



# S.T.A.R.T.

## Solutions To Area Rail Traffic

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August 25, 2008

**Chairs:**

President Wiaduck  
Mayor Scheck  
President Einhorn  
Mayor Arredia  
President Hartstein  
President DeGraff

Honorary Co-Chair  
Congressman Lipinski

**Partners:**

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Buffalo Grove  
Crete  
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Northfield  
Northlake  
North Riverside  
River Grove  
Riverside  
South Holland  
Stickney  
Western Springs

As the review of the Canadian National acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway continues, it is important to understand the full benefits to the region.

Chicagoland's position as the rail hub of the nation remains one of the region's most crucial economic competitive advantages. For decades, communities within the EJ&E arc have shared disproportionately the responsibility for not only bringing goods into our region but to the rest of the continent, due to our numerous rail lines including Canadian National. Many of our towns have borne this responsibility for the region, experiencing hours of delay at rail crossings, yet we have continued to thrive.

We strongly urge that this acquisition continue to be looked at from a regional perspective as beneficial in improving the quality of life and economic viability for millions of our residents and businesses. We encourage appropriate and fiscally reasonable mitigation to ensure the successful and safe transition of CN onto the EJ&E.

In order to preserve our standing as the freight capitol of the nation, we ask that our fellow communities share in the responsibility of this economic cornerstone and act as a good neighbor.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,

Jack Wiaduck, President  
Village of Riverside

Richard Scheck, Mayor  
Village of North Riverside

Michael S. Einhorn, President  
Village of Crete

Elliott Hartstein, President  
Village of Buffalo Grove

Tony Arredia, Mayor  
City of Des Plaines

Don DeGraff, President  
Village of South Holland