

Surface Transportation Board

CN Rail Congestion

We are deeply concerned about the impact of the Canadian National acquisition and proposed business strategy. Our Major concerns are as follows:

- Because of the multiple track and road intersections in Barrington and the surrounding area, road traffic will be severely impaired. In the village, traffic is already at a stand still during rush hour when there are multiple commuter trains. These are short, fast trains with much less impact than a freight train, but they still cause problems largely because of the multiple track crossings within the village. Increased freight train traffic will bring the village traffic to a stand still and enormously increase downtown congestion.
- Pedestrian traffic will also be more difficult and dangerous. In particular, Barrington high school students will encounter the freight train traffic. Everyday, large crowds of high school kids make their way to and from the high school and the village.
- The village of Barrington has an implementation plan to improve the downtown area and to make Barrington a destination place. The goal is to make Barrington a more complete, pleasant village and to increase the tax base. With a traffic nightmare in the heart of downtown, this just won't happen. In fact the current village businesses will certainly be negatively impacted.
- Increased traffic, congestion, noise, and pollution will make the village of Barrington a much less desirable place to live and will have a severe negative impact on property values.
- Freight train traffic will impact the ability of the local emergency services (police, fire, etc) to respond to emergencies.

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