



Wednesday, August 20, 2008

The Honorable Brad Henry  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma  
212 State Capitol Building  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Henry,

The Edmond Convention & Tourism Advisory Board has noted the continuing discussion regarding the expansion of AMTRAK service to Newton, KS thereby accessing the Kansas City market. We are firm in our belief that such a venture would be beneficial to Oklahoma.

Such an expansion would bring leisure travelers from both Kansas and Texas to more locations in Oklahoma thereby expanding the tourism revenues generated in our state by this business. Edmond's location is a key opportunity in Oklahoma's service of rail travelers providing a vibrant visitor experience for incoming riders and access to an educated and affluent community of prospective travelers for the system. Edmond's picturesque downtown area, adjacent to historic Rt. 66, would be the location of an AMTRAK stop in this community.

An AMTRAK stop in Edmond would be of significant benefit in Oklahoma's future growth in public transportation for commuter traffic. This is a community with a growing population and a vibrant economy.

The Edmond Convention & Tourism Advisory Board supports the expansion of passenger rail service from Oklahoma City to Newton, Kansas. We respectfully request that Edmond be considered as a stop and ask that our community be actively included in future discussion on this important transportation issue.

Yours in Tourism,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SS", written over a horizontal line.

Scott Smelser, Chairman  
Edmond Convention & Tourism Advisory Board

cc: Edmond Mayor and City Council  
Edmond Convention & Tourism Advisory Board Members  
Larry Stevens, COE City Manager  
Steve Murdock, COE City Attorney

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