



J. RIEGER & CO  
ESTD 1887

December 5, 2022

The Honorable Amit Bose, Administrator  
Federal Rail Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Kansas City Riverfront CRISI Grant Application**

Dear Mr. Bose:

Thank you for the opportunity to express support for the Kansas City Riverfront Consolidated Rail Infrastructure & Safety Improvements grant application. We enthusiastically endorse this project to improve safety and create better connections between the Berkley Riverfront and adjacent neighborhoods by eliminating the at-grade rail crossings on Lydia Avenue.

Kansas City and Port KC have made enormous strides in improving the riverfront and creating a regional amenity along the Missouri River. However, the railroad lines to the south create a barrier between the Riverfront and adjacent neighborhoods – including where our business is located. Today, Lydia Avenue is the only connection between the Riverfront and the neighborhoods to the east and south and requires crossing four railroad lines at-grade.

Continuing development along the Riverfront, particularly the construction of the new KC Current stadium and the pending KC Streetcar Riverfront Extension, will continue to attract more residents, workers, and visitors to the area. Removing the at-grade rail crossings at Lydia Avenue will provide a safer connection between the Riverfront and the Kansas City community.

Safer connections along Lydia Avenue will encourage additional development opportunities in the area, connect neighborhood residents to jobs, and support the significant investments along the Riverfront.

Our employees and guests frequently get stranded by either being prevented from getting to our place of business or are prevented from leaving due to this at-grade crossing. A change in order to lift this low-income neighborhood is necessary. We are excited to see the positive impacts this study will have on our community and look forward for the chance to lend further support in its implementation.

Sincerely,

Andy Rieger

cc: Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II, Fifth District of Missouri

