



proclamation

WHEREAS, 1,889 rail grade crossing collisions resulted in 678 personal injuries and were responsible for 201 fatalities in the United States during 2020; and

WHEREAS, 532 pedestrians were killed and another 556 injured while trespassing on railroad property rights of way during 2020; 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; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Operation Lifesaver, United States Department of Transportation, and all local, state, county, and railroad law enforcement officers, first responders, and railroad corporations commit to partnering together in an effort to educate at a national level all aspects of railroad safety, to enforce applicable laws in support of National Rail Safety Week; and

WHEREAS, nationwide, most rail safety measures address hazards that are located directly at highway/railroad grade crossings and yet, since 1997, more trespasser deaths have occurred on railroad property rights-of-way than at actual grade crossings; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly recently passed legislation to enable funding of countermeasure projects along railroad property rights of way away from grade crossings and can serve as model legislation for other states;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rodney Craig, President of the Village of Hanover Park do hereby attest my full support proclaiming September 20th to 26th, 2021, National Rail Safety Week and encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of rail safety education.

dated this 2nd day of September, 2021.




Rodney S. Craig
Mayor of the Village of Hanover Park