

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

525 West Van Buren Street, Chicago, IL 60607



August 17, 2009

Mr. John Maddox, Rail and Freight Manager  
Kansas Department of Transportation  
Eisenhower State Office Building, 2 East  
700 SW Harrison  
Topeka, KS 66603

Dear Mr. Maddox:

Amtrak is pleased to support the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) grant application to the Federal Railroad Administration seeking assistance for a \$500,000 planning study under the High-Speed/Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) program. We understand that if the grant is awarded, the money would fund work needed to help Kansas prepare for possible state-supported Amtrak passenger rail service between Kansas City and Oklahoma City and Fort Worth.

Specifically, the Track 3 application for \$500,000 would be used to prepare a comprehensive Service Development Plan (SDP) for implementing state-supported Amtrak service between Kansas City, Oklahoma City and possible Fort Worth. The SDP would build on the findings of the Amtrak Expansion Feasibility Study which is expected to be complete by the end of 2009. An SDP will be required for KDOT, the Oklahoma DOT and the Texas DOT to receive potential HSIPR service implementation grants in the future, if funding is available.

We appreciate KDOT's commitment to participate with a \$250,000 State funding match for the grant. We believe a service development plan could lead to improvements that would enhance passenger rail transportation not only in Kansas but also in Oklahoma, Texas and Missouri.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael W. Franke". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael W. Franke  
Assistant Vice President  
State & Commuter Partnerships (Central)

MWF/bf