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March 15, 2024

VIA E-FILING

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 15, 2024
Part of
Public Record

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

RE: Docket No. FD 36744, Canadian Railway Company and Ground Trunk Corporation – Control – Iowa Northern Railway Company.

Dear Ms. Brown:

Attached for filing in the above-referenced docket are letters from Forest City Economic Development, Inc., Manager of North Central Iowa Rail Corridor, L.L.C. and Farmers Co-op Association, Forest City, Iowa in support of Canadian Railway Company and Ground Trunk Corporation to acquire control of Iowa Northern Railway Company.

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Counsel for North Central Iowa Rail Corridor,
L.L.C. and Farmers Co-op Association

Enclosures



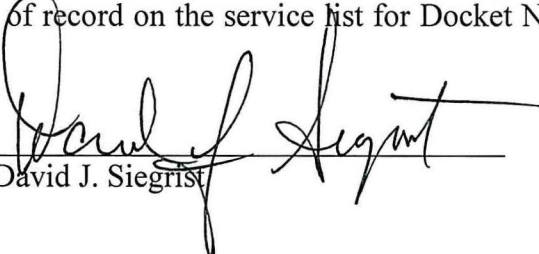
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this 15th day of March 2024, a copy of this filing was served by email or First Class mail on the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, the U.S. Attorney General c/o Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, and all parties of record on the service list for Docket No. FD 36744.


David J. Siegrist

RAIL CORRIDOR *North Central Iowa*
LLC

145 East K Street
Forest City, IA 50436

March 14, 2024

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief Section of Administration
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395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Docket No. FD 36744, Canadian Railway Company and Ground Trunk Corporation – Control – Iowa Northern Railway Company

Dear Ms. Brown

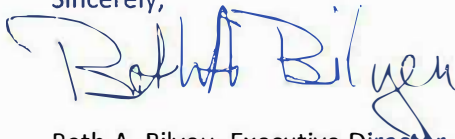
North Central Iowa Rail Corridor, LLC (NCIRC) was formed in 2011 by local investors to purchase the rail line from Forest City to Belmond which is now leased to Iowa Northern Railway. This rail line is needed for uninterrupted service to North Iowa companies and grain elevators.

Forest City Economic Development, Inc. (FCED), which is the Manager of NCIRC, purchased 68 acres along the rail line on the south edge of Forest City for the development of a Rail Industrial Park. This land is a Certified Shovel Ready Site by the Iowa Economic Development Authority which includes all required environmental studies, surveys, and potential Rail Spur Designs. The site is Zoned Heavy Industrial. This development requires the 28-mile rail line to remain in service. Site maps of the Rail Industrial Park are being provided with this letter.

Canadian National's acquisition of Iowa Northern Railway is critical to continue rail service on this rail line and to expand service on this rail line for North Iowa companies, grain elevators and the Rail Industrial Park. NCIRC and FCED look forward to development opportunities that will be offered this Canadian National – Iowa Northern Railway combination.

NCIRC and FCED request the Surface Transportation Board to approve this acquisition for the benefit of businesses and communities of North Iowa.

Sincerely,

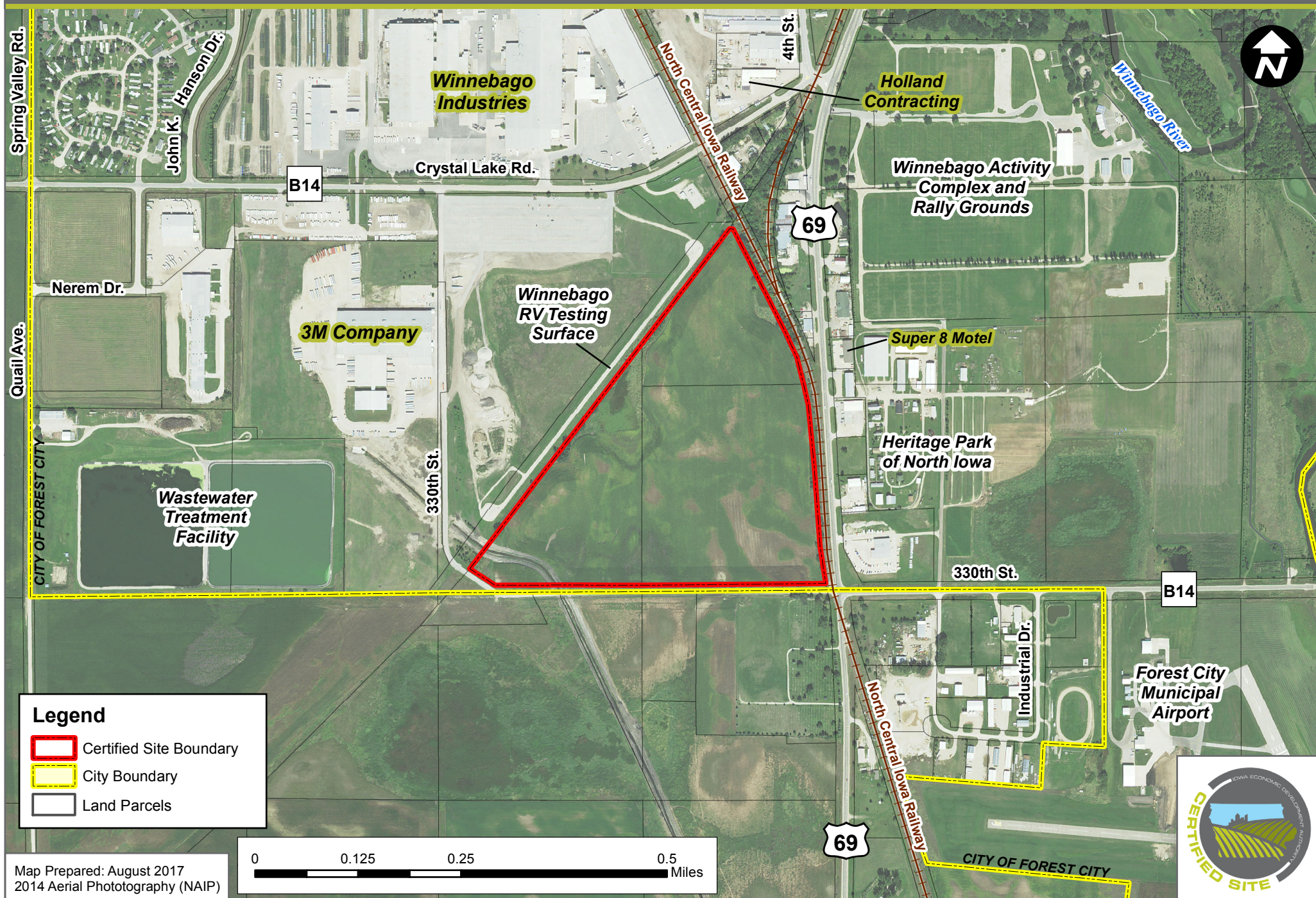


Beth A. Bilyeu, Executive Director
NORTH CENTRAL IOWA RAIL CORRIDOR, L.L.C.
FOREST CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, MANAGER

Enclosures

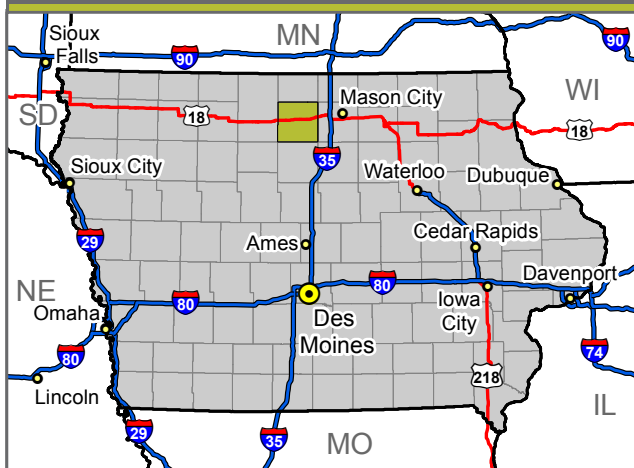
FOREST CITY RAIL PARK (68.83 ACRES)

FOREST CITY, IOWA - AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH



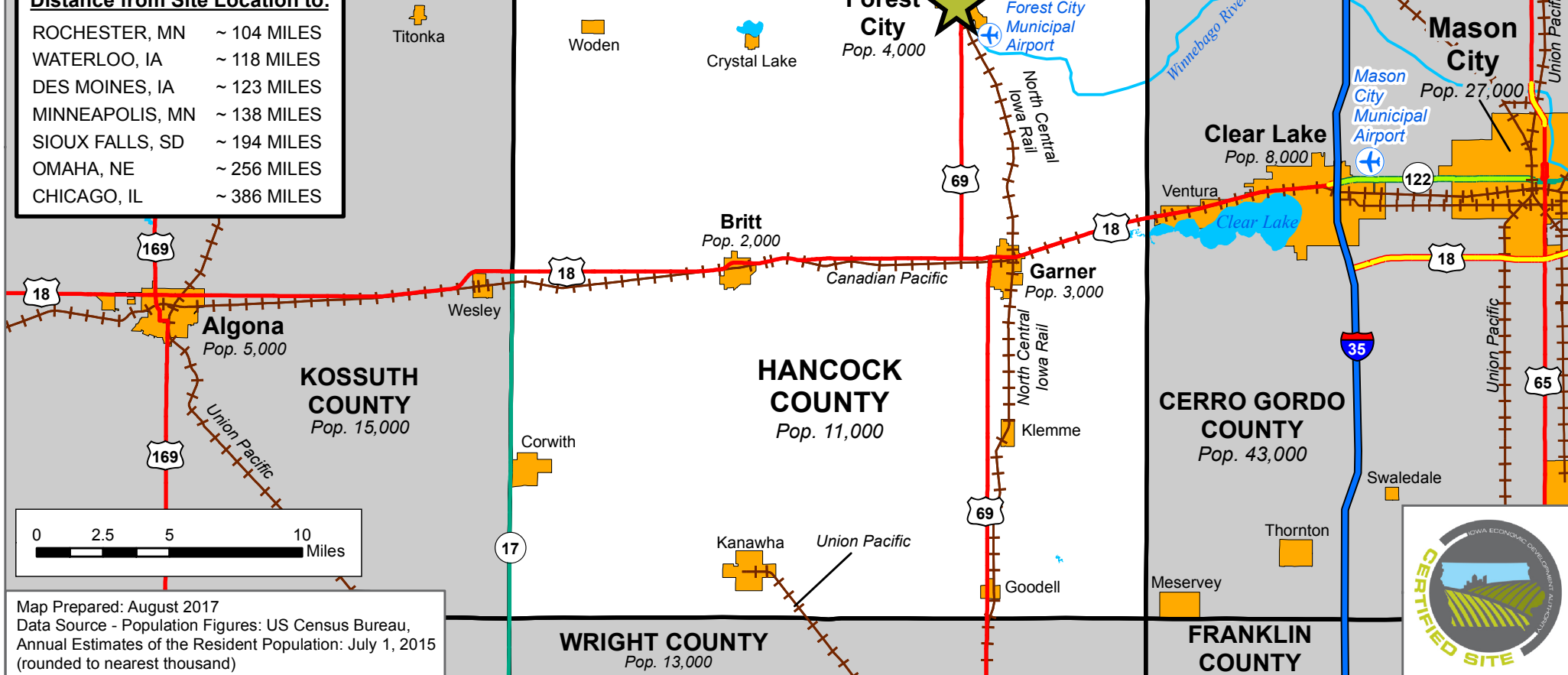
FOREST CITY RAIL PARK (68.83 ACRES)

FOREST CITY, IOWA - GENERAL LOCATION MAP



Distance from Site Location to:

ROCHESTER, MN	~ 104 MILES
WATERLOO, IA	~ 118 MILES
DES MOINES, IA	~ 123 MILES
MINNEAPOLIS, MN	~ 138 MILES
SIOUX FALLS, SD	~ 194 MILES
OMAHA, NE	~ 256 MILES
CHICAGO, IL	~ 386 MILES



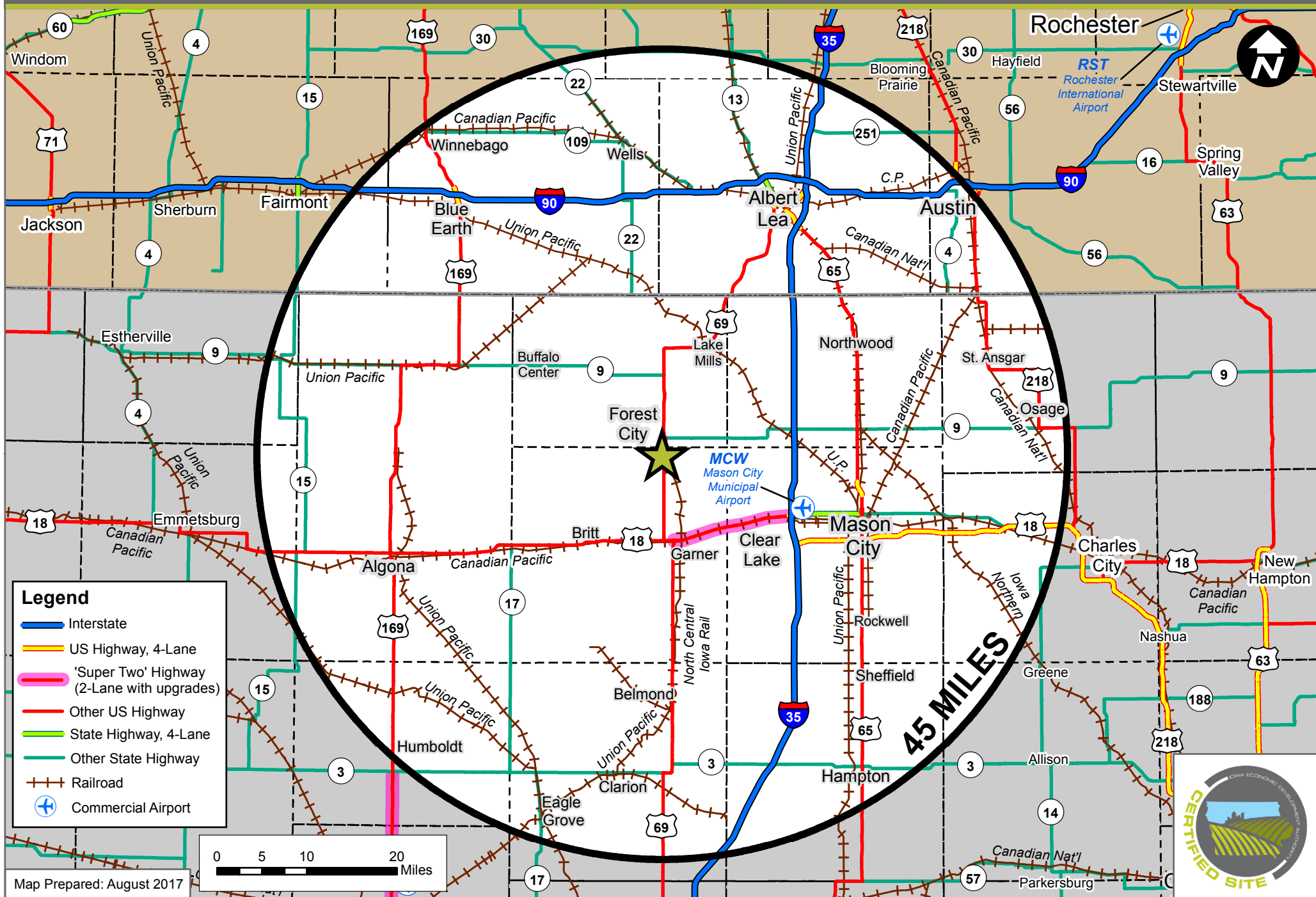
Map Prepared: August 2017

Data Source - Population Figures: US Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: July 1, 2015 (rounded to nearest thousand)



FOREST CITY RAIL PARK (68.83 ACRES)

FOREST CITY, IOWA - TRANSPORTATION NETWORK MAP





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Dear Ms. Brown

The Farmers Cooperative Association was founded over 100 years ago when it began using the rail services, and over a century later, we still rely on these services. In 2011 the North Central Iowa Rail Corridor was formed to purchase the spur that services Forest City to ensure these services are available. Controlling transportation costs is essential to the success of our organization.

The services that are currently supplied by Iowa Northern Railway have been vital to our organization and will only be enhanced as they are acquired by Canadian National as they service not only our facility but businesses throughout North Iowa.

On behalf of Farmers Cooperative Association, I request the Surface Transportation Board to approve this acquisition that will benefit not only our company but many others customers that are served by the Iowa Northern Railway system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Dontje', is written over a horizontal line.

Ben Dontje, Board President
Farmers Cooperative Association