



Cuyahoga County Delegation

October 1, 2025

Deputy Administrator Drew Feeley Federal Railroad Administration 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

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

Dear Deputy Administrator Feeley:

On behalf of myself and the 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, highlighted by FRA's recent commitment to increase their bridge inspection team from 6 to over 160. However, the present condition of these bridges, as indicated by the violations, calls for immediate action.

Therefore, we request that you:

1. Prioritize inspections of all your railroad bridges in Cleveland to ensure compliance with federal standards and safety regulations.

- 2. Coordinate actions between the Federal Government and the city and initiate prompt repairs and improvements to address violations issued by the city.
- 3. Maintain transparent communication between 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

Sean P. Brennan

State Representative Ohio House District 14

Chris Glassburn

Chris Glashm

State Representative Ohio House District 15

Pluly Dr. Poliner, Jr.

Phil Robinson

State Representative

Ohio House District 19

Eric Synenberg

State Representative

Esie Syranery

Ohio House District 21

Darnell Brewer

State Representative

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Ohio House District 22

Tristan Rader

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State Representative

Ohio House District 13

Bride Rose Sweeney

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State Representative

Ohio House District 16

Terrence Upchurch

State Representative

Ohio House District 20

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Senate Minority Leader Ohio Senate District 23

Kent Smith

State Senator

Ohio Senate District 21

Thomas J. Petter

Thomas PattonState Senator
Ohio Senate District 24

