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Les Fiorenzo
Regional Administrator – Region 1
Federal Railroad Administration
55 Broadway, Room 1076
Cambridge, MA 02142

August 10, 2016

Dear Regional Administrator Fiorenzo:

I write today to follow up on the safety concerns raised by local officials during the Train Safety Forum I organized in Bergenfield on July 25, 2016, and to thank you for making yourself available to the local officials in northern New Jersey.

I wanted to follow up with you regarding the specific issues raised by the local officials in attendance. Specifically, five issues were raised--

1. Concerns regarding idling trains in residential areas and the security of these trains;
2. Obstructed grade crossing sightlines due to overgrown vegetation;
3. Requirements and the processes for establishing quiet zones in residential communities;
4. Reports of grade crossing malfunctions; and
5. The damaged railroad crossing on Broadway Avenue in Norwood.

Following the safety forum, it is my understanding that the Federal Railroad Administration has already started to take action on some of these safety concerns. After officials from Bergenfield voiced concerns regarding grade crossing malfunctions and obstructed grade crossing sightlines due to overgrown vegetation, the FRA conducted a joint S&TC/Grade Crossing Manager inspection of all crossings in Bergenfield on July 28, 2016. I believe timely responses such as these are the best way to establish an open, transparent line of communication between federal regulators and local communities. I look forward to discussing the findings of the FRA's inspection with you and borough officials.

I also understand you have been in contact with officials in Norwood regarding CSX's plan to remedy the damaged railroad crossing on Broadway Avenue. I have been notified that CSX has

completed a cold patch to maintain the integrity of this crossing until a permanent, complete rehabilitation of the crossing is completed this fall. I look forward to working with you as the FRA continues to monitor this situation at the request of Norwood officials.

As the FRA's Regional Administrator for Region 1, you directly supervise the federal regulatory process and oversight of the rail industry in the communities of northern New Jersey. I appreciate you keeping me informed on the FRA's progress relating to these safety concerns. I look forward to your response and to continuing to work with you on these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Garrett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Scott Garrett