Note to Commission West Depot of the Milwaukee Road 640 W. Washington Avenue

The owners are undertaking a major renovation of the depot. Almost all of the work will match the existing appearance. There are two changes proposed.

One is to install skylights into the canopy so it isn't so dark under there. The size, materials and appearance of the skylights will match two existing skylights in the rear section of the old passenger depot, trimmed in a color to blend with the roof and of the flat type. I will have photos of the existing skylights at the meeting.

The other is to move the train back to provide more open space where the locomotive is now. I do not object to moving the train, since it is not a permanent part of the depot building, but I would like to suggest that the train tracks remain. They are a vital part of the visual history of the depot. I do not know why they intend to remove the tracks; we should talk about this with them at the meeting. Also, I do not know why they propose installing a chain link fence at that location. We should talk about that at the meeting, too.

Please disregard notations on the plans about bollards and lighting. They are no longer planning to do those two projects.

On the condition that we address and resolve the two issues, I recommend approval.

K. H. Rankin N N RW July 2, 2008

