

Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers, Inc.

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March 16, 2022

(Transmitted via email)

Mayor and City Council City of Ann Arbor, Michigan

RE: Ann Arbor Intermodal Station Project, letter by Assistant City Manager

The Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers strongly endorses the February 24, 2022 letter from Assistant Ann Arbor Administrator John Fournier to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) regarding the status of the Ann Arbor Intermodal Station Project. We believe that the ideas expressed in his letter can act as a framework upon which the City and the FRA may reach agreement so this necessary project may again move forward. It summarizes the issues that must be resolved and offers practical solutions.

In this letter the City agrees to reduce the initial amount of parking required. To reduce the parking capacity, rail passengers must find an alternative means of accessing the station. An important alternative to parking is to use transit. Therefore the station should be relocated to the preferred site on Fuller Road, one of the most transit-intensive corridors in Michigan.

The more modest scope of the initial project requires that plans should allow for future expansion as demand dictates. This appears to be addressed in Mr. Fournier's letter.

A modest update in circumstances such as the real estate developments surrounding the present station and additional public input are reasonable requests.

The Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers has been involved in this project for many years and stands by to assist this effort.

Sincerely,

John Guidinger

Chair, Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers

Copy to:

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell US Senator Debbie Stabenow US Senator Gary Peters