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August 3, 2017

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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Docket No. FD 36137
City of Fishers, City of Noblesville, and Hamilton County, Indiana
Petition for Partial Revocation of Exemption

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am a lifelong resident of Noblesville Indiana, but that doesn't matter. I paid over \$20,000 in property taxes last year, but that doesn't matter. I come from a large family that for the past 100 or so years have fed many people through their efforts farming, made them more comfortable through furniture making, helped the county and state grow through philanthropy and volunteerism, but none of this matters.

What matters is the train, it's history and its future. I am no train expert. Admittedly I have only been on this train 6 or 7 times in my life, but I cherish those memories. The train is a link to the past. It gives adults a dose of nostalgia and it provides a children an outlet to use their imagination.

This whole discussion by the Mayors of Fishers and Noblesville has been a mockery of the political system. There is more than enough documentation to show that both offices have tried to manipulate the facts and circumstances to gain a favorable position. Whether it be having listening sessions where they didn't even set up seating in Fishers and had small controlled break out groups, or deputy mayors trying to stack the deck by concealing facts, manipulating costs, asking trail supports to fill seats before train supports arrive and even making up environmental issues to sway public opinion. When these underhanded ways didn't work, they simply had an unannounced meeting and voted to pull up the tracks.

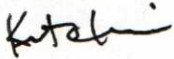
If there wasn't profit to be made here, no one would care if the train ran or not. No one would care if they tracks were still in the ground. Again I am no rail banking expert, but I don't think the purpose of the program is to find a way to line the Mayors pockets with developers kickbacks. If the tracks are pulled it not only effects Fishers and Noblesville, but Indianapolis to the south. The fair train could be running today if not for the unhandd Mayors. Consider the economic hit that the Indiana State Fair is taking by missing out on the Hamilton County Residents that aren't riding the fair train as they did in the past this effects 4H in every county of the state. Less visitors less money. Simple. Mayor Ditslear and Mayor Fadness have no ability to see rippling consequences of their obvious greed. Think of the cost burden now handed to Marion County if the tracks suddenly end at 96th Street. Where is the funding

to maintain those tracks and why would they? Indianapolis has thousands of kids that go to bed hungry. They don't need another cost levied upon them by Fishers and Noblesville greed. Noblesville has no money to build a trail. It is in genuine in my opinion to apply for the rail banking funding and not have the funds or desire to actually build this trail. The Noblesville Mayor has promised a Midland Trace Trail and a Levy Trail for as long as I can remember and they are still only another broken promise.

The people of Noblesville see through this charade. We know it's not about a trail. The people of Noblesville want the rail to stay and to run again. I don't know the statistics, but I would be shocked if even one rail has ever been or ever will be reinstated once the rails have been banked.

I ask for you Ms. Brown to fully comprehend the unethical practices of the politicians, the wishes of the citizens, the economic hardships on the taxpayer to build an unwanted and unneeded trail and the serious financial problems banking the rails would cause to Marion County. There is absolutely no reason to do this request other than greed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kurt Haines', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kurt Haines

I certify that these comments have been provided to the Applicant's Attorney of Record via email. /S/ Logan J. Day on behalf of Kurt Haines | Save the Nickel Plate, Inc. | info@savethenickelplate.org