



RESOLUTION NO. 1-22-08-9

**A RESOLUTION ADDRESSING THE CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILROAD
ACQUISITION OF THE EJ&E RAIL LINE**

WHEREAS, Canadian National Railroad (CN) filed an application on October 30, 2007 with the U.S. Surface Transportation Board (STB) to purchase the EJ&E freight railroad line that runs through our community; and

WHEREAS, this purchase and subsequent rerouting and growth of significant freight traffic through the area will have a major detrimental impact on traffic flow and safety for the entire region; and

WHEREAS, the EJ&E line is a 198 mile freight line that runs in an arc around Chicago extending from Waukegan to the north, to Joliet at its southwestern point, and finally terminates in Gary, Indiana and this line - with a history dating back to the 19th century - is currently owned by the United States Steel Corporation and has not been used as a primary freight routing line at any point in its history; and

WHEREAS, the STB has authority to approve or disapprove the CN/EJ&E acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hawthorn Woods requests that the STB should reject this merger unless environmental, safety, transportation congestion and other issues are adequately addressed by CN; and

WHEREAS, these issues include that CN allow the planned future Star Line Commuter Rail to utilize the line; and

WHEREAS, there are many street grade-level crossings of the EJ&E tracks and the roads serving the Village of Hawthorn Woods community and the CN should be required to fund the cost of making grade separation so as not to snarl traffic with the increased freight trains in the entire northwest region; and

WHEREAS, the CN be required to take all appropriate and available measures to ameliorate any sound from the increased use of the rail line; and

WHEREAS, Starline has been pending for over a decade to run on the EJ&E rails and has received support from virtually every community in metropolitan Chicago, and intended to alleviate congestion on the already overcrowded roads; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hawthorn Woods requests that all conditions be met by CN or the STB should reject the merger.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees ~~on behalf of the~~ residents and Village Staff of the Village of Hawthorn Woods, does hereby adopt the foregoing Resolution as approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hawthorn Woods, Illinois on January 22, 2008.

Phyllis Schew by

Sandy Hansen Deputy Village Clerk

Sandy Hansen, Acting Village Clerk

Keith L. Hunt

Keith L. Hunt, Mayor