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May 26, 2021

Yon Lambert
Director, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services
City of Alexandria
P.O. Box 178 - City Hall
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Mr. Lambert,

Reference is made to your letter dated May 10, 2021 to Mr. Ricky Johnson concerning the railroad bridge over King Street (CFP 105.30) in Alexandria, specifically an incident at that location on February 1st. We appreciate the City's concerns and have investigated to determine the facts of the situation.

The bridge in question is a four bay through plate girder bridge. From east to west the bays are numbered position 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively. Bays 1 through 3 carry a single mainline track and the eastern-most bay 4 provides a maintenance access road. The maintenance access road consists of timber bridge ties with longitudinal timber runner boards for the tire ways.

Immediately upon receiving notice of the incident on February 1st engineering personnel were dispatched from their headquarters in Fredericksburg. Upon their arrival they inspected the situation and removed debris from the roadway and the bridge.

Upon investigation it was determined that a maintenance truck traversing bay 4 had missed the timber runner boards for a portion of the span due to the snow cover. As a result, the tires impacted the ties and broke loose pieces which then fell.

Additional structural steel and timber deck work is planned for bay 3 in the very near future. As part of that work, the deck on bay 4 is to be replaced with a packed deck, which eliminates the gaps between ties through which debris could fall. This work will be accomplished with a nighttime street closure so that no lagging or shield is needed.

This bridge is inspected annually in accordance with FRA regulations and CSX policies.

Regarding the future of the King Street bridge, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) led Transforming Rail in Virginia (TRV) program will impact the King Street Bridge in the near future. TRV's "Alexandria Fourth Track" project will evaluate options to upgrade or replace both King Street and Commonwealth Avenue bridges. There is no better time than now to replace these structures. Any support the City can provide in terms of letters of support or expediting permits should our funding partner DRPT identify funds for replacement is greatly appreciated.

Please contact me directly if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Troy Creasy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Troy J. Creasy

CC: Fyiad Constantine PE, DRPT Director of Northern Virginia Rail Projects