

Rail Freight Investments, Go21: Resolution of Conceptual Support

County Administrator
Transportation (2) cert.
Central Services (2)

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

Agenda Item # 43

COUNTY BOARD, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ADJOURNED REGULAR SEPTEMBER, A.D., 2005 SESSION

MARCH 14, A.D. 2006

MADAM CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD:

Your Public Works and Transportation Committee present herewith a resolution stating support of Lake County for the mission of the Growth Options for the 21 Century (Go21) of advocating for the increased use of freight rail transportation.

WE RECOMMEND adoption of this Resolution.

	Aye	Nay
<i>Deann O'Kelly</i> Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>[Signature]</i> Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Sandy Cole</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ann B. Marino</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Public Works and Transportation Committee

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Lake County, Illinois, is one of the fastest growing areas of the Chicagoland region of Illinois and the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, responsible regional growth includes continued improvements to existing infrastructure to enhance quality of life whenever possible and to assure that the needs of current residents continue to be met or are improved by said growth in Lake County and the Chicagoland region; and

WHEREAS, assuring that infrastructure development keeps pace with the business and residential needs is a necessary ingredient of continued responsible growth; and

WHEREAS, state and federal transportation projections indicate that the United State's freight volumes will increase by more than 67% over the next 20-years; and

WHEREAS, a recent report by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (*AASHTO*) recommended investing in freight rail infrastructure as the most effective way to relieve pressure of the highways; and

WHEREAS, the construction of highway rail grade separation will enhance the reduction of traffic congestion.

WHEREAS, expansion of freight rail hauling capacity would yield impressive public benefits by relieving worsening congestion and providing a critical intermodal link to international trade, and improve air quality and fuel efficiency; and

WHEREAS, public investment in freight rail infrastructure would provide savings to motorists, business, and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Chicagoland region has developed the CREATE Program to address rail freight issues.

WHEREAS, Growth Options for the 21st century, (*Go21*) is a non-profit public interest organization dedicated to promoting freight rail transportation alternatives.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of Lake County, Illinois, that Lake County supports the mission of Growth Options for the 21st Century (*Go21*) of building a stronger economy, reducing highway congestion, improving air quality, using tax dollars more efficiently, and improving quality of life by advocating for increased use of freight rail transportation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk of Lake County is hereby directed to present two certified copies of this resolution to Growth Options for the 21st Century (*Go21*).

Dated at Waukegan, Illinois
this 7TH day of March 2006