



September 21, 2026

Elizabeth Webster
Surface Transportation Board (Docket No. FD 36873)
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

SUBJECT: City of Rocklin Comments on Docket No. FD 36873 (Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern Rail Operations Consolidation)

Dear Ms. Webster,

The City of Rocklin, California is providing comments in response to your letter pertaining to Docket No. FD 36873 dated August 19, 2026 regarding a proposed consolidation of railroad operations between the Union Pacific Railway Company and the Norfolk Southern Railway Company. Our comments, concerns, questions and suggestions are as follows:

1. The environmental review for the project should address the following topics:
 - Increases in diesel emission air pollution from increased daily freight line and passenger rail line trips
 - Increases in automobile traffic congestion and blockages for extended periods and the disruption to commuter traffic and the provision of emergency services and associated response times in areas where there are rail line road crossings due to increased daily freight line and passenger rail trips
 - Increases in noise levels and noise pollution for adjacent land uses, in particular residential land uses and at nighttime, due to increased daily freight line and passenger rail trips and how those may impact railroad crossing quiet zones that have been established in the City of Rocklin
 - Increases of potential derailment impacts involving flammable/explosive substances and/or hazardous materials due to increased daily freight line rail trips
 - Increases of lighting from locomotives specifically during night trips (train lights through residential corridors)
 - Increases of fire threat along railroad corridors from increased daily freight line and passenger rail trips and the corresponding need for vegetation management and fuel load reduction efforts
 - Effects on communities and quality of life
2. The environmental review for the project should consider the following mitigation options:



- Crossing and roadway improvements
- Safety and monitoring requirements
- Noise and vibration mitigation
- Requests for community liaisons and multi-year oversight
- Majority funding from the railroad for railroad crossings where train activity changes
- Improvements to minimize blocked grade crossings, traffic congestion and increased emergency response times
- Emergency response training and commitments, including enhanced rail-specific training and joint exercises for local first responders, training programs for increased train traffic and hazardous materials to ensure emergency personnel are prepared for derailments, fires, and other rail-related incidents
- Additional fuel load reduction efforts in the railroad corridors

We hope that the environmental review process takes into account our above comments and mitigation suggestions, and we would appreciate getting a better understanding and more detailed information on the number of increased trips and potential increased sizes/lengths of freight and passenger trains that would travel through the City of Rocklin, as this may generate additional comments or questions depending upon the information that is provided in response to our above-noted comments and mitigation suggestions..

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 3970 Rocklin Road, Rocklin, CA 95677, by phone at (916) 625-5162, or by email at david.mohlenbrok@rocklin.ca.gov

Sincerely,

David Mohlenbrok
Community Development Director
City of Rocklin