



## **Miller South Shore Station/ Gary South Shore Station**

**BACKGROUND:** The Mayor of Gary is promoting the closing of the Miller South Shore Station, which is one of the few stations that actually exist near a developed urban district. It currently provides mixed use, and is a viable economic development engine that provides easy access for the public lakefront. The Mayor's plan also calls for the redevelopment of the downtown Gary station adding a new parking garage with a daily \$3 parking charge to commuters. There have been public meetings and there is much public opposition to the closing of the Miller station. According to the Post-Tribune, a little more than 500 people take the train from Miller each day. Just more than 600 take the train from the Gary station. There is a great deal of deferred maintenance at the Gary station that needs to be addressed, as well as upgrades that are needed.

### **POSITION STATEMENT:**

**The Greater Northwest Indiana Association of REALTORS® supports the expansion of the South Shore to Lowell and Valparaiso. An expanded commuter rail acts as a magnet for new jobs and new diversified economic opportunities to attract workers by commuter rail. The expanded commuter rail will provide better access to the region, reduce congestion and pollution, and improves the quality of life for all citizens.**

**The Greater Northwest Indiana Association of REALTORS® supports keeping the Miller South Shore Station open and operating to accommodate the hundreds of commuter that currently utilize the station and it's free parking accommodations. This station provides excellent access for the use of the Lake Michigan lakefront from other areas of Northwest Indiana. The closing of the Miller Station runs contrary to the purpose of the anticipated benefits created by the commuter rail expansion.**

**The Greater Northwest Indiana Association of REALTORS® supports the renovation of the Gary station, which is in great need of upgraded enhancements to provide excellent service to the hundreds of commuters that currently utilize this station. Road congestion is a severe and growing threat to Northern Indiana's economic prosperity and environment. Road congestion, pollution and raising gasoline costs residents of the region resources in time and money each year.**