

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Shetter and members of the Burleson City Council
From: Curtis E. Hawk, City Manager
Date: January 20, 2009
Subject: Resolution R-1141-09 Supporting the Rail North Texas Initiative

Council Action Requested:

Approve Resolution R-1141-09 stating the City of Burleson's support for the Rail North Texas Initiative.

Background Information:

The 81st Texas Legislature convened on Tuesday, January 13, 2009. During the intervening time period since the end of the 80th Legislative Session, staff has worked with our government partners to identify potential legislative actions to establish as priorities for the City of Burleson. City Council has previously supported with several resolutions the Regional Transit Initiative for North Texas. The regional rail initiative which supports a seamless passenger rail system for North Texas is now called Rail North Texas. City Council has set Rail North Texas as its highest legislative priority for the 80th Legislative Session as stated in Resolution R-1140-09. The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) has requested that each city adopt a separate resolution to support the legislative proposal of the RTC on Rail North Texas.

Board/Citizen Input:

N/A

Financial Considerations:

N/A

Attachments:

Resolution R-1141-09

Staff Contact:

Curtis E. Hawk, City Manager's Office, ext 213.

RESOLUTION 1141-09
Supporting the Rail North Texas Initiative

WHEREAS, the North Central Texas Council of Governments is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of Texas in accordance with federal law; and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council, comprised primarily of local elected officials, is the regional transportation policy body associated with the North Central Texas Council of Governments, and has been and continues to be the regional forum for cooperative decisions; and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council has advocated for additional transportation funding and flexibility for over 10 years, with a special focus on identifying additional funding to construct and operate a seamless regional rail system for the past 5 years; and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council continues to support the principles contained in the "Joint Recommendation for Regional Rail in North Central Texas" adopted by the Dallas Area Rapid Transit, Denton County Transportation Authority, and the Fort Worth Transportation Authority; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Burleson supports regional efforts to address the mobility and air quality needs of the citizens of North Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Rail North Texas effort has been a bottom-up process to include local elected officials, business leaders, the public, and State legislators and has resulted in a specific legislative proposal; and,

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council has approved a legislative position on Rail North Texas for the 81st Texas Legislature as set out in RTC resolutions R08-08 and R08-11, and has requested each entity within the North Central Texas Council of Governments to transmit its position of support of the legislative proposals in these resolutions; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLESON THAT:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Burleson recognizes that implementing the passenger rail service component of the Metropolitan Mobility Plan of the Regional Transportation Council is essential in addressing the mobility and air quality needs of the citizens of North Texas.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of Burleson endorses RTC resolutions R08-08 and R08-11 and the legislative position of the Regional Transportation Council on Rail North Texas.

Section 3. The City Council of the City of Burleson supports Rail North Texas as its and the region's highest legislative priority for the 81st Texas Legislature.