

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-01-2514

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE IN THE 10-YEAR STATE-WIDE COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the State of Kansas is preparing its new 10-year Comprehensive Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the economic, environmental and recreational benefits of rail travel has been well established; and

WHEREAS, The Northern Flyer Alliance/Passenger Rail Kansas and Arkansas City, Winfield, Mulvane, Derby, Wichita, Valley Center, Sedgwick, Newton, Peabody, Florence, Strong City, Emporia, Osage City, Topeka, Lawrence, and Edwardsville have adopted resolutions supporting passenger rail service across Kansas. These communities along the proposed route recognize the benefits of passenger rail service to their communities and the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Arkansas City, Kansas, further recognizes that by enacting its 10-year Transportation Plan, the State of Kansas will be establishing its transportation priorities for the next decade and, therefore, this Resolution becomes a supporting document in support of expanded passenger rail service for Kansas within the 10-year Comprehensive Transportation Plan. This specific transportation capital improvement is essential to the health, safety and welfare of our citizens in the future; as well as, an effective way to move mass groups of people; and

WHEREAS, failure to include passenger rail service in the 10-year Comprehensive Transportation Plan will impede, the economic, environmental and recreational benefits of the City of Arkansas City and the State of Kansas from being accomplished; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arkansas City is unable to finance such capital transportation improvements without substantial assistance from the State of Kansas, the Kansas Department of Transportation and federal capital improvement funding; and

WHEREAS, the State of Kansas and the Department of Transportation cannot sufficiently address the transportation needs of the City of Arkansas City and other cities and counties across the State without the enactment of a new Comprehensive Transportation Program by the Kansas Legislature, and that passenger rail service cannot be included in funding State transportation projects except by 2/3 vote of the State Senate and House.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS:

Section 1. New Comprehensive Transportation Program. The City of Arkansas City hereby endorses and supports the enactment of a new 10-year Comprehensive Transportation Program by the Kansas Legislature, which shall include a multi-platform transportation system that includes:

Public Roads
Passenger and Freight Rail Service
Commercial Air Service

Section 2: The City of Arkansas City hereby endorses and requests that the State Senate and State House adopt the 10-year Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and funding for passenger rail service,

by a 2/3 majority in each chamber or by some other means.

Section 3. The City of Arkansas City's Clerk shall send copies of this resolution and any supporting documentation to: Governor Kathleen Sebelius; State Senators Steve Abrams, Carolyn McGinn, Jim Barnett, Mark Gilstrap, David Wysong, Chris Steineger, Marci Francisco, Jim Ward, Les Donovan; etc. and State Representatives Ed Trimmer, Terry McLachlan, Valdenia Winn, Don Schroeder, Raj Goyle, Delia Garcia, Peggy Mast, Don Hill, and Vince Wetta, etc.; all local news media outlets; League of Kansas Municipalities; and Northern Flyer Alliance in Wichita.

PASSED AND RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the City of Arkansas, Kansas this 6th day of January, 2009.

MELL KUHN, Mayor

ATTEST:

LESLEY SHOOK, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

TAMARA L. NILES, City Attorney