

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

June 11, 2026

The Honorable David Fink
Administrator
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Fink,

I am pleased to write in support of Ontario Midland Railroad's (OMID) application for funding under the Federal Railroad Administration's Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program. Such funding will enable OMID to advance its East-West Line Upgrade Project to replace aging, vital infrastructure along a critical freight rail corridor in Upstate New York.

OMID provides important freight rail service to agricultural, manufacturing, transload, and other commercial customers across the region. The CRISI Program seeks to fund projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of freight rail. OMID's application aligns seamlessly with these goals. The East-West Line Upgrade Project will replace deteriorating rail and crossties to align with modern rail standards and maintain safety throughout OMID's east-west corridor.

The current aging infrastructure creates an operational bottleneck, hindering efficiency and long-term success of the businesses and industries that rely on this corridor. Upgrading the East-West line will be the key to unlocking new job growth and sales opportunities for many of the region's top employers, including the Coca Cola Fairlife milk factory and Xerox's campus in the town of Webster in Monroe County, as well as many of Wayne County's top employers, including Keurig Dr. Pepper/Motts production facility, Sodus Cold Storage facility, and Fleishmann's Vinegar factory. This upgrade would, in turn, benefit the economy of the overall area served by Ontario Midland Railroad and is key to the success of many of the region's top employers including Thatcher Chemical, Baldwin Richardson Foods, CRC Polymer Systems, Maco Packaging, K.M. Davies Co., and Nutrien Ag, which is a major supplier of fertilizer to local Wayne County farms, and more. This project would provide a critical boost in our efforts to grow new jobs and ensure on-time delivery of raw materials and on-time shipment of these companies' products to market. Upgrades will enhance rail safety and streamline network performance, crucial to maintaining supply-chain continuity in a demanding modern economy.

With funding, OMID will modernize deteriorating rail infrastructure while advancing several crucial long-term goals for OMID and our state: reducing truck traffic through increased use of high-capacity freight rail; lowering fuel consumption and emissions to advance climate sustainability efforts; and supporting workforce growth and economic development in Upstate communities. A federal investment in this project will deliver meaningful and timely results for community members, families, and industry along OMID's east-west corridor and across New York State.

I applaud OMID for their foresight and hope their application for funding meets with your approval. For additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Grants Director, Kaia Moore, in my Washington D.C. office at grants@schumer.senate.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator