March 18, 2020

Administrator Ronald Batory
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Administrator Batory,

Thank you for your continued communication regarding Texas Central Railroad’s (TCR) proposed high speed rail between Dallas and Houston. Your leadership at the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is greatly valued, and I appreciate your responsiveness throughout this process.

In light of recent news that the FRA has canceled public hearings regarding TCR’s project, I urge you to extend the public comment period and reschedule the in-person hearings for a later date.

I appreciate the FRA’s commitment to abiding by CDC guidelines, and our first priority should always be the health and safety of the public. However, replacing in-person public hearings with virtual meetings while our communities continue to respond to the COVID-19 crisis would severely limit input from those who will be affected by this project the most. As our nation continues to respond to this public health crisis, our local officials—many of whom have significant safety concerns regarding the high speed rail—must be singularly focused on responding to the needs of their citizens, businesses, and families.

Thank you again for your service at the FRA. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either myself or my Legislative Assistant, Preston Howey, at Preston.Howey@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-4901.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brady
U.S. Representative
Eighth District of Texas