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December 22, 2003

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

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 December 30, 2003**



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CITY HALL  
400 EAST FIRST STREET  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309 1891  
(515) 283-4141

ALL-AMERICA CITY 1949, 1976, 1981

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 deadline was first extended by you to July 4, 2003 by Decision dated March 10, 2003, and then extended again until December 30, 2003 by Decision dated July 2, 2003. By this letter, I am requesting an additional extension of the deadline to **July 1, 2004.**

The City has been engaged in an investigation of ownership issues with respect to the railroad right-of-way subject to this abandonment proceeding, and has secured an appraisal of that right-of-way. However, given the intended funding sources for trail development, a review appraisal will be required and that appraisal will not be forthcoming until mid-January of 2004. It is our intention to make an offer for the acquisition of all or part of that right-of-way in late January 2004. We do not anticipate another extension will be necessary.

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

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

Mr. Mack Shumate, Jr.  
Sr. General Attorney, Union Pacific Railroad  
101 North Wacker Drive, Suite 1920  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Tel. (312) 777-2055

Vernon A. Williams  
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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.

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. Jeb Brewer, City Engineer  
Mr. Phil Wageman, Director, City Real Estate Division