

August 17, 2026

311940

Chief of Case Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
August 17, 2026
Part of
Public Record

**RE: Union Pacific–Norfolk Southern Merger (Docket No. FD 36873) Supplemental
Comments Following May 27, 2026 Meeting Between the City of San José and Union
Pacific**

Dear Chairman Fuchs and Members of the Board:

The City of San José appreciates the opportunity to submit these supplemental comments regarding the proposed merger between Union Pacific Railroad (“UP”) and Norfolk Southern Railway. We would like to formally acknowledge the May 27, 2026 meeting between leadership and staff from the City of San José and Union Pacific. We thank Adrian Guerrero, Katie Novak, and Peggy Ygbuhay for engaging in a constructive and informative discussion regarding the operational rationale for the proposed merger and its implications for our region.

Appreciation for Partnership and Shared Progress

The City deeply values its long-standing partnership with UP and extends its sincere appreciation for the substantial progress made in recent years across the many elements of work we have been advancing together. City staff and leadership appreciate UP’s responsiveness and collaboration on corridor cleanliness, graffiti abatement, maintenance coordination, and neighborhood concerns.

We particularly thank UP for its partnership in advancing a railroad quiet zone through the heart of the historic Hensley and Japantown neighborhoods, which has materially improved quality of life for residents. This constructive working relationship has become significantly stronger and more productive in recent years, and UP remains a highly valued partner in our regional transportation and economic ecosystem.

The City’s Perspective on the Future of Rail

The City’s May 8, 2026 letter focused on broad, long-term strategic planning matters rather than present-day operational or maintenance concerns. This longer-term strategic perspective is

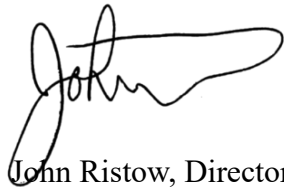
important because San José and its regional partners are actively planning for a future in which San José plays a more pivotal role as a node in Northern California's transportation system.

As a city where numerous current and future passenger rail services intersect, the City of San José has a vital interest in ensuring that the cumulative capacity demands of all operators on these shared corridors are thoroughly evaluated. The long-term viability of Northern California's rail network depends on a comprehensive analysis. The City appreciates UP's supplemental filing concerning the potential effects of freight growth on passenger rail service. During the May 27, 2026 meeting, UP's passenger services officer, Katie Novak, briefed City leadership and staff on UP's analysis and represented that, based on UP's near-term projections, the merger-related increase in freight traffic is not expected to adversely affect passenger rail service in the San José area. The City appreciates UP's presentation of this analysis and believes it will be important to continue evaluating these conditions as freight and passenger rail demand evolve.

Commitment to Long-Range Strategic Dialogue

Looking ahead, the City welcomes UP's offer of establishing regular coordination moving forward regarding larger strategic passenger rail issues – specifically to ensure the continued advancement of generational passenger rail investments currently being advanced by the City and its regional partners, including Diridon Station, Caltrain modernization, High-Speed Rail integration, and Capitol Corridor expansion. We want to formally reiterate that we look forward to meet regularly on long-range strategic issues. Proactive, ongoing dialogue between UP, the City, and regional transit partners will be essential as California continues planning for a balanced future that supports both robust freight mobility and vital passenger rail growth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Ristow, Director
Department of Transportation
City of San José

Copy: All Parties of Record