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September 30, 2024

Senator Wayne Langerholc, Jr.
281 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Senator Langerholc,

Weavers Way Co-op is a community-owned grocer located in Northwest Philadelphia. In May of this year, we cut the ribbon on our fourth store, in Philadelphia's historic Germantown neighborhood. We chose our location on the 300 block of West Cheltenham Avenue in part because it is on the same block as SEPTA's Cheltenham Avenue train station. We factored train service into our plan when we developed the store's sales projections, which was necessary in order for us to secure the capital needed for construction. Losing the Chestnut Hill West train line would threaten to undermine our new store's business plan.

Our proximity to the Cheltenham Avenue station is having the intended effect. Every morning, many people walking to the train stop in the store for a cup of coffee, pastry, or perhaps a breakfast sandwich. In the afternoon the train crowd is even more impactful, as people coming home from work or school come into our store to pick up food for dinner. We are not alone: the other small businesses on our block - a hoagie shop, hair salon, tax accountant, and a recently-opened restaurant - all rely on the foot traffic created by our proximity to the Cheltenham Avenue station. The train station is an integral component of our vibrant, densely-populated neighborhood and the retail corridor it supports.

Thank you for the consideration you give this letter. Please feel free to reach out to me at jroesser@weaversway.coop, or 215-843-2350.

Sincerely,

Jon Roesser
General Manager