

April 18, 2025

Vice Chair Debbie Lesko
Maricopa County Board of Supervisors
District 4
301 W. Jefferson St., 10th Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Subject: Proposed BNSF Railway Intermodal Facility

Dear Supervisor Lesko,

First, we, the citizens of Sun City West, and Property Owners and Residents Association (PORA) would like to thank you for your letter to the Surface Transportation Board, dated March 30, 2026, asking for clarification of regulations regarding federal preemption. This is an important claim, and understanding laws regarding federal permitting, approval, and environmental review requirements directly from the regulatory agency is very important.

The citizens of Sun City West, and surrounding communities, through PORA, continue to be very concerned about quality of life. The inadequate highway infrastructure with additional projected traffic (303/Grand) is extremely concerning to us, as well as air quality, water, noise/light pollution and overall environmental impacts.

PORA continues to stand by its opposition of this project, at this location, as stated in the July 30, 2025 PORA Resolution. A copy of that Resolution is attached.

Thank you, again, for all that you do for District 4, and NW Maricopa County.

PORA Board of Directors

Jim Scott, President

BNSF Intermodal Project – US60

WHEREAS, Sun City West ((SCW) Property Owners and Residents Association (PORA), Is a quasi-governmental organization that represents the citizens of the unincorporated area known as SCW.

WHEREAS, The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors has a matter on its August 20, 2025 agenda related to a zoning change in an area near the Sun City West residential community who will be directly and negatively impacted by the location of a proposed very large BNSF railroad facility.

WHEREAS, PORA has been contacted by numerous SCW residents, in a very short period of time, who are unanimously opposed to the location of the proposed railroad facility.

WHEREAS, PORA Is aware of certain negative effects the proposed railroad project will have on its residents, namely: Environmental Impacts on Air Quality/Noise/Light Pollution; Transportation Impacts with Traffic Congestion and Noise; Quality of Life for nearby residents.

NOW THEREFORE, PORA, via unanimous action by its Board of Directors on June 30, 2025, do formally make known it is representing the position of the SCW residents in the railroad matter by stating it is 100% opposed to the location of any intermodal project along US 60 that would have a negative impact on the SCW residents. PORA further implores the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors to adopt the same position related to railroads near residential areas in future applications for zoning change.

ADOPTED, This 30th day of June 2025 by the PORA Board of Directors.

Ralph Johnson-President