#### 307957



The Honorable Martin J. Oberman, Chairman Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20423

February 7, 2024

Dear Chairman Oberman,

On behalf of the leadership of the Southern Rail Commission (SRC), we thank you for your partnership in continuing to realize the Gulf Coast service. We look forward to working with you to continue advancing the restoration of passenger rail services.

Having reviewed the joint status report submitted by Amtrak, CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern Railway Company, and the Alabama State Port Authority, the SRC is appreciative of the sustained efforts and interest towards reinstating critical Gulf Coast passenger rail operations. While acknowledging the significance of finalizing the CRISI grant agreement and completing the Mobile Station Track Project, it is noted that the matter of operating costs remains unaddressed within the submission.

As such, the SRC is respectfully requesting further inquiry into outstanding support needs that would be required to ensure successful restoration of Gulf Coast services.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

Knox Ross Chairman, Southern Rail Commission

ENTERED Office of Proceedings February 8, 2024 Part of Public Record

# FD 36496

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CC: All Parties of Record