



CHAKA FATTAH  
2ND DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

February 23, 2004

Mr. Michael Ward  
President, CSX Corporation  
500 Water Street, C900  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

**Re: Schuylkill River Park Access**

Dear Mr. Ward:

I am writing you to request your cooperation and assistance in working with the City of Philadelphia and my constituents so that they may continue to have free access to the improved Schuylkill River Park. I believe that a safe and amicable solution can be found if all involved work together in good faith. Certainly, we all know that there has been free access to the River for many years and there are numerous other places in the nation with similar experiences.

I want you to know that I will continue to strongly support the Schuylkill River Park as a community and regional asset for Philadelphia and my constituents. And while I recognize the value that CSX has to our economy, it is clear that there is tremendous value to other assets, such as rivers, parks and neighborhoods. With a \$14 million ongoing public investment in the River Park, it would be foolish for us to allow this investment to be diminished by fencing out those whom the Park seeks to serve.

I understand that you have been contacted by numerous people, as have I, regarding the need for continued access at both Race and Locust Streets. I am convinced that their point is well taken – the path will be less safe if we allow the closure of these at-grade crossings. The advocates for the crossings have found many examples of grade crossing technology that are both safe and cost-effective and could be utilized in this situation.

I am sure that maintaining good relationships on the Federal, State and local levels is important to CSX and your business. Therefore, I urge you to act as a good corporate citizen and work out an acceptable arrangement. I am more than willing to help move this process forward if necessary and I look forward to your cooperation in order to implement safe grade crossings at these locations.

Yours truly,

Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress

CF:bb

Cc: ✓ Honorable Edward G. Rendell, Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Honorable John F. Street, Mayor, City of Philadelphia