

# ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN WILL COUNTY

April 29, 2021

The Honorable J.B. Pritzker  
Governor of the State of Illinois  
Illinois State Capital  
207 Statehouse  
Springfield, IL 62706

## **RE: NorthPoint Development Bridge Proposal**

Dear Governor Pritzker,

We are writing in regard to action taken by the City of Joliet on December 16, 2020 to move forward with the construction of the Compass Global Logistics Hub – a \$1.9 billion project that will create thousands of jobs and produce significant new revenue for the state and local economies.

With the City of Joliet's approval, the next step for the project is to coordinate with state and local officials to ensure the development produces the greatest net benefit, including improving road safety and efficient flow of commerce, for the local region and state. For this reason, we are requesting a meeting with you and your administration to discuss the next steps in the project.

Advocates for the project have contacted you to request the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) assume responsibility of a stretch of thoroughfare, Walter Strawn Road in Will County, to ease traffic congestion that will come with the construction of a proposed bridge, constructed at no cost to the state, over Route 53. Extending the current state route that connects to I-55 will enable the timely completion of the unique "closed-loop" truck network at the heart of this project. Creating direct connection to the UP and BNSF intermodals will remove trucks off local roads and reduce the future growth of truck traffic on I-55 and Interstate 80.

A key pillar of the Illinois economy, the growing freight and logistics industries around the UP and BNSF intermodals has led to increasing traffic congestion for the region. A study being conducted by the Moving Will County project, a joint partnership between Will County, local governments and business, highlights the continued growth and calls for coordination across local and state agencies to minimize safety and quality of life concerns for local communities.

Now that the project has progressed to the next phase, we request a joint meeting with you and the CEO of NorthPoint Development, Nathaniel Hagedorn, to discuss how to move forward in a coordinated effort. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions you may have.

Thank you in advance for your time in these discussions.

Sincerely,

# ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN WILL COUNTY



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Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant  
Will County Executive



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Bob O'DeKirk, Mayor, City of Joliet



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Richard Durbin, U.S. Senator



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Tammy Duckworth, U.S. Senator



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Bobby Rush, U.S. Representative



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Robin Kelly, U.S. Representative



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Bill Foster, U.S. Representative



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Marie Newman, U.S. Representative