

**Sample Letter:**  
***(Use their FULL TITLE in your letter's salutation)***

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I wanted to express my concerns about a proposed high speed railway that would result in permanent road closures that threaten to physically divide my small town. This high speed railway will not benefit Harrisburg, NC. It most certainly will have negative consequences to local businesses that would suffer from the road closures and rerouted traffic. It would also require a dozen homeowners to be forced from beautiful and historic homes that have graced our town for decades. Elderly Veterans will have to be re-located. Harrisburg has taken great pride in its past and has spent over \$100,000 preserving its history with the restoration of the Old Post Office and an historic Log Cabin.

The traffic study completed for this project was severely flawed. It was conducted during the summer when there was no school traffic, the bridge on Hickory Ridge was under construction and traffic was already detoured and included the intersection at Hickory Ridge & Highway 49, *which have never intersected!* At best, traffic congestion will double as traffic volume is channeled from four routes to two. All traffic will flow onto two 2-lane roads and a proposed 2-lane bridge. This congestion will affect all facets of our lives from rush hours and school buses picking up and delivering children to school, to emergency and necessary public services, to religious services and recreation.

This proposed railway will have significant and negative effects on the quality of life in Harrisburg, NC but it will also result in threats to our safety. According to Harrisburg Fire Chief Bryan Dunn, Emergency Response time will double to the businesses and communities along Shamrock Drive and Pharr Mill Road. Increased traffic at intersections will result in more automobile accidents. Chief Deputy Paul Hunt reiterated that response time for officers and assistance calls would increase.

I ask for your immediate attention to this matter as the project is advancing while our neighborhood is running out of time.

Sincerely,