



October 19, 2016

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Luis Aguilera
Project Scientist
True North Consultants, Inc.
Email: laguilera@consulttruenorth.com

RE: 16-FOIA-258 Train info North Central Service

Dear Mr. Aguilera:

We are in receipt of your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* (“**FOIA**”).

On October 13, 2016, we received your request for the following information in connection with the North Central Service line, specifically of the section between the Wheeling Metra Station and Prospect Heights Metra Station:

1. Train type;
2. The average train speed;
3. Engines per train;
4. Railway cars per train;
5. Average train operation;
6. If the rail has any whistles or horns; and
7. If the track is bolted

(“**Request**”).

In response to your Request, Metra’s Transportation Department is providing the following passenger rail information:

1. Train type: *Diesel*;
2. Average Train Speed: *Maximum track speed is 60 miles per hour, trains making station stops are averaging 40 miles per hour*;
3. Engines per train: *There is one engine per train*;
4. Railway cars per train: *On average, there are between 4 to 6 cars per train*;
5. Average train operation: *There are 22 trains running Monday through Friday with no trains operating on the weekend*;
6. If the rail has any whistles or horns: *The entire North Central Service line is a quiet zone*; and
7. If the track is bolted: *The track is a Continual Welded Rail.*

After a diligent search of our records, Metra was unable to locate any records responsive to your Request with regard to freight information. You may check the Federal Railroad Administration's website at: <https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P0001>, as this website may contain some of the statistics you are interested in obtaining. Additionally, train count information can be obtained through the Federal Railroad Administration's Highway-Rail Crossing Inventory database at the links below:

<http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/publicsite/crossing/xingqryloc.aspx>

<http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/publicsite/crossing/crossing.aspx>

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Sonserese Hatch
Freedom of Information Officer
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FOIA Hotline #312-663-3642