

Press Release – April 9, 2020

Jointly Issued by Town of Richmond and City of New Richmond

In recent weeks, the Town of Richmond and City of New Richmond have learned of proposed operational changes to the planned Canadian National (CN) autoport facility. The project was originally going to serve as a distribution facility for automobiles. However, CN has notified the Town and City of their plans to now make this a joint autoport and intermodal facility. In addition to new automobiles, the facility would handle shipping containers that could be loaded/unloaded onto trucks, ships, or trains. The proposed operational change to the facility is anticipated to significantly increase the amount of traffic to and from the site. CN is preparing an updated site plan and traffic impact analysis for review.

In light of these proposed changes, and in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town of Richmond and City of New Richmond have requested the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Railroads (OCR) postpone further action on CN's request to relocate 105th Street for one-hundred-twenty (120) days, in order to provide adequate time to examine the implications of such a significant change to the proposed operations at the site, and for the public to safely participate in the process to learn about the proposed changes and ask questions.

The Town of Richmond and City of New Richmond will provide an update on the ruling from the ORC, as well as next steps.