December 9, 2022

Peter Schwartz
Chief Project Engineering and Transportation Planning Division
Federal Railroad Administration

RE:
Federal Railroad Administration Docket No. FRA-2022-0031
Corridor Identification and Development Program
Green Bay – Milwaukee – Chicago

We, the undersigned municipal leaders, write to jointly express our interest in incorporating Green Bay and the greater Fox Valley region in the FRA’s Corridor Identification and Development Program. This extension would build on Amtrak’s highly successful Hiawatha Line from Chicago to Milwaukee.

The Fox Valley is the third largest metropolitan area in Wisconsin. Currently these communities are serviced by Amtrak Thruway I-41 Bus Service. This new passenger rail corridor would provide residents of Green Bay and the greater Fox Valley region with increased mobility options to the state’s largest city, as well as service to Chicago.

A Green Bay — Milwaukee — Chicago Amtrak service would create new connections between major metropolitan cities, medium-sized cities, and colleges and universities. Students, their families, faculty, and staff will be able to take advantage of frequent Amtrak service to avoid traffic between destinations and to enjoy greater productivity or relaxation while they travel.

All seven cities along this corridor that would be served by the Hiawatha Extension strongly advocate for incorporating the project in the Corridor Identification and Development program. We strongly believe that this corridor satisfies the Selection Criteria outlined in the Federal Register Notice.

Sincerely,

Jacob Woodford
Mayor of Appleton, WI

Joseph Moore
City Manager of Fond du Lac, WI

Eric Genrich
Mayor of Green Bay, WI

Anthony Penterman
Mayor of Kaukauna, WI

Donald Merkes
Mayor of Menasha, WI

Jane Lang
Mayor of Neenah, WI

Lori Palmeri
Mayor of Oshkosh, WI