

United States Senate

Washington, DC 20510-1304

June 30, 2025

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
& Urban Development
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
& Urban Development
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Hyde-Smith and Ranking Member Gillibrand:

The purpose of this letter is to request a technical correction to a Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) item in the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies bill, listed below. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the Congressionally Directed Spending items that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I certify that the entity for which I have requested Congressionally Directed Spending is not a for-profit entity.

This technical correction is necessary to clarify the kind of equipment Metra is acquiring to execute a zero-emission pilot program that was funded by my FY23 CDS for Metra, requiring a one-word correction from “locomotive” to “trainsets.”

I requested this technical correction last year, and it was included in the FY25 Senate THUD bill; however, since the bill was not enacted, I am again requesting this technical correction for FY26. Below are the details of this request:

Account funded in: Department of Transportation (DOT), Transit Infrastructure Grants (TIG)

Project name in the FY23 JES: Metra Zero Emission Locomotive Commuter Rail Pilot

Recipient in the FY23 JES: Metra Commuter Railroad

Project Purpose as originally requested in Legi-Mate: To support a new zero emission locomotive pilot on its Rock Island Line that runs from Chicago to Joliet.

Request for technical change: At the time of the request, Metra had a contract with a provider for zero emission locomotives, however, after the bill was enacted the provider stopped producing these locomotives. An alternative provider produces zero emission “trainsets,” which remains in line with the original scope of the project to support a zero-emission pilot along Metra’s Rock Island Line.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dick Durbin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator