

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, SUPPORTING THE OKLAHOMA STATE LEGISLATURE FOR ESTABLISHING PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF THE HEARTLAND FLYER.

- § 1. WHEREAS, passenger rail service was restored to Oklahoma in 1999 with the introduction of the Heartland Flyer which runs daily between Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Fort Worth, Texas; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, we applaud the State Legislature for the development of intercity passenger rail service and its continued support and funding of the Heartland Flyer; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, passenger rail service affects hundreds of surrounding communities from as far away as Chickasha, Lawton, and Ada and continues to be an integral part of a comprehensive transportation system for the State of Oklahoma; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, the 2030 Oklahoma City Area Regional Transportation Study (OCARTS 2030) prepared by the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) makes specific reference to the desirability of a passenger rail system that extends to multiple surrounding states and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's 2005-2030 Statewide Intermodal Transportation Plan also supports the expansion of Amtrak Service; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, the expansion of rail service between communities and regions within Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas will establish and strengthen economic development, tourism, job creation, social, historical, commercial, and cultural bonds; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, an integrated passenger rail system will enhance accessibility and reliability of transportation for the frail, elderly and disabled and provide environmental benefits by reducing harmful emissions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 7. That the City of Norman fully supports the creation of and continued state funding for a comprehensive rail system to serve the State of Oklahoma with the ultimate objective to further economic opportunity, help preserve the environment, improve the quality of life, and enhance public health, safety, and welfare for all citizens, communities, and regions.
- § 8. Further, that the City of Norman supports the expansion of Amtrak service from Oklahoma City through Wichita, Kansas, to Kansas City and further asks the State Legislature to pass legislation providing stable funding for rail passenger service in the State of Oklahoma.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 13th day of June, 2017.

ATTEST:

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Mayor

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City Clerk

