

July 19, 2017

Ms. Katherine Knapp
Transportation & Mobility Coordinator
Community Development
Morton Civic Center
City of Evanston
2100 Ridge Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201

RE: Union Pacific Bridges in Evanston, IL

Dear Ms. Knapp,

In response to your request to bridge inspection data, this letter serves to provide you information on Union Pacific Railroad's (UP) policies and practices regarding bridge inspections.

All of the bridge structures within the City of Evanston are annually inspected per the requirements of the Federal Railroad Administration (which has jurisdiction over railroad bridges), and through 2017 have all been deemed to meet the federal standards for safety and structural soundness. In fact, UP meets that standard and goes beyond by inspecting its bridges twice a year. UP bridges from Central Street to Emerson Street were inspected on June 19, 2017, bridges from Church Street to Greenleaf Street were inspected on June 14, 2017, and bridges from Main Street to Howard Street were inspected on June 15, 2017. All of these bridges were found to be in safe operating condition.

As part of this process, UP bridge inspectors are trained to inspect all of the bridge components and determine what, if any, issues are present and need to be addressed. In addition to the two standard inspections, cursory inspections of our bridges are completed throughout the year.

UP's top priority of bridge operations is always the safety of citizens and employees. As such, our bridge inspectors focus on the soundness of the bridge structure as opposed to the aesthetic presentation.

If you would like to further discuss these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will make arrangements with our bridge team to discuss our process in more detail. Thank you for your commitment to rail safety.

Sincerely,

