

December 22, 2025

Board Members, Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District
33 East U.S. Highway 12
Chesterton, Indiana 46304

Dear Board Members of the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District,

We write to support the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) petition for a second entrance at the Indiana Dunes State Park. We thank you in advance for consideration of this request, which would allow the DNR to provide a greater level of safety and security to park goers, emergency services, and residents alike.

In 2024, the combined efforts of the State Park alongside the Indiana Dunes National Park reported \$236 million in direct spending and \$135 million in total economic impact to the surrounding region. As you may know, in Fiscal Year 2024 the Indiana Dunes State Park welcomed a record 1,992,602 visitors. A record number of visitors brings with it new challenges for access to the park not only for guests, but also for emergency services.

At this time, the preexisting park entrance has exceeded its functional capacity, and as such leads to significant backlogs when attempting to enter the park. Therefore, there is an evident need for a secondary entrance to the State Park. This proposed entrance will cross a railroad track along U.S. Route 12 (Tremont Street), which will serve to provide ease of access to visitors and emergency responders alike.

In closing, we ask that you give your full and fair consideration for the petitioned second entrance to the Indiana Dunes State Park, within applicable laws and regulations. Thank you for your consideration.



Mike Bohacek
Indiana State Senator
District 8



Ed Charbonneau
Indiana State Senator
District 5

NICTD Board Members

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Blake Doriot

Indiana State Senator

District 12



David Niezgodska

Indiana State Senator

District 10



Rodney Pol

Indiana State Senator

District 4



Lonnie Randolph

Indiana State Senator

District 2



Linda Rogers

Indiana State Senator

District 11



Mike Andrade

Indiana State Representative

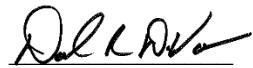
District 12



Pat Boy

Former Indiana State Representative

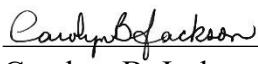
District 9



Dale Devon

Indiana State Representative

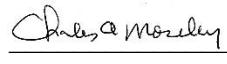
District 5



Carolyn. B. Jackson

Indiana State Representative

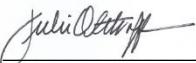
District 1



Chuck Moseley

Indiana State Representative

District 10



Julie Olthoff

Indiana State Representative

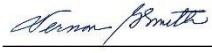
District 19



Jim Pressel

Indiana State Representative

District 20



Vernon Smith

Indiana State Representative

District 14



Edmond Soliday

Indiana State Representative

District 4

NICTD Board Members

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Jake Teshka

Indiana State Representative

District 7

CC: Matthew Ubelhor, Secretary, Transportation and Infrastructure

Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner, Indiana Department of Transportation