



RESOLUTION No. 01-07-19-1

**A RESOLUTION  
SUPPORTING THE NO BUILD OPTION FOR ILLINOIS ROUTE 53 (FAP 342) AND  
SUPPORTING ALTERNATE TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF SOLUTIONS**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Hawthorn Woods, Lake County, Illinois, as follows:

**WHEREAS**, The Village of Hawthorn Woods recognizes the compelling need for solutions that address traffic congestion throughout Lake County and strongly supports solving existing congestion problems on arterial roadways through repair, modernization, reconstruction, intersection improvements, grade separation at rail crossings, and road widening which would offer effective congestion relief at a much lower cost, an effective timeline, minimum impact to the environment, and supports a No Build option for the Route 53 corridor, and;

**WHEREAS**, The Village of Hawthorn Woods recognizes the compelling need for solutions that address traffic congestion throughout Lake County and strongly supports solving existing traffic congestion through Lake County such as:

- Eliminating at-grade crossings for the Canadian National Railroad to maximize the efficiency of existing roadways and prevent traffic backups
- Promoting and implementing park-and-ride bus connections from Metra train stations to local commercial and office park centers
- Regional intermodal infrastructure improvements, such as bicycle and walking paths supporting non-vehicular modes of transportation
- Decommissioning the existing Route 53 right of way and creating a greenway corridor for non-vehicular modes of transportation including biking, hiking, and environmental conservation efforts supporting clean air, natural wildlife habitats, clean groundwater and promoting a Healthier Lake County
- Improve east-west corridors addressing the real traffic congestion on Routes 22, 83, 45, 60, 176, and 137.
- Expanding the Canadian National rail line to establish a Metra commuter service
- Widen Route 12 to support the existing economic development corridor instead of a Route 53 By-Pass which would destroy the business vitality of the already established commercial corridor along Rand Road

**WHEREAS**, limited funds are available for road construction, maintenance, and repair. The funds that are available should be used to upgrade and maintain existing roadways where relief is most achievable and timely;

**WHEREAS**, The construction of Illinois Route 53 Extension, as designated, would focus economic pressure on development of rural areas where development is not desired and divert economic pressure for development in existing business corridors creating downtown vacancies and empty store fronts; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of the northern extension of Illinois Route 53 through Lake County would have numerous negative environmental consequences such as irreparable damage to wetlands, wildlife and native species, increased risk of flooding; increased noise pollution, ground water contamination, lower air quality within rural areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Hawthorn Woods challenges the State of Illinois and the Illinois Tollway, to put forth new alternatives and reject the stale Route 53 corridor plan that is outdated and antiquated. The Village of Hawthorn Woods supports immediately attainable and viable solutions to the traffic congestion impacting the quality of life of Lake County residents.

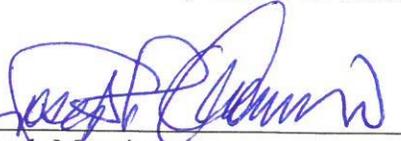
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Hawthorn Woods, Lake County, Illinois as follows:

**SECTION 1.** For all of the foregoing reasons, the Village of Hawthorn Woods hereby strenuously objects to the currently designated extension of Illinois Route 53 north of Lake Cook Road. Hawthorn Woods submits that the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Illinois Tollway should give great consideration to this resolution supporting alternative traffic congestion solutions since Hawthorn Woods would be one of the communities most directly and adversely affected by this extension.

**SECTION 2.** The Village Clerk is authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Governor, the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, elected officials, and all other interested persons who request a copy thereof.

**SECTION 3.** This Resolution shall be in effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hawthorn Woods, Illinois on January 7, 2019.

  
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Joseph Mancino  
Mayor

  
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Donna Lobaito  
Village Clerk