

# Lawrence Preservation Alliance

P.O. BOX 1073 • LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044

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PRESIDENT

March 20, 2009

BRENNA BUCHANAN

Deborah Miller  
Kansas Department of Transportation

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Deborah:

ERNIE ECK  
CO-TREASURER

I am writing to express our board's strongest support for the expenditure of federal stimulus funds to refurbish the 1950's era Santa Fe depot building here in Lawrence. A dedicated civic group, with LPA support, and the City of Lawrence, are working together to achieve an ownership agreement with the BNSF railroad, and complete a relatively small renovation ~~the~~ the roof and to make the building ADA compliant.

MIKE GOANS

PAT KEHDE  
SECRETARY

WESTON NORWOOD

NICOLE SABATINI  
VICE-PRESIDENT

About twenty years ago I was centrally involved in the effort to save the Lawrence Union Pacific Depot. Unlike the current Santa Fe situation, this building was abandoned and in need of a great deal of repair. A strong community effort saved it, but a federal ISTEA grant really put the financing component over the top. Today the U.P. Depot, used as meeting space and a visitors' center, is one of Lawrence's most successful community buildings.

MICHAEL SHAW

DALE SLUSSER  
CO-TREASURER

MARY LYNN STUART

REV. VERDELL TAYLOR JR.

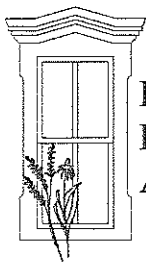
CAROL VON TERSCH

Just as the U.P. Depot anchors the North Lawrence neighborhood, a thriving Santa Fe depot would anchor the East Lawrence neighborhood. But, unlike the U.P. situation, the Santa Fe offers the added bonus of being on an existing passenger line. Although we have much to be proud of with our national highway system, we are fast entering a time when passenger rail traffic will once again become a viable travelling and commuting option. Money invested in existing active stations will deliver the 'bang for the buck' we are looking for as we consider ways to spend stimulus transportation funds.

MIKE WILDGEN

DENNIS DOMER  
EMERITUS

MARCI FRANCISCO  
EMERITUS



Lawrence  
Preservation  
Alliance

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis J. Brown".

Dennis J Brown  
president