

AGENDA
SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION AND ROAD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
Village of Hoffman Estates
October 21, 2019

7:00 p.m. – Helen Wozniak Council Chambers

Members:	Karen Mills, Chairperson	Anna Newell, Trustee
	Gary Stanton, Vice Chairperson	Gary Pilafas, Trustee
	Karen Arnet, Trustee	Michael Gaeta, Trustee
		William McLeod, Mayor

I. Roll Call

OLD BUSINESS

1. Request approval of a resolution opposing the Wisconsin Central Ltd.'s proposed track extension in its current form.

II. Adjournment

(Further details and information can be found in the agenda packet attached hereto and incorporated herein and can also be viewed online at www.hoffmanestates.org and/or in person in the Village Clerk's office).

The Village of Hoffman Estates complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For accessibility assistance, call the ADA Coordinator at 847/882-9100.

**COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM
VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES**

SUBJECT: Request approval of a resolution opposing the Wisconsin Central, Ltd.'s proposed track extension in its current form

MEETING DATE: October 21, 2019

COMMITTEE: Special Transportation and Road Improvement

FROM: Michael Hankey / Joseph Weesner

PURPOSE: Request approval of a resolution opposing the Wisconsin Central, Ltd.'s proposed track extension in its current form.

DISCUSSION: Wisconsin Central Ltd. (Canadian National) submitted a permit application to the Army Corps of Engineers late last year for a proposed extension of the siding track from Shoe Factory Road to Spaulding Road. The Village learned of this proposal in March through contacts from residents. Since that time the Village has submitted comments and concerns to the Army Corps and Railroad. Army Corps has advised they will respond to the latest information received from the Railroad in the near future. There have been two public meetings for the public to provide input to Army Corps and Railroad as well as correspondence with residents.

There are concerns which remain with the Railroad's proposal. Noise, vibration, loss of vegetative screening, analyses done by the Railroad are some of the issues. The attached Resolution is intended to reinforce these concerns and encourage the Army Corps to conduct additional reviews and for the Railroad to mitigate the impacts of the proposal should it be approved.

RECOMMENDATION: Request approval of a resolution opposing the Wisconsin Central, Ltd.'s proposed track extension in its current form.

Attachment

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2019

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES

**A RESOLUTION OF CONCERNS WITH
WISCONSIN CENTRAL, LTD'S PROPOSED TRACK**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Central Limited Railroad (Railroad) has applied to the Army Corps of Engineers (LRC-2018-00651) for a permit proposing to extend a siding track from Shoe Factory Road in the Village of Hoffman Estates ("Village") to Spaulding Road in Bartlett, a distance of approximately 4.27 miles (the Project); and

WHEREAS, the section of said Project between Shoe Factory Road and Golf Road is adjacent to existing residential land use and a public park in the Village; and

WHEREAS, said residential area and park area are impacted by current railroad operations and will see additional impacts from the Railroad's proposed Project; and

WHEREAS, the Village submitted comments to the Army Corps of Engineers on March 6, 2019 and April 12, 2019, and to the Railroad on April 3, 2019 which outlined questions and concerns on the Railroad's Project; and

WHEREAS, the Army Corps of Engineers prepared a response dated July 15, 2019 to the Railroad's application for the Project which required the Railroad to answer questions and provide information to comments from the Army Corps of Engineers, the Village, and others who submitted comments during its public comment period; and

WHEREAS, the Railroad replied to the Army Corps of Engineers on August 30, 2019 with responses and information related to the Army Corps of Engineers' comments; and

WHEREAS, the Village has reviewed the information and responses provided by the Railroad and the Army Corps of Engineers; and

WHEREAS, additional input from the Village on the Railroad's Project and response to Army Corps of Engineers comments could assist the Army Corps of Engineers in its decision making process and serve the residents of the Village living nearest to the proposed Project; and

WHEREAS, the Village opposes the Project in its current form and feels the Railroad must address the issues listed herein; and

WHEREAS, the Village requests the Army Corps of Engineers further review these items; and

WHEREAS, the Army Corps of Engineers is expected to conclude its review in the near future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Hoffman Estates, Cook and Kane Counties, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: The Village of Hoffman Estates requests that the following items be specifically addressed by the Railroad and Army Corps of Engineers as a part of the Railroad's Project permit application:

- a) The Railroad must not allow idling at or near the proposed crossover locations shown adjacent to residential areas in the Village between IL 58 (Golf Road) and Shoe Factory Road.

- b) The proposed crossover south of Shoe Factory Road should be moved to a location which is not adjacent to residential properties.
- c) The Railroad’s proposal must include substantial replacement of vegetation lost due to its Project to maintain visual screening, which should be identified in a landscaping plan to be prepared by the Railroad for the Project.
- d) The estimated train volumes referenced in the noise analysis summary are lower than represented elsewhere in the application, requiring the noise assessment to be revised to use consistent data and be resubmitted for further review.
- e) Vibration effects were not adequately addressed in response to comments that the Army Corps of Engineers provided to the Railroad and should be revised and resubmitted for further review.
- f) As the Environmental Impact Statement for the Railroad’s purchase of the EJ&E did not include extending the siding south of Shoe Factory Road or providing a second mainline track, either as an extension of or in addition to the siding, the EIS should be revised and updated.
- g) The restrictive culvert south of Golf Road which is not addressed in the proposal needs to be modified with the Project. Project plans need to be revised and resubmitted for further review.

Section 2: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED THIS _____ day of _____, 2019

VOTE	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Trustee Karen V. Mills	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Anna Newell	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Gary J. Pilafas	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Gary G. Stanton	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Michael Gaeta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Karen Arnet	_____	_____	_____	_____
President William D. McLeod	_____	_____	_____	_____

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2019

Village President

ATTEST:

Village Clerk