

CALL TO ACTION - The Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery needs our help!

From: Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission and Allen J Lynch Medal of Honor Veterans Foundation (atangen@lakecountyil.gov)

To: wwhn@sbcglobal.net

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Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission

Allen J Lynch Medal of Honor Veterans Foundation



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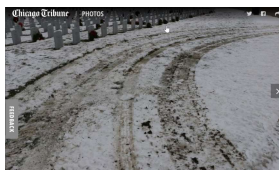
Medal of Honor recipient Allen Lynch, County Veteran Assistance Commissions and numerous Illinois veterans organizations join in resistance to the proposed Northpoint Development Compass project adjacent to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

We need your help!

There is a massive infrastructure project that, as currently planned, will significantly impact the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery near Joliet, IL. Specifically, this project proposes to elevate Walter Strawn Drive into a highway and bridge which will bring tractor-trailers within sight and sound of the second-largest National Cemetery (by acreage) to support increased truck transport between an existing intermodal facility and an immense new industrial complex. The increase in traffic is predicted to add 5,000 more semi-trucks per day (on top of those that already use the area) which is an additional truck every 15 seconds. There are many other viable options for this project besides using Walter Strawn Drive.

The semi-truck carriers that already exist in the area have not been good neighbors to the National Cemetery. Here are some recent articles in the local papers:

Lost truck drivers disrupt 'sanctity' of national cemetery.



"It is simply unacceptable that these trucks disobey signs and illegally enter the cemetery and run over the sacred ground of those who have given so much in the service of our country. Maintaining safety for our citizens is our top priority, but maintaining respect for our honored veterans is of the utmost importance," said Elwood Police Chief Fred Hayes.

Driver cited for driving semitrailer over graves at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

A 43-year-old Chicago man was cited with traffic violations after driving a semitrailer over at least six veterans' graves at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood Monday, police said.

Faraz Namdari of the 1900 block of W. Greenleaf Avenue in Chicago told police he was lost trying to get to a nearby industrial park, Elwood Police Chief Fred Hayes said. He allegedly attempted to turn around by driving over a curb onto the graves, narrowly missing the headstones, the police chief said.

Unauthorized trucks continue to cause headaches at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

As recently as March 2, 2021 articles about trucks violating traffic regulations and signage.

We have also attached a letter from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([read here](#)) and a Resolution from the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions ([read here](#)) for more information on the negative impact on Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

You can help us! The Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions encourages you to oppose this project by sending a message to Governor JB Pritzker and signing a petition against the project.

Here's how:

- **Watch the Press Conference Tomorrow (03/03/2021) at 10:00am: [Click for press conference.](#)**
- **Send a Message to Governor Pritzker: [Click to Send Message](#)**
- **Sign the Petition: [Click to sign petition](#)**

We trust you will help us protect our National Cemetery.

Jacob Zimmerman, Vice President, Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions
Andrew Tangen, Superintendent, Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission

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