

Meeting Notes – Metra/Union Pacific Meeting, February 11, 2010

Issues covered:

Station Repair – Union Pacific represented that they would be repairing the crumbling on the stairs and the associated handrails this spring.

Underpass Project – Metra dropped off a concept engineering plan for the pedestrian separation project. This project is being led by Metra. They are currently at the 10% drawing stage and would like initial comments from the Village.

The concept is nearly identical to the plans they are currently constructing in Winfield. The plan is to construct a 10' cylinder that would be buried beneath the tracks, which would create an 8'8" wide round smooth steel pipe tunnel. In order to accommodate existing track, the tunnel would need to be 8' below track level. They did look at box culvert and other designs, but noted that those projects were cost prohibitive. There would be pedestrian covering over the ramps and stairs with companion lighting and heating. They are hoping for a July/August plan completion with construction beginning in Fall, 2010 and continuing through 2011. It will take about a year to complete. The platforms will not incur significant impacts during the construction period. However, Parkside and McGuire Drive will be impacted to accommodate construction. The exact plans have not been determined to date. Staff has been given a concept plan and Metra would like initial comments on the plan set within 10 days. They would like to meet again with us once 30% drawings are completed. The 30% drawing will also give horizontal perspectives.

Signal Bridge – Union Pacific discussed the rationale for the location for the Finley Road signal bridge. Signal bridges are under construction or have been completed along the Union Pacific West Line west of Lombard (in Wheaton and West Chicago). They are erecting signal bridges at regular signal intervals throughout DuPage County. They did review the Village's request to move the bridges further west toward I-355. The issue they raise is that by moving the signal bridge, it would negatively affect their ability to stop trains. They noted that the signal bridge project is separate effort of Union Pacific from the crossover project. If the crossover was not going to be constructed near Grace Street they would have relocated the signal bridge to Elizabeth Street.

The Village's primary concern was the location of the bridge in proximity to residences. They noted that by placing the signal bridge where they are proposing it would allow for reductions in gate down times after a westbound train passes Finley Road. It would also require them to redesign the location of all other signal bridges along the West Line as well. Union Pacific represented that the signal bridge and cross over project are intended to address the train idling issue west of I-355.

Union Pacific is ready to install the signal bridge at Finley road at any time. However, they said they would hold off on it shortly (March 1 or so) in order to receive any

comments. However, they are adamant that the bridge does need to go at the Finley Road proposed location.

Great Western Trail Bridge Project – Union Pacific referenced the letter sent to the Village that the “TSL Plan” was approved with exceptions (address drainage concerns).

Crossover Project – Union Pacific is proceeding on the crossover project. They would like to start grading activities in June, 2010. They referenced the need to secure the driveway easement from the Village as part of this project, as a critical path item. They noted the need to close Grace Street for a two week period to facilitate their improvements. However, as previously represented, they are not changing the grade of the crossing. The closing would likely be in September, with the track phase done by November.

They are still working on plan development on the aspects above and would likely be ready to make a presentation to the Village Board in late April, 2010, if desired by the Village.

Items to be addressed on our end:

1. Preliminary comments on the pedestrian plan to Andrew Roth (Metra) by the week of February 22, 2010.
2. Respond to Dan Corcoran (UP) signal bridge discussion as soon as possible.
3. Respond to Ken Friemuth (UP) driveway request as soon as possible.
4. Determine Village Board meeting date for presentation if desired.
5. Follow-up meetings/discussions as warranted based upon representations.