



January 4, 2016

Mayor Jim Bouley
City of Concord
41 Green Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mayor Bouley,

The status of the Flying Yankee Streamline Train Restoration Project has been stopped due to lack of funding. To make matters urgent, the Hobo Railroad has given us till April 2016 to move the 200' train off their property. This includes all the stored part crates. This will leave the Flying Yankee without a secured parking location and make it impossible to complete restoration.

The Board of Directors believe we need to create a partnership with a sponsoring city and bring the Flying Yankee home to Concord. We are suggesting calling this partnership, The New Hampshire Transportation Museum, located in Concord, NH. From 1935 to 1955 the Flying Yankee train was maintained at the Boston and Maine South Concord Shops. At that time over 11,000 people were employed here. Today that same building is used by Big Jim's.

At this eleventh hour the Steenbeke family, Big Jim's, has offered the use of their railroad siding to park the Flying Yankee. With this generous offer the Flying Yankee can be safely parked here in Concord. With this particular location we can offer tours and conduct fund raising activities.

Under our current charter the State of New Hampshire owns the FY for \$1. But they have not provided any funding. The State DOT will assist in obtaining grants, procurement of contracts and oversight of FRA regulations. All past funding came from the Robert and Stony Morrill and donations. To date over one million dollars as been invested into the restoration. With the passing of both Robert and Stony the Morrill family choose not to continue with the project. Additionally a ninety thousand dollar debt had to be resolved with the Morrill family. Tis took the past five years to eliminate. During this time little to none restoration work continued.

We believe the timing is now for this partnership to begin. The possibility of a transportation Museum located in Concord can draw upon two other world class venues. The McAuliffe Discovery Center and Abbott Downing Society with the Concord Coaches included. Imagine visitors travelling to Concord, NH to experience the history of how travel evolved in the United States.

As the City develops plans for extending Storrs Street the Museum could be located along this roadway connecting these venues. Ultimately, the unused State buildings on Stickney Ave could be the location of a Museum/Visitor Center/Rail Station.

The Board of Directors and not been able to fulfill the fund raising requirements to finish the Flying Yankee train and looks for a new partnership with substantial commitment to protecting past and future Local and State heritage for all citizens to benefit. We will continue to provide all technical, marketing and fund raising events and act as project manager until we are replaced or achieve our goal for revenue based operation.

The next step is to ask if there is enough interest to explore a partnership between the City and the FYRG and to find funds to move the Flying Yankee from Lincoln to Concord.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald W Sweet, member
FYRG Board of Directors