September 18, 2019

Dear Rompot neighborhood residents and visitors,

The purpose of this letter is to share with you Cargill’s intention to move forward with securing the necessary permits and approvals for building a rail yard on the Stewart Road property – the original site Cargill proposed. While we heard concerns some of you shared at the August 27th City Council meeting, we also heard from council members, community members, and other neighbors who have expressed their support for this rail yard so that we can remain a vital partner in the community.

From the beginning of the rail yard planning process, we have had only two feasible location options: the Stewart Road property and the two farm parcels off Otis Road. Following the recent City Council decision to not take up a vote to approve an essential service designation for the two farm parcels, we are left with the option of seeking rezoning of the city-owned Stewart Road property and building the rail yard there.

As part of our outreach, we would like your input on what we can do to minimize any neighborhood impact and make this better for you and for the community, before we finalize the rezoning application and present it at the City Planning Commission Meeting. We have heard—and continue to hear—that residents would like to talk directly to us; we are willing to meet with many of you individually and in small groups to ensure that we are getting your perspectives. If you would prefer to provide your feedback electronically, please send us an email: Cedar_Rapids@cargill.com

Once we understand the rezoning timeline and the required steps to move forward, we will be mailing invitations to you for another open house where information will be made available to you (likely mid-October).

We look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the best possible outcome for everyone.

Best,

Dan Pulis,
Cedar Rapids Corn Milling Facility Manager