



Office of the Mayor

April 3, 2019

Ms. Sarah Grammer
Normal Township Supervisor
304 E. Mulberry
Normal IL 61761

Dear Ms. Grammer:

As an elected official, your recent tactics intended to incite anger and manipulate voters is shameful. You have disseminated highly charged and caustic opinions not only through Normal Township's public information system (normaltownship.org email) but also through social media posts (Sarah Grammer Township Supervisor Facebook page) and media notifications.

Your use of public resources to actively denigrate and tear down community partners and beneficial community agencies is bewildering. Even more puzzling is your representation that your opinion and expression of biased, misleading rhetoric is on behalf of Normal Township, its citizens and, presumably, its Board of Trustees. It is the goal of all the Connect Transit funders to provide a high quality and inclusive transportation service for all residents and in challenging times currently faced by Connect Transit, we must pull the community together to collaborate on solutions.

Strategies intended to provoke rage and advance deceptive information in an effort to disparage local government partners are not beneficial to the community. Neither is it beneficial to belittle volunteer community board members and public employees who strive to provide passionate, diligent and thoughtful leadership to Connect Transit, our community's valued public transit system.

While the Town will continue to eagerly support a successful public transit program, as we have for many years and with increased funding in each of the past 9 years, we will also expect respectful dialogue with our community partners in order to effectively plan for the future of Connect Transit. As such, misleading statements pertaining to the Town's funding levels of Connect Transit should cease and desist immediately. While you have stated the Town has left Connect Transit "with the same flat dollar amount three years running" and implied a certain funding level, the Town has, in fact, increased its funding level since 2009, providing over \$878,000 to Connect Transit in FY2018-19.

"Committed to Service Excellence"

11 Uptown Circle • Post Office Box 589 • Normal, Illinois 61761-0589
Telephone (309) 454-2444 • Fax (309) 454-9609 • TDD (309) 454-9630
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I'm certain you would agree that successful local leaders are those who advocate for the community, promoting constructive dialogue and demonstrating respectful behavior rather than fostering negativity and propagandizing. Further, I hope you would also agree that in order to achieve great success as a community, your efforts to demean and vilify community partners are counterproductive.

With expectations of respectful and productive discourse from Normal Township,



Chris Koos
Mayor

Cc: Normal Town Council Members
Honorable Tari Renner, Mayor, City of Bloomington
Normal Township Board of Trustees
Connect Transit Board of Trustees
Isaac Thorne, Connect Transit Executive Director
Tim Gleason, City Manager, City of Bloomington
Pamela Reece, City Manager, Town of Normal