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The Honorable Martin Oberman, Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E St. SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Attention: Docket No. EP 774 (Sub-No. 1)

Dear Chairman Oberman,

Please consider this my self-nomination to fill a position on the newly formed Passenger Rail Advisory Committee (PRAC). Below, I have listed the information in the format requested by the Surface Transportation Board's notice released in Docket No. EP 774 (Sub-No. 1).

1) The name, position, and business contact information of the candidate to include email address and phone number

Thomas C. Cornillie, Owner
Transportation Research Analysis and Design Ltd.
2532 Santa Clara Ave., Ste. 196
Alameda, CA 94501-4632
510-905-5444, ContactUs@FareboxRatio.com

Note: Transportation Research Analysis and Design Ltd. is certified as a Persons with Disabilities Business Enterprise (PDBE) (VON: 23001119) by the Supplier Clearinghouse for the Utility Supplier Diversity Program of the California Public Utilities Commission

2) The interest the candidate will represent

As an at-large member, I would represent the position that data sharing and decision-making transparency are the foundations of sound policy and good government. My perspective on this issue is based on 20 years of experience with passenger rail service and public transportation as well as firsthand experience in using data and transparent processes to reach consensus among disparate groups.

3) A summary of the candidate's experience and qualifications for the position

In 2023, I founded Transportation Research Analysis and Design Ltd. motivated by a clear and compelling vision: to offer state-of-the-art planning and analysis services to transportation professionals. My aim is to close a significant gap in the market—communities often lack access

to advanced transit planning tools and experts that are responsive to local needs and can accommodate constrained budgets.

I have 20 years of experience in public transportation and commuter rail service, including serving Amtrak as its principal officer, Infrastructure Planning-West, and leading the establishment of commuter rail and regional express buses for the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority. I was also a member of the New Starts planning staff for Chicago's Metra commuter rail service and, most recently, for capital projects for the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority. Uniting all of these roles is my extensive applied experience integrating technical, institutional, policy, and regulatory contexts to deliver meaningful service improvements despite resource constraints.

I am also actively involved with the academic and professional transportation research community, which includes serving on committees and/or maintaining research affiliations with the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies, the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association, the Watford Group of railway design professionals, the SPARK research initiative of the Rail Service Safety Board of the United Kingdom, and the Union internationale des chemins de fer.

My independent research on planning, policy, engineering, and management issues in railroads and public transportation has been published in peer-reviewed transportation and law journals. Recently, the findings of one of my papers, "Amtrak after PRIIA: New opportunities for continuing the revitalization of intercity passenger rail," was cited in a white paper released by San Jose State University's Mineta Transportation Institute. Additionally, my research on the international development of vehicle-borne devices for track circuit shunting, which I presented at the 2018 Joint Rail Conference, has been influential in introducing this technology to American intercity passenger rail operators.

4) A representation that the candidate is willing to serve as a member of the PRAC

I hereby attest that I am willing to serve as a member of the Passenger Rail Advisory Council.

5) A statement that the candidate agrees to serve in a representative capacity

I agree to serve in a representative capacity as an at-large member.

I recognize that the Surface Transportation Board is committed to having a committee that is inclusive of diverse backgrounds and viewpoints. I believe that my professional experience and engagement with the research community bring to this role a unique set of qualifications. Thank you for the opportunity to present myself as a nominee.

Sincerely,

/s/Thomas C. Cornillie

Thomas C. Cornillie