



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK
P.O. Box 87137
COLLEGE PARK, GA 30337

223445



Date: August 21, 2008

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

AUG 25 2008

Part of
Public Record

Anne K. Quinlan
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 687X), CSX Transportation Inc.-
Abandonment Exception in the City of College Park, Georgia

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

The City of College Park has recently become aware of the abandonment procedure step taken by CSX Transportation, Inc. concerning a segment of rail line. In the attached letter we are documenting our interest in establishing a trail use for that property. We are including the required \$150 application fee as part of our letter. We would however request that the \$150 application fee be waived for our agency. If we are successful through the abandonment procedure and obtain this property, we will be creating a critical link between the City of College Park's numerous convention and hotel facilities.

Sincerely,

Jim Smith
Interim City Manager

Cc: CSX Transportation, Inc
The Trust for Public Land

FILING FEE WAIVED



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Secretary
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QUINLAN RE WAIVED

**Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 687X), CSX Transportation Inc.- Abandonment
Exception in the City of College Park, Georgia**

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

This comment should be treated as a protest or a petition for reconsideration in the above-captioned proceeding. This comment is filed on behalf of the City of College Park, Georgia, which is a local government agency interested in transportation, natural resources, and conservation and recreation, which is hereinafter referred to as "Commenter."

While not taking a position on the merits of this abandonment, Commenter requests issuance of a Public Use Condition as well as a Certificate or Notice of Interim Trail Use rather than an outright abandonment authorization for the 1.67 mile line of railroad, Atlanta Terminal Subdivision between Valuation Station 0+00 and the end of the line, Valuation Station 88+00, in Fulton and Clayton Counties, Ga.

A. Public Use Condition

Commenter requests the STB to find that this property is suitable for other public use, specifically trail use, and to place the following conditions on the abandonment:

1. An order prohibiting the carrier from disposing of the corridor, other than the tracks, ties and signal equipment, except for public use on reasonable terms. The justification for this condition is that this section of corridor would make an excellent trail corridor for the City of College park which connects the City's multitude of hotels, convention facilities and the Georgia International Convention Center (GICC), all of which are adjacent to the Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson airport, now the highest volume airport in the world. This section of rail would make an excellent recreational trail and conversion of the property to trail use is in accordance with local plans and the recent Livable Center Initiative Study. The time period sought is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization. Commenter needs this much time because we have not had an opportunity to assemble or to review title information, environmental information or commence negotiations with the carrier.

2. An order barring removal or destruction of potential trail-related structures such as bridges, trestles, culverts and tunnels. The justification for this condition is that these structures have considerable value for recreational trail purposes. The time period requested is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization for the same reason as indicated above.

B. Interim Trail Use

The railroad right-of-way in this proceeding is suitable for railbanking. In addition to the public use conditions sought above, Commenter also makes the following request:

STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In order to establish interim trail use and railbanking under section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d), and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29, City of College Park is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of (unless the user is immune from liability, in which case it need only indemnify the railroad against any potential liability), and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned by CSX Transportation Inc. and operated by CSX Transportation Inc.

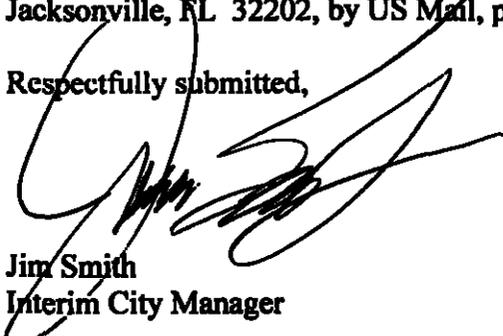
The property, known as College Park Spur extends between Valuation Station 0+00, near GA Route 29 and Horton Drive, and the end of the line Valuation Station 88+00, near interstate I-85 and the junction of I-285 in the Atlanta Terminal Subdivision, Southern Region, Atlanta Division in Fulton and Clayton Counties, Georgia. The right-of-way is part of a line of railroad proposed for abandonment in STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 687X).

A map depicting the right-of-way is attached.

The City of College Park acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service.

By my signature below, I certify service upon CSX, Jonathan C. Gold, 500 Water Street, J150 Jacksonville, FL 32202, by US Mail, postage pre-paid, first class, this 22nd day of August, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

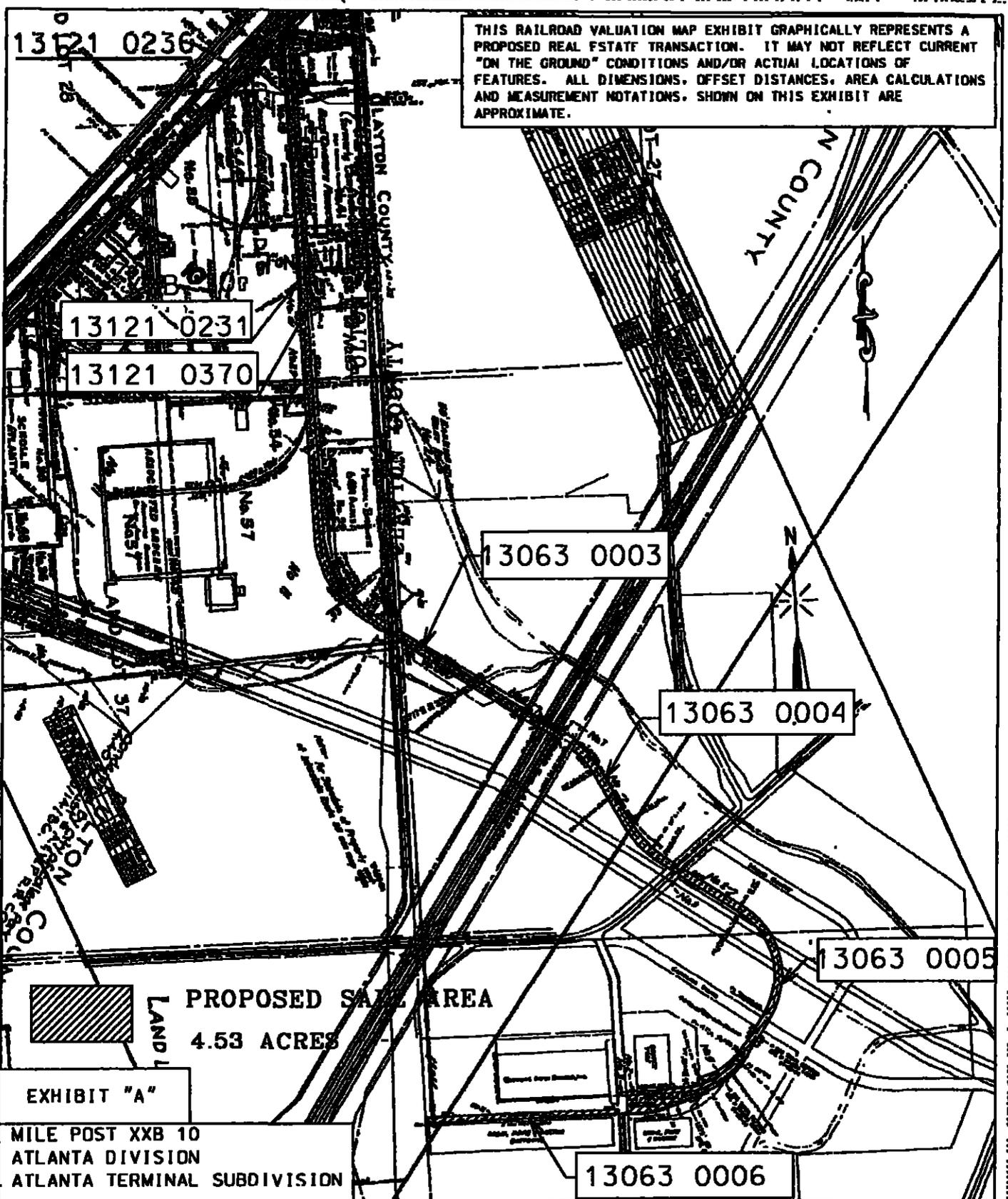


Jim Smith
Interim City Manager

Cc: CSX Transportation, Inc.
The Trust for Public Land

Attachments

THIS RAILROAD VALUATION MAP EXHIBIT GRAPHICALLY REPRESENTS A PROPOSED REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION. IT MAY NOT REFLECT CURRENT "ON THE GROUND" CONDITIONS AND/OR ACTUAL LOCATIONS OF FEATURES. ALL DIMENSIONS, OFFSET DISTANCES, AREA CALCULATIONS AND MEASUREMENT NOTATIONS, SHOWN ON THIS EXHIBIT ARE APPROXIMATE.



 **PROPOSED SALE AREA**
4.53 ACRES

EXHIBIT "A"

MILE POST XXB 10
ATLANTA DIVISION
ATLANTA TERMINAL SUBDIVISION

S:\PIN\GAI3\GAI2\FULTON\121-0231\GA-121-1012511\GA-121-1012511.DGN

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.
GA-121-1012511
PROPOSED SALE
FULTON COUNTY, GA

DRAWING No:	1012511
GIS NUMBERS:	07094 07097
VAL. SECT.:	V423
MAP:	2, S2D
FIPS:	13121
PIN NUMBERS:	13063-0003-0006 13121-0231 13121-0370
CITY:	COLLEGE PARK
STATE:	GA
DATE:	07-30-07
SCALE:	1"=700'
DRAWN BY:	CD
REVISED:	