



To Whom it May Concern,

October 27, 2022

North Dakota once was served by a passenger rail system that served as the transportation branch for residents utilizing the rail for personal and business reasons. Our state has long been rural but has grown in industry and population as recorded by the 2020 Census count. This has presented opportunities for our state that include new transportation alternatives. The visitor industry is one of the great opportunities, especially focusing on the future Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library that will be opening in 2026 in the North Dakota badlands, just half an hour west of Dickinson, ND.

By collaborating with the states in the Greater Norwest Working Group that include Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota, and portions of Minnesota and Wisconsin, North Dakota strengthens its opportunity to gain the passenger rail service that will grow our tourism industry in the state.

Please support our request to the Corridor ID program to become the primary means for directing Federal financial support and technical assistance toward development of new or improved passenger rail services for the Greater Northwest Passenger Rail Working Group. This route designation would explore and evaluate the options for restoring passenger rail service within the northwest states.

Rural America can connect again, can provide service to its residents, and can create economic opportunities for the communities.

Please support the Greater Northwest Passenger Working Group with direct funding with the Corridor ID Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terri Thiel", is written over a large, light blue circular scribble.

Terri Thiel  
Executive Director

**Dickinson Convention & Visitors Bureau**

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