

SAMPLE LETTER #2

Dear Editor,

I recently read that the Indiana Department of Transportation will conduct studies this summer on whether to support improvements to Amtrak's "Hoosier State" service between Chicago-Indianapolis. Please count me as one who supports this train service and would like INDOT to speed up the trains with a faster route into the heart of Chicago.

I do not live between Indianapolis-Chicago. But with the high cost of driving, I would like to use the train to travel to Indianapolis and Chicago because _____. Unfortunately, I cannot because the only train we have here runs in the middle of the night and serves us just three times per week. I am looking for comfortable travel options.

Daytime train service extended only 100 miles southeast of Indianapolis on the existing Amtrak line to Cincinnati should do wonders for ridership. At stations in Oxford, Hamilton and Cincinnati, the train could serve Miami University in Oxford and the 3 million people living in the Dayton-Cincinnati region.

If the trains were sped up to 79 mph over the route with improved track, signals and road crossing safety devices, the trains may be able travel all the way from Chicago to Cincinnati with their existing crews and thus improve the trains' cost-effectiveness. I hope that INDOT will consider my comments and expand the train service to Cincinnati to make Indiana more accessible to visitors like me.

Sincerely,