

City of New Richmond Asks Canadian National to Come to the Table Planned Massive Rail Hub Needs Clarity for MN and WI Residents

New Richmond, Wis – The City of New Richmond calls on Canadian National to clarify and work with the city to craft a mitigation agreement to be a “good neighbor” as Canadian National finalizes its plans for a massive new multi-modal rail hub just 20 miles from the St. Croix River.

While state and local officials and area residents have been focused on COVID-19, Canadian National changed the original plan for the rail hub to a multi-modal rail hub which will mean:

- Increased truck traffic in and around New Richmond;
- Increased truck and rail traffic to and from Minnesota on rail and roads;
- Increased noise from traffic and operations;
- Increased burden on local first responders;
- Potential hazardous cargo passing through the community;

“Unfortunately as we have tried to engage Canadian National, they have not shown an interest in building a strong relationship and being a good neighbor,” New Richmond City Administrator Mike Darrow said. “If they are not being transparent before they build this massive hub, we’re concerned they will ignore our concerns once they open.”

The City of New Richmond will begin to share concerns with residents over the next two weeks, encouraging Canadian National to come to the table. Advocates for the project have been lobbying public officials in Minnesota and Wisconsin, but have failed to meet with New Richmond and address their concerns.

Timeline:

- July 2019: Original Facility Proposed (autoport only)
- April 2020: Facility Plans Changed (joint autoport/intermodal facility)
- June 2020: Canadian National Seeks to Begin Construction
- Dec. 2020: Construction Complete