

ORIGINAL

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May 16, 2008

**BY E-MAIL TO: dpowers@icc.illinois.gov
and CONFIRMATION BY REGULAR MAIL**

Mr. Daniel Powers
Senior Railroad Safety Specialist
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue, 6th Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62701

RECEIVED
MAY 19 2008

Illinois Commerce Commission
RAIL SAFETY SECTION

PROGRESS

Re: Village of University Park T05-0055

Dear Mr. Powers:

We are retained legal counsel for the Village of University Park, a home rule Illinois municipal corporation located in Cook and Will Counties, Illinois (the "Village"). This responds to your inquiry regarding the status of the above-referenced road improvements project.

This project, which includes improvements to the grade level railroad crossing on University Parkway, just east of Governors Highway, is conditioned upon acquiring all necessary frontage for the reconstruction and expansion of University Parkway (a/k/a Stuenkel Road) between (approximately) Central Avenue and Crawford Avenue. The owner of the single largest tract of frontage involved in this project is Governors State University ("GSU"), an agency of the State of Illinois. We have spent substantial time negotiating for the acquisition of this frontage with representatives of GSU. The major stumbling block in our negotiations has been GSU's request that we bury power lines which are currently strung on poles along this frontage. While we agree this would improve the aesthetics of the GSU frontage, cost estimates ran as high as \$1,000,000.00 for this work. These costs were not part of the original budget for this project. Negotiations were also hung-up over the question of protecting certain artwork that is located along GSU's frontage.

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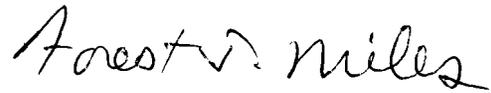
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The GSU administration has changed since our last discussions and the current administration is very interested in cooperating with the Village in connection with improving University Parkway and the railroad crossing. I and other representatives of the Village have met with Gebeyehu Ejigu of GSU, and the results of this meeting were very positive. We will keep you advised of our progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Forest J. Miles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a checkmark-like flourish above the "J".

Forest J. Miles

FJM/lap

cc: Mayor Alvin R. McCowan
Mr. David Sevier, Village Manager
Mr. Joel Koenig, Village Engineer