

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 442393
Lawrence, KS 66044
eastlawrence@yahoo.com



November 13, 2011

Lawrence City Commission
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

Re: Santa Fe Depot Initiatives

To the Lawrence City Commissioners:

I am writing to you representing the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association, and I am expressing our support for the Santa Fe Depot and the 2 initiatives that are currently under your consideration. We absolutely support that first initiative and encourage the City of Lawrence to pursue the transfer of ownership from Amtrak to the City. We recognize that there are costs involved, but in the long run we believe that the benefits received from owning this building will outweigh those initial costs. It provides the ability to be reimbursed for ADA upgrades in the interior of the building. It also proves the City's commitment to a tangible link to the future as citizens embrace the growing need for efficient and inexpensive passenger transportation to and from regional and continental cities of the US. And it helps this building be an anchor for our East Lawrence Neighborhood, as it has great historic architectural significance and more in our city's oldest neighborhood.

The other initiative that we are supporting is for the City to pursue what it would take to expand this building to serve as a transportation hub serving Amtrak train service, Greyhound Bus service, the "T", and taxi service as well as becoming an additional Trailhead for the Burroughs Creek Trail, and perhaps even to a potential Riverfront Trail system. We recognize that the promotion to a multimodal transportation has impact to the integrity of our neighborhood, and we would lobby to be participants in that process so that we could help offer solutions that will both enhance those transportation needs and our neighborhood interests.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer input to the Commission on the far-reaching impact of the decisions made tonight. We believe that taking ownership of this building and increasing its use for all forms of transportation can be a win / win for the City, Amtrak, train-riders and passengers of many transportation types and the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phil Collison".

Phil Collison
East Lawrence Neighborhood Association

CC: ELNA Board Members

Bobbie Walthall

To: David L. Corliss
Subject: RE: Depot discussion in Citry Hall

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Carey Maynard-Moody" <careymm@sunflower.com>
To: "Carey Maynard-Moody" <careymm@sunflower.com>
Subject: Depot discussion in Citry Hall
Date: Fri, Nov 11, 2011 11:38 am

Dear Depot Supporter,

Our campaign to save the Santa Fe Station is making progress. As a result of our activism, the station now has new signage and a new platform. Amtrak wants to help us further by reimbursing the City for ADA upgrades in the interior – to the bathrooms and entrances. The catch is - the City must agree to assume responsibility for the maintenance of the depot in order to be reimbursed for these costly upgrades. That has given the City pause.

Due to our pressure, the Lawrence City Commission (CC) will [consider the matter](#)
Tuesday night, November 15th in City Hall at 6:35 p.m.

Your presence at the meeting will convey public support of the project. Please attend.

Our goal is for the CC to *direct staff to pursue ownership transfer* of the depot to the City and to accept Amtrak's offer for more upgrades. The CC will consider *secondary use of the depot – as a transfer terminal for the "T"*.

Using the depot as a multimodal transportation hub serving Amtrak, Greyhound, the "T", and as a taxi stand, and trail head for the bike hike Burroughs Creek trail justifies the expense of the City owning the building and will expand funding opportunities for the depot's rehabilitation.

Please express your encouragement the CC to accept Amtrak's offer and to pursue ownership by attending the meeting and/or calling/writing them [here](#). Thanks for your support.

Carey Maynard-Moody, president



www.depotredux.org

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