



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764
Telephone 217/782-5597

September 6, 2018

Mayor Robert Lansing
390 E. Wisconsin Avenue
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Dear Mayor Lansing:

Thank you for your important input and feedback on the proposed expansion of Hiawatha service between Chicago and Milwaukee.

The Illinois Department of Transportation is sensitive to the concerns of residents, business owners and other stakeholders along the route. Based on the concerns we have heard thus far, IDOT is not willing to move toward seeking federal approval for this project until I am comfortable that your community's issues have been adequately addressed and considered.

We will continue to work with the project team, which is led by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, to see that the many valid questions that have raised are answered within the Environmental Assessment. I have asked staff working on this project to prepare a visualization of current and future train movements so your community can better understand and see the impacts of what is being proposed.

Once again, we thank you for your interest in this project. We are committed to providing safe and efficient mobility options for all travelers in the state, while also listening and responding to the concerns of the communities most directly affected.

If you have any additional questions or comments regarding this project, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Randall S. Blankenhorn'.

Randall S. Blankenhorn
Secretary