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June 16, 2026

The Honorable David A. Fink  
Administrator  
Federal Railroad Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Fink:

The Federation of Women Contractors (FWC) fully supports the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) application, on behalf of the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program, for funding through the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program.

CRISI funding will advance CREATE's Rock Island Connection (P2) project, a critical component of the 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project. By constructing a flyover bridge that separates freight and passenger rail operations, P2 will improve safety, reliability, capacity, and travel times throughout one of the nation's most congested rail corridors.

The project will reduce delays at Belt Junction, improve freight movement through Chicago's rail network, and enhance passenger rail performance across the Midwest. It will also strengthen the efficiency of Chicago's transportation infrastructure, a vital component of the national supply chain and regional economy.

FWC supports the Rock Island Connection project not only for its transportation and economic benefits but also for the opportunities it can create for local and small businesses throughout the construction supply chain. Investments of this scale help strengthen the workforce, expand contracting opportunities, and promote economic growth across the Chicagoland region.

FWC strongly supports this application and looks forward to the successful implementation of the P2 project through CRISI funding.

Sincerely,

Jaemie L. Neely  
Executive Director  
Federation of Women Contractors

