

**Subject:** [DPNeBlast] LAST CHANCE on CN | Library Referendum event  
**Date:** Sunday, September 28, 2008 5:33 PM  
**From:** Deborah Barry, Secretary <deborah.barry@deerparkneighbors.com>  
**Reply-To:** deborah.barry@deerparkneighbors.com  
**To:** "dpneblast@deerparkneighbors.com" <dpneblast@deerparkneighbors.com>  
**Conversation:** LAST CHANCE on CN | Library Referendum event

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This will probably be the last email we send out before the September 30 deadline for public input to the federal government on the subject of the Canadian National acquisition. There's lots of news to catch up on—visit our site or <http://fightrailcongestion.com>

Our efforts DO make a difference. There have been more than a thousand viewings of CN-related video on the Deer Park Neighbors channel alone.  
<http://youtube.com/deerparkneighbors>

And elsewhere on YouTube, search on “Canadian National EJ&E” and you’ll see lots more. Do read on (after the following announcement) for a final summary of what YOU might put in YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT to the Surface Transportation Board. Both our site and TRAC’s have all the contact information you need. Please read below.

#### REFERENDUM SLATED

>>Barrington Area Library. Turns out, November may not be a good time to ask residents for more money, given the events of the last few weeks. Nevertheless, you should educate yourself about the library’s plans. Remember the BAL is the largest library district (we believe) in Illinois. As a matter of fact, the library’s front page has a link to the library’s impact statement.

<http://barringtonarealibrary.org>

The library has planned two open houses on the \$34.3 million, 53,000-square-foot expansion request. The open houses are 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 1, and Thursday, Oct. 9, at the library, 505 N. Northwest Hwy.  
<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=236280>

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THANKS TO RITA FINLEY for her stalwart coverage of the CN/EJ&E issue, and for serving as a link between Deer Park Neighbors and other interested groups. From Rita today:

**LAST CHANCE FOR PUBLIC INPUT**

The following are potential threats to Deer Park if the train acquisition goes thru without adequate mitigation:

### **1) Quiet Zone**

We currently have a quiet zone so when the trains go by we don't have to be awoken by a horn. Please urge the STB to require CN to provide funding for any upgrades needed for us to keep the quiet zones, which according to the draft study is threatened.

### **2) Water Source**

We source 100% of our water from private wells in our yards. CN wants to greatly increase the amount of HAZMAT transported and the STB study predicts an average of 1 derailment a year. The STB cites our water would have a higher likelihood of being affected by a hazmat spill.

Require the STB to insure our safety and require CN to take measures to eliminate this risk, such as building cement barriers. We have no other viable water source.

### **3) Sound Walls**

All properties that abut the EJ&E need sound and safety barriers in place. These need to be added without impacting existing trees. Tree preservation is in line with the Deer Park Municipal Code. [http://www.village.deer-park.il.us/municipal\\_code.htm](http://www.village.deer-park.il.us/municipal_code.htm)

### **4) Cuba and Ela Road rail intersections**

Ela Rd was cited in the STB draft as needing mitigation but Cuba Road was not. Also, mitigation does not necessarily mean a grade separation and if so, CN is expecting the US taxpayer to fund it. These intersections are fine now without any mitigation but with the significant increase in trains they will need grade separations.

### **5) Impact of no Grade Separations**

(aside from some serious traffic jams and longer alternative routes)

- a. Increased wear & tear on side streets near intersections as traffic diverts vs. waiting for the long trains to pass. Ask STB to make CN pay the impact on more frequent repairs and replacement needed to roads.
- b. Delays getting to the Barrington Metra station adding to commuting times
- c. Emergency responders will have to take alternative routes to reach some residents adding time in situations when every second counts.
- d. Delays for shoppers West of the EJ&E getting to the Deer Park Mall which could lead to lower sales tax revenue as they find alternative places to shop and

eat.

**6) Stress on Village budget**

In addition to potential lost sales tax revenue and increased road repairs, we could have increased expenses for police protection to be trained to handle derailments. This could lead to the need to impose property taxes for village services.

Please contact or write the STB by Tuesday, September 30 and ask for mitigation needed for Deer Park or we'll be stuck holding the bag. Please add any other concerns that you have. See [www.fightrailcongestion.com](http://www.fightrailcongestion.com) <<http://www.fightrailcongestion.com>> for more information and refer to Deer Park village website for concerns cited by Village President Scott Gifford.

Remember, together we are stronger!

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Deborah Barry, Secretary | Al Barry, President  
**847-867-1867** <http://deerparkneighbors.com>  
Deer Park Neighbors, 412 Bramble Lane, Deer Park, IL 60010

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