



June 16, 2022

The Hon. Amit Bose, Administrator  
c/o Peter Schwartz, Chief, Project Engineering and Transportation Planning Division  
Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Heartland Flyer Extension Corridor Identification [Docket No. FRA-2022-003]

Dear Administrator Bose,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Fort Worth and am pleased to express our support for re-connecting passenger rail service between Oklahoma City, OK and Newton, KS, and to ensure the I-35 corridor from Fort Worth, TX to Newton, KS is included in the Corridor Development Plan. This extension is a long-held regional economic development and transportation objective to re-connect numerous Texas cities with Oklahoma and Kansas communities north to the national network via the Southwest Chief at Newton, Kansas, and points across the nation.

This corridor falls within the I-35 megaregion, which is centered along an 1100-mile corridor, with a resident population of 40 million in four states.

Restoring the Heartland Flyer between Texas and Kansas is also an important means of fully connecting the nation's fastest-growing economic development corridor located along Interstate 35 (Laredo, TX – Kansas City, MO), boasting over 40 million in population, 10 million jobs, and a 28% growth rate.

We propose the re-connection of this corridor based on the following criteria:

The Heartland Flyer Extension connects six of the fifty most populated cities in the U.S., satisfying a current IJJA requirement:

- a. San Antonio, TX (#7)
- b. Dallas, TX (#9)
- c. Fort Worth, TX (#13)
- d. Oklahoma City, OK (#21)
- e. Wichita, KS (#48)
- f. Kansas City, MO (#35)

Therefore, I respectfully request Designated Corridor identification from Fort Worth, Texas to Newton, Kansas.

Sincerely,

Mattie Parker  
Mayor of Fort Worth

cc Governor Laura Kelly, Kansas  
Governor Kevin Stitt, Oklahoma  
ODOT, Tim Gatz  
Amtrak, Derrick James  
Amtrak, Todd Stennis

**MATTIE PARKER, MAYOR**

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