



LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

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November 27, 2006

Mr. Robert L. Cook
Executive Director
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744

Dear Mr. Cook:

We believe there to be sufficient appropriations within the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department budget to fund the Texas State Railroad through August 31, 2007.

As you are aware, appropriations to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department included a contingent revenue rider, Rider 27. This rider states that the agency is appropriated additional funds in excess of the Comptroller's Biennial Revenue Estimate for each year of the 2006-07 biennium from the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64 and the Game Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9. It is our understanding that this contingent revenue rider resulted in additional revenues totaling \$18,148,706 in fiscal year 2006 and that similar amounts can be expected in fiscal year 2007. A portion of this additional revenue could be used to fund the Texas State Railroad through the end of the 2007 fiscal year.

We look forward to working with you and your staff to address the funding needs of this historic tourist attraction.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of David Dewhurst in black ink.

David Dewhurst
Lieutenant Governor
Co-Chair, Legislative Budget Board

Handwritten signature of Tom Craddick in black ink.

Tom Craddick
Speaker of the House
Co-Chair, Legislative Budget Board

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cc: Governor Rick Perry
Sen. Todd Staples
Rep. Byron Cook