

Resolution No. 20-2024
Village of Merrillan
Jackson County, Wisconsin

A Resolution Addressing the Failure of Union Pacific Railroad to Maintain the Railroad Crossing at East Pearl Street & Hammond Street (Crossing Number 184025D) on State Highway 95

WHEREAS, the Village of Merrillan is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents, particularly regarding traffic safety along State Highway 95, which is a vital artery for our community; and

WHEREAS, the railroad crossing at the intersection of East Pearl Street and Hammond Street has become increasingly hazardous due to the deterioration of the railroad tracks and surrounding infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has received numerous complaints from residents and travelers concerning the poor condition of the tracks, including the failure of railroad spikes to remain secure, the presence of loose track materials, and the potential for debris to be ejected onto the roadway, thereby posing a serious risk to motorists; and

WHEREAS, despite multiple complaints submitted to Union Pacific Railroad regarding the condition of the aforementioned railroad crossing, there has been a lack of response or action from Union Pacific to address and rectify these issues; and

WHEREAS, both the Jackson County Highway Department and the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Railroads have similarly sought to engage with Union Pacific without any responsive communication or resolution; and

WHEREAS, the deteriorating condition of this crossing not only poses a threat to public safety but also affects the economic vitality of the Village by deterring travel and transport through our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Merrillan formally requests immediate action from Union Pacific Railroad to prioritize the repair and maintenance of the railroad crossing at East Pearl Street & Hammond Street (Crossing Number 184025D) on State Highway 95; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Union Pacific Railroad, the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Railroads, the Jackson County Highway Department, and any other relevant stakeholders to enhance awareness of this critical safety concern; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Merrilan shall continue to advocate for the safety of our residents and infrastructure, and pursue all necessary measures to ensure a prompt response from Union Pacific Railroad; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

APPROVED AND PASSED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE VILLAGE OF MERRILLAN TRUSTEES ON this 10th day of October, 2024

PRESIDENT WRUCK DECLARED THE RESOLUTION 20-2024 ADOPTED

Chris Wruck, President

Penny Danielson, Clerk-Treasurer