

EP 753

Railbanking Negotiations  
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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E. Street SW  
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. Brown,

These comments, are in support of a petition by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) for the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to establish a one-year period for any initial interim trail use negotiation period and codify the STB's authority to grant extensions of the negotiation period for good cause shown.

I am an avid user of trails that were created through the rails-to-trails program. From the Elroy-Sparta bike trail to large sections of the Oak Leaf Trail in Milwaukee County, some of my favorite trails are the result of the rail-to-trail program. I'd support any action to help make rail-to-trail trails more successful.

Based on RTC's direct experience with railbanking negotiations before the STB, I urge the Board to adopt RTC's proposed rule in Docket No. EP 753.

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