



TOWN OF FRAMINGHAM

Memorial Building, 150 Concord Street, Room 121, Framingham, MA 01702
508-532-5400 | 508-532-5409 (fax) | selectmen@framinghamma.gov | www.framinghamma.gov

Town Manager
Robert J. Halpin

Assistant Town Manager
James P. Duane

Board of Selectmen

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ENTERED

Office of Proceedings
November 30, 2017
Part of
Public Record

November 29, 2017
Via electronic mail

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Selection of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20423

RE: Docket No. AB-565 (Sub-No. 1X), New York Central Lines, LLC-Abandonment Exemption-in Middlesex County, MA; Docket No. AB-55 (Sub No. 593X), CSX Transportation Inc.-Discontinuance of Service Exemption-in Middlesex County, MA

Dear Ms. Brown,

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Framingham, Massachusetts (the "Town") to request an additional 365-day extension of the deadline for negotiations with CSX Transportation, Inc., as successor by merger to New York Central Lines, LLC ("CSXT"), regarding the Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) in the above captioned proceeding with respect to the 3.40 mile portion of line that extends from railroad milepost QBS 0.00 at Framingham to railroad milepost QBS 3.40 at the Framingham town line. Pursuant to the October 27, 2011 decision of the Surface Transportation Board, an agreement for interim trail use/rail banking was extended to December 1, 2017 (the "Negotiating Deadline").

CSXT and the Town wish to continue to seek agreement on the acquisition price regarding the NITU and to negotiate a Purchase & Sale Agreement. Most recently, an appraisal of the corridor was conducted in April of 2016. The Towns of Sudbury and Framingham continue to coordinate to move forward in a collaborative manner and advance towards acquisition of the corridor. The ultimate goal is the extension of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) along the CSXT corridor. The Trust for Public Lands has assisted the Towns in this process.

The Town respectfully requests an extension of the Negotiating Deadline for 365 days to December 1, 2018. CSX has acknowledged that it concurs with this request and will file a letter of concurrence once it receives a copy of this letter.

In addition, the Town respectfully requests a waiver of the Board's filing fees in accordance with 49 CFR 1002.2(e) (1) as the Town is a local government entity. The Town is e-filing this letter. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Halpin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Halpin
Town Manager

cc: Louis E. Gitomer, Attorney for CSXT
Matt Coffing, CSXT
Travers Mauldin, CSXT
Board of Selectmen
Christopher Petrini, Town Counsel
Marianne Iarossi, Community & Economic Development
Melissa Rodrigues, Sudbury Town Manager
Beth Suedmeyer, Sudbury Environmental Planner