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CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
MAR 31 2008
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March 27, 2008

Mr. Brant Shallenburger
Mayor
City of Claremore
104 S. Muskogee
Claremore, OK 74017

Dear Mayor Shallenburger:

BNSF Railway sincerely appreciates the progressive effort the City of Claremore has put forth on this proposed project. Please let me assure you that we are in full support of this effort.

At this point, we would like to recommend that the city authorize Tran Systems to take their findings to the draft stage or present a 30-percent design that would allow a more accurate overview of the total scope of the project. There are five crossings in Claremore that the project will close. BNSF is prepared to offer \$200,000 per crossing closure. Any crossing that could be closed at this time could have the funds made available to assist in the 30% design effort.

In addition, we would like to recommend a "value engineering" review between the City of Claremore; the City of Olathe, Kansas, Tran Systems and BNSF. Tran Systems recently completed a similar project for the City of Olathe and we believe the similarities will provide potential cost savings and assist with overall project efficiency. We can help facilitate this effort.

Mayor Shallenburger, as you are aware, BNSF Railway has already made some substantial commitments to this project. Of these, the most major concession is allowing the city to build a single track elevation instead of the standard double track. While on the surface this concession may not appear to be of any consequence, with the development of the single track elevation it will substantially limit our ability to expand in the future without incurring additional costs which BNSF will have to realize.

We too have enjoyed the relationships with the various members of the Claremore community during the discussions of this project. I also look forward to further discussions on this very important project that will benefit Claremore residents and BNSF as we strive to keep pace with the nation's freight transportation demands which are projected to substantially increase in the future.

Sincerely,

Cc: Troy Powell, City Manager