



## CITY OF PARK RIDGE

505 BUTLER PLACE  
PARK RIDGE, IL 60068-4182  
TEL: 847/ 318-5200  
FAX: 847/ 318-5300  
TDD: 847/ 318-5252  
[www.parkridge.us](http://www.parkridge.us)

March 12, 2014

Adrian Guerrero  
Director of Public Affairs  
Union Pacific Railroad  
101 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1910  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

RE: Repair of Viaduct over Touhy Avenue at Busse Highway

Dear Mr. Guerrero:

Recently, a Park Ridge resident was driving under the Union Pacific Metra railroad tracks at Touhy Avenue and Busse Highway when her windshield was broken by concrete that fell from the viaduct. This is not the first time that a resident has been impacted by falling debris.

City of Park Ridge employees have contacted Union Pacific Railroad representatives numerous times over the last few years to notify Union Pacific of the condition of the viaduct and our safety concerns for members of the public. In July, 2013, a Park Ridge police detective reported that a rock had fallen onto the City vehicle. Several years ago, the City filed a formal complaint with Union Pacific when debris, stones and a slab of concrete broke off and damaged two vehicles. Despite these numerous reports and requests, Union Pacific has failed and refused to correct the chronic problem. Graphic photographic evidence of this continually worsening problem is included with this letter.

We are writing to demand that you correct this serious problem as soon as possible. In order to achieve that goal, please advise me within 30 days of the steps that Union Pacific will take to fix the condition of the viaduct. The City expects to receive a timeline from Union Pacific that states when the repairs will be started as well as an expected completion date. Please be advised that if Union Pacific fails to take the necessary steps and to contact me within 30 days, the City will strongly consider taking legal action against Union Pacific.

Thank you for your assistance in addressing this important and serious safety concern.

Sincerely,

David F. Schmidt  
Mayor of the City of Park Ridge

cc:

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Enclosure: Photographs













