

Cespedes, Christopher

From: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 10:17 AM
To: Cespedes, Christopher
Subject: FW: MDOT Fencing

From: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <xxxxxxx @a2gov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 9:43 AM
To: xxxxxxx @aol.com; City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <xxxxxxx @a2gov.org>
Subject: RE: MDOT Fencing

Good morning Clark,

Thank you for contacting the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission. Your concerns will be provided as a communication item on the October 18th Commission Agenda.

Your message has also been forwarded too transportation staff, so that they are also aware of your comments and may respond separately.

Christopher Cespedes, Management Assistant

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From: xxxxxxx @aol.com <xxxxxxx @aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 7:11 PM
To: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <xxxxxxx @a2gov.org>
Subject: MDOT Fencing

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Members of the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission:

Attached is a PDF file outlining the position of the Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers regarding the proposal by the Michigan Department of Transportation to improve safety along the Michigan Line railway in the Ann Arbor area.

Since this railroad follows the Huron River, the city has only one at-grade road crossing (Lakeshore Drive,) while other roads cross on bridges that usually also cross the river. This situation, while it separates vehicle and non-motorized traffic from the rail line, means that there is a need for additional pedestrian and bicycle underpasses. One will be built in 2024 or 2025 and another is in the planning stage. These cost \$5 million each and were first formally proposed 30 years ago.

Meanwhile, something has to be done to eliminate injury or death on the railroad. The City of Ann Arbor has a program to eliminate injuries on its streets, so why not do the same on tracks? Fences,

though they can sometimes be breached, are effective in keeping most of those on foot off the tracks. This is especially true of children in recreational areas and on adjacent pathways.

MARP was founded 50 years ago to improve rail passenger service in Michigan. We have more than 200 members from all regions in the state.

Clark Charnetski
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