

TOWN OF NORTH SMITHFIELD
OFFICE OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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US Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Docket No. FD 36326
BROOKFIELD ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC. AND DJP XX, LLC –
CONTROL EXEMPTION – GENESEE & WYOMING, INC., ET AL.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing in my capacity as Town Planner and member of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, Inc. (BHC). You're likely to receive a number of form letters talking about the BHC, it's role, and the bikeway throughout RI and MA. For that reason, I'd like to offer a more personalized, professional view on the matter that is succinct.

The bike way is spectacular. It's a recreational resource conveniently accessible to hundreds of thousands of people when you consider the populations of the cities and towns through which it travels.

There's actually an opportunity here for a large company like Brookfield to change a perception of large companies; a perception that's negative, one of a lack of responsiveness. It'd be incredible to see Brookfield not only pay lip service to supporting the bike way, but actually appoint a person whose full time job is to work with cities and towns to actually implement the remainder of the bike way project from Worcester to Providence. This is merely a matter of land transfers and/or easements to allow for the path.

There's a tremendous but inexpensive public relations opportunity here for Brookfield that can serve as an example of something sorely desired by the general populous of southern New England. Let's show everyone how a large company can work with the public to complete this special recreational project.

Respectfully,

TJK

Thomas J. Kravitz
Town Planner

Cc: Parties of Record: Peter Denton, Robert Billington, Pawtucket Mayor Grebien, NRI
Chamber John Gregory in care of Paul Ouellette