

<u>TITLE</u> A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PASSENGER RAIL THROUGH THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT ALONG THE I-20 CORRIDOR AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO	<u>DATE</u> 6/15/2021	<u>ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT</u> OFFICE OF THE MAYOR <u>COUNCIL DISTRICT</u> All <u>SPONSOR</u>
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PURPOSE

A Resolution to support the construction of a passenger rail through the City of Shreveport along the I-20 corridor.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A project relative to the construction and operation of an I-20 Rail Corridor service which would connect regions of Dallas , Fort Worth and Atlanta with the economies and populations of Northern Louisiana has gained growing support in recent years. This proposed project would include a portion of the passenger rail to run through the City of Shreveport.

Passenger rail services provide a reliable transportation alternative and would help to stimulate economic viability for cities along the railway route. Feasibility studies were conducted in the years 2015 and 2017 which determined that the proposed railway structure could operate over existing railroad infrastructure and further, that a capital investment of less than \$80 million would be required to complete the project.

This Resolution would serve to articulate support for the construction and operation of a passenger railway system to run through the City of Shreveport.

TIMETABLE

Introduction: June 22, 2021
Final Passage: June 22, 2021

ATTACHMENT(S)

NA

SPECIAL PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

None.

FINANCES

None.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

NA

ALTERNATIVES

(1) Adopt the ordinance as submitted, or (2) Amend the ordinance, or (3) Reject the ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of this Resolution is recommended.

<u>FACT SHEET PREPARED BY:</u>	Thea R. Scott Deputy City Attorney
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RESOLUTION NO. _____ OF 2021

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PASSENGER RAIL THROUGH THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT ALONG THE I-20 CORRIDOR AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

BY:

WHEREAS, a 2015 Amtrak feasibility study determined that a long-distance passenger rail connection could operate over existing railroad infrastructure and would require no need for the exercise of eminent domain; and

WHEREAS, a 2017 capacity study suggested that a capital expenditure investment of less than \$80 million in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi would enable new passenger rail to service on the route without adversely affecting freight traffic along the host railroad; and

WHEREAS, the I-20 Rail Corridor service would connect regions of Dallas, Fort Worth and Atlanta and would run through the City of Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, the proposed railway service will connect surrounding regions and result in increased economic viability for cities along the railway route; and

WHEREAS, grassroots, multi-state coalitions including mayors, local, state and federal officials, business and economic leaders and many other stakeholders have shown great support for this opportunity along the I-20 corridor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport in legal session convened that it hereby recognizes and supports the efforts to construct and operate a long distance passenger rail connection along the I-20 corridor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items, or applications; and, to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office