



February 24, 2014

Ms. Kammy Frayre
Bus Transit Division
Urban & Public Transportation
Office of Passenger Transportation
P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Ms. Frayre,

The Right Place, Inc. is a non-profit West Michigan regional economic development organization whose strategic plan supports infrastructure investment and improvements advancing our business development efforts. The Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority's Service Development and New Technology (SDNT) grant application would determine intercity transportation needs and identify additional effective methods of providing passenger transportation service between our West Michigan region and that of Southeast Michigan. Therefore, we are supportive of this grant application.

The study would provide for a base feasibility study involving the re-establishment of an intercity passenger transportation corridor that has been fragmented since the end of the intercity passenger rail service decades ago. Presently, our regions are only linked by highways, a segmented intercity bus network, and a freight rail corridor that also must be preserved and enhanced.

I urge you to give favorable consideration to the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority's request and if you have any questions relative to this project, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rick Chapla
Vice President, Business Development
The Right Place, Inc.