

October 4, 2012

Dear Members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen,

I am writing you today to personally thank you for your recent endorsement of my candidacy for re-election as President of the United States. It is an honor and a privilege to accept the endorsement of an organization that represents the hardworking men and women who help build our nation's middle class and keep our nation's railroads running safe and sound.

Because of you, our businesses can transport their products into new markets. Our country's workers can get to their jobs, students can travel to college, and families can visit relatives in cities and states across the country. Railroads represent the veins of commerce and tourism in our nation, and BLET/Teamsters members, and workers across the union family, represent the backbone of our country. The service you provide the American people is invaluable, which is why I will continue laying the foundation for economy built to last, where your hard work pays off, your responsibility is rewarded and everyone plays by the same rules.

And it's that fundamental middle-class bargain that's at stake in this election. Yes, we're better off four years after our economy nearly crashed. But we're still not where we need to be. So the question in this election is how to keep moving forward. I'll do so with a four-point plan built on American manufacturing, American energy, education and skills for our workers, and bringing down our deficit in a balanced way. And even though right now others would end investments for Amtrak, I will never turn my back on your hard work and sacrifice. I will continue to stand up and defend these investments in our nation's infrastructure through our railways and rail workers.

Now is not the time to double down on the same trickle-down policies that benefit the few, but that got us into all this trouble in the first place. It's time for a new economic patriotism rooted in the belief that growing our economy begins with a strong, thriving middle class. And it begins with standing by our rail workers like you.

Once again, I thank you for your continued support, and I will continue fighting for the basic American values of hard work and fair play, and standing up for you and all Americans.

Sincerely,

