



March 11, 2021

Robert C. Andrews, Jr., P.E., M.Sc.  
President & CEO  
Protection Development, Incorporated  
d/b/a PDI Rail Solutions  
Energy Plaza  
8620 N. New Braunfels Ave., Suite 100  
San Antonio, TX 78217-6361

VIA EMAIL: [rcandrews@pdirail.com](mailto:rcandrews@pdirail.com)

Dear Mr. Andrews,

Thank you for your interest in creating a National Partnership Program as part of America's Semiquincentennial commemoration. The America 250 Foundation (Foundation) believes that your ambitious idea to produce a "Freedom Train" promises to develop into a nationwide expression of the [America 250 vision](#) by literally bringing America 250 to the nation.

Based on our recent communications, this Letter of Encouragement is the first stage in the process that may lead to America 250's official recognition of the "Freedom Train" as a National Partnership Program. At this stage we encourage you to: (1) continue building relationships, (2) identify or form a noncommercial organization to own the program, and (3) secure the resources necessary to transform this idea into a feasible program plan. Like with the B&O Railroad Museum, we are happy to refer potential partners to you and consult informally during this initial stage.

Upon the completion of the above three steps, the America 250 Foundation will enthusiastically negotiate a formal planning partnership

**AMERICA 250  
FOUNDATION**

[america250.org](http://america250.org)

The America 250 Foundation is the supporting nonprofit partner of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, the federal commission charged with planning the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States.

with your noncommercial organization in pursuit of our shared goals. We anticipate that this planning partnership will be governed by a memorandum of understanding identifying ways that the Foundation may support your planning process (including potential engagement with the *Showcase 250* national signature platform), along with specific criteria for recognition as a National Partnership Program. During this stage, depending on the availability of funds, the Foundation may invest in this planning process and may agree to publicize its involvement in the planning partnership.

Once the program is ready for activation the Foundation intends to extend America 250's official recognition as a National Partnership Program. This recognition will come with a range of benefits and requirements to be mutually agreed upon at that time.

We are excited about your program idea and look forward to working with you as together we inspire the American spirit.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Laymon".

Anna Laymon  
Vice President of Programs and Planning  
America 250 Foundation