

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-03

FEB 12, 08

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO POTENTIAL CHANGES IN
AMTRAK SERVICE ON THE CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN
THE CITY OF CENTRALIA AND THE CITY OF CHICAGO

WHEREAS, Canadian National Railroad has submitted a request to the Surface Transportation Board to purchase the EJ&E railroad which may impact travel times to Chicago's Union Station; and

WHEREAS, ensuring a strong transportation link between the City of Centralia and the City of Chicago is vital to the continued economic health of the City, the downtown business district and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, over 400,000 passengers ride these trains each year, and ridership is increasing (up 70% on the Chicago-Carbondale route over the past year due to increased service and higher gas prices); and

WHEREAS, these passengers would be forced to travel by other modes (primarily automobile), increasing energy consumption, pollution, and highway accidents and congestion; and

WHEREAS, the City of Centralia has made significant investments to improve the downtown vicinity of the rail system; and

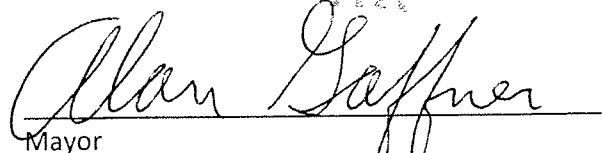
NOW BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. That the City of Greenville opposes any changes to the existing Amtrak service between the City of Centralia and the City of Chicago along the CN railway line which increases route times and delays until such time as funding for construction of the Grand Crossing route can be finalized and until the construction itself is complete so as not to create delays for downstate communities and riders.

Section 2. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to:

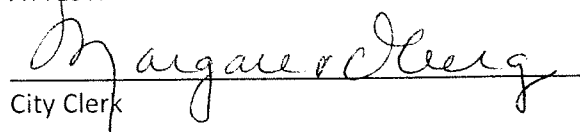
Hon. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

ADOPTED THIS 12th day of FEBRUARY, 2008.


Mayor

464 South Third Street
GREENVILLE, IL
62246

ATTEST:


City Clerk