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June 11, 2003

VIA U.P.S OVERNIGHT

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 "K" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

208040

**RE: Docket No. AB33- (Sub-No. 170), Union Pacific Railroad Company --
Abandonment and Discontinuance of Operation--in Polk County, IA (Bell
Avenue Industrial Lead in Des Moines, IA)**

**RESPONSE TO FILING OF REQUEST FOR
A 180 DAY EXTENSION OF DEADLINE**

Dear Mr. Williams:

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 1152.9 Perspective Use of Rights of Way for Interim Trail Use and Rail Banking, the Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") received via facsimile a request to extend the deadline for interim trail use from the City of Des Moines ("City") dated June 10, 2003, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and hereby made a part hereof.

The UP is willing to continue the negotiation period for an additional 180 days. The original deadline was January 5, 2003 which was extended by the Board to July 4, 2003. The new deadline would be December 30, 2003.

Enclosed for the Board's use are ten (10) additional copies.

Sincerely yours,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.,
Senior General Attorney

cc: All Parties of Record

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney, Law Department

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD
101 N. Wacker Dr., Rm. 1920, Chicago, IL 60606-1718
ph. (312) 777-2055 fx. (312) 777-2065

June 10, 2003

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Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY HALL
400 EAST FIRST STREET
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309 - 1801
(515) 281-4141

ALL-AMERICA CITY 1949, 1976, 1981

RE: 180-Day Interim Trail Use/Railbanking Agreement Extension Request,
STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 170), Union Pacific Railroad Company--Abandonment --in Polk County, IA
Action Requested by July 3, 2003

Dear Mr. Williams:

This letter is to request an additional 180-day extension of the deadline for an interim trail use/railbanking agreement between the City of Des Moines, Iowa (City) and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) in the matter of STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 170). The original deadline was January 5, 2003, which was extended by you to July 4, 2003 by Decision dated March 10, 2003. By this letter, I am requesting an additional extension of the deadline to December 30, 2003.

With the UPRR's cooperation, the City is now engaged in an engineering investigation of the feasibility of utilizing the railroad bridge over the Raccoon River for a bike trail, as well as investigating ownership and environmental issues with respect to the remainder of the railroad right-of-way subject to this abandonment proceeding. While the parties expect to complete these investigations expeditiously, we have not been able to conclude those investigations prior to the expiration of the existing CITU on July 4, 2003. We do not anticipate another extension will be necessary.

Please forward your decision regarding this extension to the following parties:

Mr. Don Tripp
Director of Parks and Recreation
3226 University Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50311
Tel. (515) 237-1452

Mr. James P. Gatlin
Attorney for Union Pacific Railroad Company
1331 - 17th Street, Ste. 406
Denver, CO 80202
Tel. (303) 964-4594

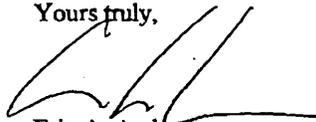
We have discussed this request with the UPRR and they are supportive of an extension. The UPRR will forward a support letter to you under separate cover.



Mr. Vernon A. Williams
June 10, 2003
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Please direct questions regarding this request to Mr. Don Tripp, (515) 237-1452.
Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Yours truly,



Eric A. Anderson
City Manager

EAA/rg

cc: Mr. James P. Gatlin, Union Pacific Railroad
Mr. Mack Shumate, Union Pacific Railroad
Mr. John Herdzina, Union Pacific Railroad
Mr. Don Tripp, Director of Parks and Recreation
Mr. John McKee, Acting City Engineer
Mr. Phil Wageman, Director, City Real Estate Division