

## CONWAY PARK OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Lake Forest, Illinois

May 11th, 2010

Fellow employees of the businesses in Conway Park:

I am writing to you today to bring your attention to a matter of Public Safety... particularly as it applies to traffic safety, and more directly to railroad safety. Recently, the City Of Lake Forest has had to endure the loss of another commuter due to a railroad accident. The incident occurred at the West Lake Forest Station, when a pedestrian who was crossing the tracks was struck by an oncoming Amtrak train and killed. In the past 24 months there have been three such fatalities in Lake Forest.

The Mayor of Lake Forest (Jim Cowhey), and the City Council are taking this very seriously and are lobbying the State government, and other resources for funding to improve the safety of the rail crossings in the City. Sadly, this most recent incident was not the first incident in Lake Forest, nor was it the first incident to occur at that particular station. The City is trying to do everything they can to improve the safety of these crossings and they have reached out to the community for assistance. I have been asked to sit on the Mayor's newly developed Transportation Safety Enhancement Committee, known as TSEC. I am representing the Businesses in Conway Park and am also part of a subcommittee focusing on all of the businesses in Lake Forest.

Our goal is to raise the awareness of the employees in Lake Forest to the hazards of railroad crossings and stations, and to stress the need for constant vigilance both as commuters and as pedestrians. In the near future we will be posting Public Service Announcements (PSA's) regarding railroad safety to the Conway Park Owners' Association Website (<a href="www.cpowners.com">www.cpowners.com</a>), on the "Commuter Corner" tab. I have recently viewed several of these PSA's and I can tell you that I am even more cautious around railroad crossings now than I ever was before. In the future, we hope to include messages regarding Driver Safety, Bicycle Safety, and even Jogger/Runner/Pedestrian Safety. Please take a few minutes out of your hectic schedule to view this information and raise your own level of consciousness about being "Safe"... it only takes an instant for an accident to happen... and in that instant; your life or the life another person; could be changed forever.

Thank you

Larry Meilbeck

President, Conway Park Business Owners' Association