

Village of Frankfort
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Press Release

Village of Frankfort Meetings Discuss Railroad Noise Mitigation Options with Residents

The Village of Frankfort hosted four (4) informational meetings on April 22 and 23 with residents from Frankfort neighborhoods affected by noise as a result of the Canadian National acquisition of the EJ & E railroad. The informational meetings discussed noise mitigation options available because of Frankfort's agreement with the Canadian National Railroad. Meetings were scheduled in sub-division groups to address the concerns of that specific area. In addition to an overview presented by Mayor Holland and Village Administrator Jerry Ducay, Ken Hess (sound expert) and Christopher Walsh (landscape architect) from the Louis Berger Group presented the crowd with information regarding sound travel and how various mitigation options affect sound. On site visits were made of all areas prior to the meetings.

Total attendance at all four meetings was about 250 people. During over half of each meeting the audience asked questions of the Mayor, Village staff and the Louis Berger group. Additional meetings will be scheduled in mid summer. However, in the interim, the Village welcomes the opportunity to answer any questions from residents or visit with residents on site. The current focus is an effort to build consensus on the type and location of mitigation to be installed at various areas. The Village has some flexibility as to the various types of mitigation (walls, fences, landscaping). This will be a long process to insure that the right mitigation is provided for each of the areas.

Residents who have complaints regarding idling trains, excessive whistle blowing, etc. can submit detailed information on a complaint form developed by the Village and available for download on the Village website (www.villageoffrankfort.com). This information is then reviewed, responded to, and sent to the CN Railroad. Monthly and quarterly environmental reports are filed by the CN Railroad with the STB (Surface Transportation Board) and are available for viewing on the STB's website at www.stbfinancedocket35087.com.

"The Village will work with our residents during this process. We encourage them to communicate with their neighbors and homeowners' association to seek a mitigation consensus for their immediate neighborhood. Our staff and I expect to meet with groups of homeowners throughout the summer to discuss specific mitigation options." commented Mayor Jim Holland.

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