

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Amtrak proposes to construct a Midwest Maintenance Facility at the Union Pacific Canal Street Yard in Chicago, supported by up to \$572 million in federal funding, along with up to \$87 million for related bridge and viaduct improvements; and

WHEREAS, the proposed facility and associated rail movements will affect Chinatown, Pilsen, Armour Square, Bronzeville, and Bridgeport, where residents, schools, senior housing, parks, and other community institutions have an interest in the project's environmental, noise, traffic, and quality-of-life effects; and

WHEREAS, the facility would be adjacent to Armour Square Park and near the Illinois Institute of Technology campus, Armour Square Senior Homes, T.E. Brown Senior Apartments, and Wentworth Gardens Homes; schools in the surrounding area include Robert Healy Elementary School, Minnie Miñoso Academy, Air Force Academy High School, Armour Elementary School, Bridgeport Catholic Academy, and De La Salle Institute; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak currently services trains at its 14th Street Yard near Union Station, while the proposed location farther south would change the movements needed for fueling, cleaning, catering, and maintenance; with nearly 100 trains estimated to use the bridge near 21st Street each day, residents have raised questions about additional movements through the 21st Street and Alton Junction rail corridor, congestion, idling, and emissions; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 29 residents live within 500 feet of Amtrak's current maintenance yard, compared with an estimated 6,741 residents within 500 feet of the proposed yard, including more than 1,000 children under 18 and more than 1,500 residents over 65; and

WHEREAS, the project has raised questions about locomotive emissions and particulate matter, noise, vibration, hazardous materials, fuel and wastewater, stormwater runoff, soil and groundwater conditions, industrial lighting, construction impacts, and the combined effects of existing and proposed rail and transportation activities; and

WHEREAS, according to Amtrak's project website, the Federal Railroad Administration issued a categorical exclusion determination under the National Environmental Policy Act for the proposed maintenance facility on May 12, 2026, and Amtrak has stated that it is working to make the determination and related traffic, noise and vibration, and air quality materials publicly available; and

WHEREAS, an environmental review should be conducted by an independent third party, specifically evaluate air quality and diesel particulate matter, noise, vibration, stormwater, hazardous materials, wastewater, soil and groundwater, traffic, lighting, construction impacts, and the cumulative effects of the proposed facility together with existing railroad and transportation activities in the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, residents of the surrounding neighborhoods have an interest in reviewing the project's environmental analyses, its site-selection criteria and alternative locations, and measures that could prevent or reduce effects on their communities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Chicago recognizes the importance of public review and meaningful community participation when a major infrastructure project receiving substantial public funding is proposed near homes, schools, parks, and senior housing; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, express our opposition to the proposed Amtrak Midwest Maintenance Facility in its current form and location and call upon the Committee on Transportation and the Public Way to convene a subject matter hearing on site selection, alternatives, the federal environmental review, and possible effects on nearby communities and shared rail operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon Amtrak to pause further advancement of the project until an environmental determination and supporting studies have been made available for public review; and invite representatives of Amtrak, the Federal Railroad Administration, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the Chicago Department of Transportation, the Chicago Department of Public Health, and members of the affected communities to appear at the hearing and provide testimony concerning air quality, noise, vibration, stormwater, hazardous materials, wastewater, soil and groundwater, traffic, lighting, construction, cumulative impacts, site selection, alternative locations, project modifications, regulatory review, and community participation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution be transmitted to Amtrak, the Federal Railroad Administration, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the Governor and Attorney General of the State of Illinois, the President of the Cook County Board, and members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole T. Lee', written over a horizontal line.

NICOLE T. LEE
Alderman, 11th Ward

Mozfaden

Alderman, 49 Ward

Anna Mills

Alderman, 35 Ward

[Signature]

Alderman, 29th Ward

Cliff T.

Alderman, 2 Ward

Ben Hofer

Alderman, 9th Ward

[Signature]

Alderman, 31st Ward

Pat Dowell

Alderman, 4th Ward

[Signature]

Alderman, 5 Ward

[Signature]

Alderman, 24 Ward

[Signature]

Alderman, 26 Ward

[Signature]

Alderman, 15 Ward

[Signature]

Scott Wagnersack

Alderman, 32 Ward

Belle Co

Alderman, 34 Ward

William J. Quzalo

Alderman, 35 Ward

Alderman, 8th Ward

Michelle Adams

Alderman, 30 Ward

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Alderman, 38 Ward

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Alderman, 39 Ward

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Alderman, 41 Ward

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Alderman, 42 Ward

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Alderman, 43 Ward

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Alderman, 44 Ward

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Alderman, 45 Ward

James Lindholm

Alderman, 47 Ward

Mark J. Jans

Alderman, 48 Ward

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Alderman, 50 Ward

Paul J. Silver

Alderman, 16 Ward

Holman

Alderman, 17 Ward

June

Alderman, 10 Ward

Peter

Alderman, 23 Ward

Sihann Sabar

Alderman, _____ Ward

Alderman, _____ Ward

Alderman, _____ Ward

Alderman, 19 Ward

Matthew J. Osh

Alderman, 18 Ward

David Carter

Alderman, 22 Ward

JBZ

Alderman, 12 Ward

James

Alderman, 13 Ward

Mark

Alderman, _____ Ward

Alderman, _____ Ward

Alderman, _____ Ward

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Alderman, _____ Ward

Alderman, _____ Ward