

December 18, 2008



The Honorable Barack Obama  
Office of the President-elect  
Transition Office  
451 6<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001



Dear President-elect Obama:



As your incoming administration moves forward to assure our country's economic recovery, the undersigned organizations respectfully urge you to include rail as an essential component of any national infrastructure investment initiative. Maximizing our rail system for intercity and commuter passengers and freight will create American jobs and boost economic growth, enhance mobility, increase energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gases and improve quality of life for all Americans.



Your stimulus and economic recovery legislation should specifically include rail as part of the transportation proposal. We encourage you to enable states and localities to invest in mobility projects that not only create jobs, but secure our energy independence and confront climate change.



Our nation's surface transportation infrastructure should be intermodally balanced and environmentally sound. As we look to sustain economic growth and brighten our future we ask that you focus investment on our U.S. rail system to save American jobs, decongest choke points, put more freight and passengers on fuel-efficient trains, and lower our nation's greenhouse gas emissions.



Sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Joseph H. Boardman.

Joseph H. Boardman  
President & CEO  
Amtrak



Handwritten signature of Frank J. Busalacchi.

Frank Busalacchi  
Secretary  
Wisconsin Department of  
Transportation and  
Chairman  
States for Passenger Rail Coalition



Anne P. Canby  
President  
Surface Transportation Policy  
Partnership

Astrid C. Glynn  
Commissioner  
New York State Department of  
Transportation and  
Chairman  
AASHTO Standing Committee on  
Rail Transportation



Edward R. Hamberger  
President & CEO  
Association of American Railroads

Peter Lehner  
Executive Director  
Natural Resources Defense Council



Thomas D. Simpson  
Executive Director-Washington  
Railway Supply Institute

Richard F. Timmons  
President  
American Short Line & Regional  
Railroad Association



Railway Supply Institute

