

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, there is a train involved incident every 3 hours in the United States and where Metra has renewed interests in Railroad Safety by raising awareness with the annual Safety Train highlighting the number of fatality related trespassing and highway-rail grade crossing incidents; and

WHEREAS, within the Chicago RTA (Metra Service Area) a total of 20 fatalities, 29 suicidal subjects intervened and 9 non-suicide related events for a total as of 8/30/2017 of 58 total incidents; and

WHEREAS, Illinois ranked second in the nation in grade-crossing fatalities and seventh in trespass fatalities in 2016; and

WHEREAS, more that 86 percent of crashes at public-grade crossings occur where active warning devices exist; and

WHEREAS, September is historically back to school month for most children and college students where many must cross railroad tracks to attend school, and it is important to reinforce rail safety with both children and their caretakers; and

WHEREAS, the DuPage Railroad Safety Council (non-government) is recognized internationally and has dedicated itself over 20 years to awareness and improving railroad crossings with a Mission: Eliminate deaths and injuries at railroad crossings and along railways; and

WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety, reminding the public that railroad right of ways are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway-rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws will reduce the number of fatalities and injuries to Illinoisans; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, Illinois Truck Enforcement Association, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Commerce Commission, Illinois Operation Lifesaver, Illinois Sheriff's Association, Illinois Railroad Association, all local and railroad law enforcement, first responders and area railroad companies commit to partnering together in an effort to educate Illinois residents on all aspects of railroad safety, to enforce applicable state laws and to support Illinois Rail Safety Week; and

WHEREAS, 2017 marks the first year that Operation Lifesaver has designated a National Rail Safety Week, which coincides with Rail Safety Week in Illinois, to implement the safety initiative across the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rodney S. Craig, Village President of the Village of Hanover Park, do hereby proclaim

September 24-30, 2017

as

RAIL SAFETY WEEK

in the Village of Hanover Park, and encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of rail safety education.

Dated this 7th day of September, 2017.


Rodney S. Craig, Village President

Attest:


Eira L. Corral Sepúlveda, Village Clerk