

DONALD A. MANZULLO
16TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

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April 22, 2010

The Honorable Pat Quinn
Governor
State of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Quinn,

I am writing to request that you include a train stop for McHenry County as part of the new Amtrak intercity passenger rail service from Chicago to Dubuque, Iowa. I was pleased with your recent announcement of \$60 million in state funding from the capital bill to make the necessary track improvements to establish the Amtrak route through northern Illinois.

As you know, I have been a strong supporter, along with Senator Durbin, of bringing passenger rail service to northern Illinois. With planned train stops in Belvidere, Rockford, Freeport and Galena, as well as Dubuque, Iowa, McHenry County is the only county along this passenger rail corridor that is not designated for a stop.

I have been in contact with officials from two communities in McHenry County who are very interested in becoming a designated stop along the route. Please see the attached letters from the mayors of Huntley and Marengo. Establishing a stop in McHenry County will help increase Amtrak ridership and secure the route's viability while providing tremendous benefits for businesses, tourism, and quality of life in one of the fast-growing collar counties of Chicago. A McHenry County stop could also expedite the eventual extension of Milwaukee District-West Metra commuter rail service from Big Timber to Huntley and Marengo and beyond to Belvidere and Rockford since they will traverse the same tracks.

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Once again, I strongly support adding a stop in McHenry County as part of the Chicago-Dubuque corridor, and I ask that you work with George Weber, Chief of the Bureau of Railroads at IDOT, to identify the best location for this service to be successful. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald A. Manzullo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donald A. Manzullo
Member of Congress
16th District of Illinois

Cc: George Weber
Bureau of Railroads, IDOT

Cc: Ray Lang
Senior Director of National-State Relations
Amtrak (Chicago)

Enclosure