



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

City of
North Charleston
SOUTH CAROLINA

R. KEITH SUMMEY
MAYOR

May 12, 2009

Mr. Gregg Robinson
Executive Director
Orangeburg County Development Commission
125 Regional Parkway
Orangeburg, SC 29118

Re: \$278 Million Request

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I have learned over the course of my twenty plus years of public life that it is important to communicate with folks in order to accomplish important tasks. When I received the call from a Charleston Regional Business Journal reporter last week and then read her article Monday on their website, I began to doubt the possibility of Orangeburg County's willingness to openly communicate with a fellow governmental entity.

I most certainly understand that the Jafza project is important to Orangeburg County and the State, but I cannot understand how funding can be requested for railways that are over 60 miles away. Our community should not be the whipping boy of Orangeburg County's pursuit of prosperity. The rail issue has become a very hot topic in our community and it will take a considerable amount of effort to ease tensions so we can direct energy to a solution for the problem before us.

I am requesting a copy of the proposal from you so we may study your plans for my community. We have already sent a letter to Representative Clyburn expressing our displeasure with the process.

I look forward to receiving the proposal for analysis.

Sincerely,

R. Keith Summey
Mayor

RKS/crj