



City of Lawrence

CITY COMMISSION

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May 9, 2018

The Honorable Jerry Moran
521 Dirkson Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Pat Roberts
109 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lynn Jenkins
1526 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Honorable Senators and Congresswoman Jenkins:

The City of Lawrence is concerned that there may be discussions to eliminate or reduce the Amtrak Southwest Chief route that travels through Lawrence and connects Lawrence by train to multiple other destinations via the Amtrak system. Amtrak is an important transportation option for many who live in our community and who visit Lawrence.

Amtrak passenger movements through Lawrence have dramatically risen over the past decade. The historic Santa Fe Station, which serves as the Amtrak station in Lawrence, is currently under restoration, including accessibility improvements, with the assistance of federal grant funds, Amtrak funds, and local matching funds. A primary goal of this project is to improve the train passenger experience and accessibility. It would be a shame if there were reductions to this Amtrak route just at the time when the station restoration is being completed.

Again, we view this train route as an important transportation option for Lawrence, and all Kansans, and join with other cities along the route in expressing our concern about any potential reduction or elimination of the Southwest Chief Route.

Sincerely,

Stuart Boley
Mayor

