

FILE



# Ohio Rail Development Commission

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2007 AUG 24 AM 8:40

August 21, 2007

06-1326-RR-FED

Mr. Matthew Kridler  
City Manager  
76 East High Street  
Springfield, OH 45502

RAIL DIVISION  
2007 AUG 24 AM 8:35  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SECTION

Dear Mr. Kridler:

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) and the City of Springfield must resolve an outstanding issue concerning the Corridor Project on the Norfolk Southern (NS) rail line through your community. This issue involves the application of wayside horns to several crossings throughout the corridor and the installation of vehicle detection systems at the four (4) crossings receiving four-quadrant gates.

Staff from the City and the ORDC has encountered a misunderstanding regarding the procurement of a contractor to perform the engineering and installation of the wayside horns and vehicle detection systems. While I acknowledge the misunderstanding, I need to make it abundantly clear that it was never the ORDC's intent to let a contract for these services.

The ORDC has developed a proposed resolution to move this project forward. We have discussed the proposal with both ODOT District 7 and Leo Shanayda of your staff. The ORDC proposes the following:

- ◆ ORDC will modify the existing PID in the ODOT accounting system that has been established with NS as the recipient of funds for the installation of standard warning devices, four quadrant gates and closures. The PID will be modified to include the City of Springfield as the recipient of funds and the scope will be expanded to include the installation of wayside horns and vehicle detections systems.
- ◆ The City of Springfield and the ORDC would then enter into a Letter Agreement modifying Subsidy Agreement #14245 executed October 13, 2006 for the Corridor Project. Quite simply, the Letter Agreement will outline that the City will be responsible for securing a contractor to perform the engineering and installation functions for the wayside horns and vehicle detection systems and the ORDC will reimburse the City for such services.
- ◆ The City of Springfield would be required to follow all appropriate policies governing the procurement of such a contractor.

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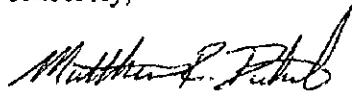
Building Markets, Linking Cities and Securing Ohio's Future

While the ORDC attempted to find other resolutions to rectify this situation it is important everyone understand that NS is under a Public Utilities Commission (PUCO) Order to have the corridor work completed by May 21, 2008. As the primary funding agency, the ORDC will not allow the installation of four-quadrant gates to occur without the plans for vehicle detection systems being in place. Design for the four quadrant gate installations is complete and NS is ready to initiate construction at any time. Due to the complexity of this project and the significant investment involved it is imperative that this situation be resolved promptly or the ORDC will be forced to modify the overall corridor scope to include standard gate installations rather than the proposed four quadrant gates.

Please contact me or Susan Kirkland, Manager of ORDC Safety Programs, prior to August 31, 2007. I can be reached directly at (614) 644-0295. Susan will be out of the office until August 27, 2007 but can also be reached directly via mobile phone at (614) 452-2812.

Thank you for your prompt attention to the important matter.

Sincerely,



Matthew R. Dietrich  
Acting Executive Director

MD:sjk

c: The Honorable Steven Austria, Ohio Senate  
The Honorable Ross McGregor, Ohio House  
The Honorable Chris Widener, Ohio House  
Mr. Alan Klodell, Assistant Ohio Attorney General  
Mr. Joseph Glinski, Safety Programs Engineer, Federal Highway Administration  
Mr. Rick Ray, Public Projects Engineer, Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Mr. William Barringer, Grade Crossing Safety, Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Mr. William Harris, Resident V.P., Public Affairs, Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Ms. Donna Slagle, ODOT #7  
Ms. Linda Bailiff, Mgr., Local Projects, ODOT Central Office  
Mr. Randy Lane, Local Projects, ODOT Central Office  
Mr. George Martin, Rail Planner, PUCO  
Susan Kirkland, Tim Perkins, ORDC