and

WHEREAS, rail congestion has significantly slowed freight traffic through the Chicago region to the point where it can now take a freight train 24 hours to travel the thirty miles through the City of Chicago, slowing rail transportation nationwide; and

WHEREAS, opening up capacity on urban rail lines means that all rail traffic will move more efficiently and smoothly through the city; and

WHEREAS, freight trains are three times more fuel-efficient and emit one-third less pollution than trucks carrying comparable loads, thereby lessening the drain on the nation's energy reserves; and

WHEREAS, a typical freight train carries the equivalent of 280 truck-trailer loads, thereby alleviating highway congestion by keeping time-sensitive freight on the rails rather than diverting to highways; and

WHEREAS, rail transportation is crucial to the region economically touching five millions jobs nationwide; and

WHEREAS, if the problem of rail congestion in the region goes unchecked, it could cost the region \$2 billion in production with impacts on 17,000 jobs over the next two decades; and

WHEREAS, Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE) a model public-private partnership, initiated more than five years ago, developed a comprehensive long term plan that would revitalize the area's transportation network by reconfiguring rail traffic through the Chicago Metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, the CREATE comprehensive plan still has yet to receive government funding, even though it has had wide support from every level of government, the private sector and a broad cross-section of non-governmental groups and organizations; and

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&B HIS - FD-35087

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WHEREAS, Canadian National Railway Company, a founder and strong proponent of CREATE since its inception, has proposed rerouting its traffic from the congested urban rail lines to the under-utilized Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway at its own cost and expense, thereby opening up new capacity on those urban lines; and

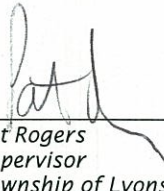
WHEREAS, by rerouting its traffic, Canadian National Railway Company will relieve freight congestion on many of the Chicago's region rail lines, thereby reducing travel times, pollution from idling trains and costs resulting from shipping delays; and

WHEREAS, the West Central Municipal Conference having voted unanimously to support the acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway by the Canadian National Railway Company; therefore

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Lyons urges the Surface Transportation Board of the U.S. Department of Transportation to approve the application of the Canadian National Railway Company to acquire the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company as a valuable enhancement of the region's rail network; and

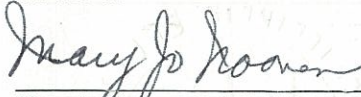
BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Acting Secretary of the Surface Transportation Board.

ADOPTED by the Full Board of the Township of Lyons at a regular meeting thereof held on the 21st day of April 2008 and approved by me as Supervisor on the same day.



Pat Rogers
Supervisor
Township of Lyons

ATTEST:



Mary Jo Noonan
Clerk
Township of Lyons