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September 23, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Thank you for your continued responsiveness and open dialogue with me regarding Florida East Coast Industries' proposed *All Aboard Florida (AAF)* passenger rail project. As we have discussed, residents on the Treasure Coast and the Palm Beaches have significant concerns about the project's potential detrimental impacts to public safety, quality-of-life, and the local economy. It is essential that the Department of Transportation appropriately weigh *AAF*'s possible benefits to its private owners with the safety, economy, and livability of the communities through which it would travel.

As the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) evaluates *AAF*'s application for more than a billion dollars in federal loans, the people of Florida must have their voices heard. Concurrent with the release of the FRA's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the administration announced it would conduct a 75 day period to collect public comments regarding this project. The draft EIS has raised more questions than it answers, so while this public comment period is a marked improvement from the 45 day minimum required by law, it is still inadequate to understand and consider the concerns that countless Floridians have about the proposal. To have enough time to listen to, understand, and process the concerns of so many concerned citizens, I urge you to extend the public comment period to 90 days or more as needed.

This issue is of major concern to many across the Palm Beaches and the Treasure Coast, and it is vital that every one of their concerns be heard before the FRA considers granting *All Aboard Florida* a high-risk federal loan. I appreciate your continued engagement on this issue, and I look forward to working with you to find real solutions for the thousands who stand to be impacted by *All Aboard Florida*.

Sincerely,

Patrick E. Murphy  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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