

From: [Richard Wronski](#)
To: [FOIA Metra](#)
Subject: Metra FOIA request for documents relating to Nov. 9, 2018 incident in Mokena
Date: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 3:30:09 PM

Dear FOIA officers;

I am a journalist with the Chicago Transportation Journal and with TRAINS magazine. Pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, (5 ILCS 140/1 et seq.), I respectfully request the following:

1. Copies of any and all incident reports, memos, safety bulletins, engineers reports or other documents relating to an incident involving Metra train 506 on the Rock Island Line at the 191st St. crossing in Mokena on Nov. 9, 2018, supposedly around 8:45 am, and inoperative gates and warning signals or lights at that crossing. (This does NOT include a request for a copy of any cab car video, which is the subject of a separate request.) This does include any document or report on this incident that has been sent to the Federal Railroad Administration, and any response from the FRA.
2. In addition, copies of any and all work orders, reports, memos, safety bulletins or other documents relating to the assignment of a Metra employee (signal maintainer or other such employee) to inspect or perform work at the 191st Street crossing on the Rock Island Line on the morning of Nov. 9, 2018. Again, this request does include any document sent to the Federal Railroad Administration, and any response from the FRA.
3. In addition, copies of any and all reports, memos, safety bulletins, work orders or other documents indicating any and all incidents involving faulty or failed crossing gates and/or warning signals or lights on ANY date when Metra operated trains at the 191st Street crossing in Mokena on that Rock Island line. Again, this request includes any document or report sent to the Federal Railroad Administration, and any response from the FRA.

I understand this request has the potential to be time-consuming. I therefore ask that, if necessary to expedite this, Metra respond to the sections 1 to 3 separately. I would be happy to discuss and work with you in any way possible.

As you know, FOIA requires an agency to reduce or waive duplication fees where the disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activity of government. As such, I may use the information as the basis for journalism advancing the public interest.

Therefore, I respectfully request a waiver of all duplication fees associated with this request.

I believe all the information I have requested is subject to public disclosure pursuant to the FOIA. If, however, you decide to withhold all or part of the requested information, I would like a detailed statement of the reasons for denial. I expect you to release all legally disclosable portions of otherwise exempt material.

As required by the FOIA, I expect a response to my request within five working days. Please provide the requested material by the most expeditious means possible, via email preferably, postal mail or fax.

If the material is the subject of another FOIA request, I ask that my request be piggybacked with this request and thus expedited.

If you have questions, please contact me. Thank you for your cooperation.

Regards,

Richard Wronski

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