

RESOLUTION NO 08-23

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;

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

WHEREAS, one of the major responsibilities of local governments is to plan for the immediate and long-term transportation needs of the community;

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;

WHEREAS, The Governing Body of the City of Bel Aire, Kansas (hereinafter the City), further recognizes that by enacting this 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 effected way to move mass groups of people;

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

WHEREAS, the 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;

WHEREAS, the State of Kansas and the Department of Transportation cannot sufficiently address the transportation needs of the 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 BEL AIRE, KANSAS.**

Section 1. New Comprehensive Transportation Program. The 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 as follows:

Public Roads
Passenger and Freight Rail Service
Commercial Air Service

Section 2. The City hereby endorses and requests the State Senate and State House adopt the 10-year Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and consider funding for passenger rail service, by a 2/3 majority in each chamber.

Section 3. The City clerk shall send copies of this resolution and any supporting documentation to:

Governor Kathleen Sebelius; and

State Senators Greta Goodwin, Carolyn McGinn, Jim Barnett, Mark Gilstrap, David Wysong, Chris Steineger, Marci Francisco, Jim Ward and Les Donovan.

State Representatives Ed Trimmer, Terry McLachlan, Valdenia Winn, Don Schroeder, Raj Goyle, Delia Garcia, Peggy Mast, Don Hill, Vince Wetta and Steve Brunk.

League of Kansas Municipalities/Kansas Association of Counties in Topeka.

Northern Flyer Alliance in Wichita.

ADOPTED this 16th day of September, 2008.


MAYOR, HAROLD A. SMITH

SEAL

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK, VICKI S. BRADFORD