



## **Cuyahoga County Democrats**

September 21, 2023

Joseph Hinrichs, CEO CSX Transportation, Inc. 500 Water Street, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor Jacksonville, FL 32202

Alan Shaw, President & CEO Norfolk Southern Corporation 650 West Peachtree Street NE Atlanta, GA 30308

RE: Request for Improved Maintenance and Response to Violations of Railroad Bridges in Cleveland

Dear CSX Transportation, Inc. & Norfolk Southern Corporation:

On behalf of myself and the Democratic Cuyahoga County Delegation, we write to express our serious concerns regarding the maintenance and recent violations of railroad bridges owned by CSX Transportation, Inc., and Norfolk Southern Corporation in Cleveland.

The City of Cleveland has issued 99 first-degree misdemeanor violations for the deteriorating condition of these railroad bridges, which have raised significant safety concerns for our constituents. Violations include issues such as falling concrete, overgrown vegetation, graffiti, and more. The Norfolk Southern owned railroad bridge spanning Broadway Avenue near Harvard is of particular concern, as it poses hazards to both pedestrians and motorists.

We are aware of your commitment to safety and investments in bridge projects. However, the present condition of these bridges, as indicated by the violations, calls for CEO Joseph Hinrichs CEO Alan Shaw Page 2 September 21, 2023

immediate action. Therefore, we request that you:

- 1. Conduct thorough inspections of all your railroad bridges in Cleveland to ensure Compliance with federal standards and safety regulations.
- 2. Coordinate with the Federal Government and Initiate prompt repairs and improvements to address violations issued by the city.
- 3. Maintain transparent communication with city officials and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) regarding your progress in resolving these issues.
- 4. Collaborate with the city to establish a long-term maintenance plan for these railroad bridges.

We believe that your swift response to these concerns will enhance the safety and well-being of our community and demonstrate your commitment to being responsible corporate citizens. We look forward to your timely response outlining your action plan to address these violations and improve bridge maintenance in Cleveland.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring the safety and prosperity of our city and its residents.

Sincerely,

Sean Patrick Brennan

Michael J. Skindell

Sean P. Brennan

State Representative Ohio House District 14

Richard Dell'Aquila

**Bride Rose Sweeney** 

Ohio House District 16

State Representative

Bride Rose Sweeney

State Representative Ohio House District 15

Michael J. Skindell State Representative Ohio House District 13 CEO Joseph Hinrichs CEO Alan Shaw Page 3 September 21, 2023

**Kent Smith** 

State Senator Ohio Senate District 21

DORNEIT FOREWOR

**Darnell Brewer** 

State Representative Ohio House District 18

Phillip M. Polinson, J.

**Phil Robinson** 

State Representative Ohio House District 19 0.4

**Terrence Upchurch** 

State Representative Ohio House District 20

**Elliot Forhan** 

State Representative Ohio House District 21

**Senator Antonio** 

**State Senator** 

Ohio Senate District 23