

July 16, 2007

Mr. Ray Lang, Director Government Affairs
National Railroad Passenger Association
525 West Van Buren Street, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60607

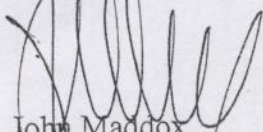
Dear Mr. Lang:

I am writing to follow up on our telephone conversation this morning during which we discussed the possibility of Amtrak conducting a feasibility study to extend the Heartland Flyer north from Oklahoma City, OK to Newton, KS. As we discussed, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is interested in a study that looks at daylight service from Kansas City, MO to Fort Worth, TX, as well as service that provides overnight connections in Newton, with a 79-mph maximum operating speed. Service would traverse the BNSF Railway line from Kansas City to Topeka then through Emporia and on to Newton. From Newton the line would go south through Wichita, Winfield and Arkansas City and then on to Oklahoma City and Fort Worth. While service stops have not been identified at this time, the cities of Lawrence, Topeka, Emporia, Newton, Wichita, Winfield and Arkansas City seem to make sense for an initial list of stops.

It is our understanding that Amtrak will provide an estimate to conduct a feasibility study as well as a time frame in which the study can be completed. It will be important to have a detailed listing of services that will be provided by Amtrak as well as all components of the study.

Thanks again for visiting with us this morning. If you have any additional questions please contact me via phone at 785-296-3228 or e-mail at johnm@ksdot.org.

Sincerely,



John Maddox
Rail Affairs Program Manager

c: Mike Franke, National Railroad Passenger Association
Joe Kyle, Oklahoma Department of Transportation

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Chris J. Herrick, P.E., Chief

Dwight D. Eisenhower State Office Building

700 S.W. Harrison Street; Topeka, KS 66603-3745 • (785) 296-3841 • Fax: (785) 296-0963

TTY (Hearing Impaired): (785) 296-3585 • e-mail: publicinfo@ksdot.org • Public Access at North Entrance of Building