

ARLEN SPECTER
PENNSYLVANIACOMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
APPROPRIATIONS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3802
specter.senate.gov

March 1, 2004

Mr. Michael J. Ward
Chairman, President and CEO
CSX Corporation
500 Water Street, C900
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Dear Mr. Ward:

I am writing you regarding the issue of safe public access to the Schuylkill River Park in Philadelphia. I have been a long-standing supporter of the Schuylkill River Park as a community and regional asset for the Philadelphia area.

I am concerned about the situation regarding public access across your company's freight tracks at Race and Locust Streets. From my review of the facts, I am confident that a safe solution can be found that meets the needs of both CSX and park users. I am requesting your cooperation and assistance in working with the City of Philadelphia and my constituents so that they may have safe, street level access to the improved Schuylkill River Park.

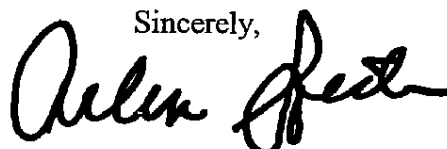
CSX is valuable to the City's local and regional economy and I fully understand your company's interest in not compromising its safety standards. I also recognize that this Park and its future greenways, as well as economic development along the riverfront are critical to growth of the region and enhancing the quality of life of my constituents. With a large public investment and many years of planning for the Park, I do not wish to allow this investment to be diminished by sealing the fence at these pre-existing grade crossings. Beyond inconveniencing hundreds of people who have used the crossings for years, such action will create a safety hazard for Park users and impede emergency vehicles from access to the River.

Accordingly, I strongly urge you to work out an acceptable arrangement for safe grade crossings with the City of Philadelphia and the Free the Schuylkill River Park Coalition. Please advise me of your plans to resolve this issue and how my office can assist in implementing safe grade crossings at these two locations.

Thank you for your personal attention to this matter.

My best.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter

AS/mtc