RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TEXAS CENTRAL HIGH SPEED RAILWAY PROJECT

WHEREAS the population of Texas is projected to approximately double by the year 2035, and much of the new population will reside within Houston and North Texas; and

WHEREAS traffic congestion in Houston and Dallas is expected to double by the year 2035; and

WHEREAS the existing plus committed infrastructure for highway modes will be inadequate to address the increased interaction between Texas cities as a result of this growth; and

WHEREAS travel times between these Texas cities will increase significantly without additional transportation options, resulting in a loss of economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS the implementation of high speed passenger rail services provide an efficient, safe and cost-efficient mode of transportation, shifting a significant volume off existing and committed highways; and

WHEREAS the proposed rail project by Texas Central will connect Houston and Dallas in under 90 minutes at speeds in excess of 200 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS the railway will be grade separated, thereby ensuring there are no intersections with roadways or rail tracks; and

WHEREAS the project provides an alternative to additional taxpayer-funded construction and reduces carbon emissions; and
WHEREAS the project will not require operational or maintenance subsidies, and is estimated to create 10,000 full-time construction jobs each year during the anticipated four-year construction period, and 1,000 full-time jobs after the system goes into revenue service, anticipated in 2022; and

WHEREAS a strong transportation system is fundamental to the region’s quality of life and economic vitality, attracting new businesses and generating new jobs; and

WHEREAS the mission of the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce is to provide resources and foster relationships that empower businesses to prosper in Tomball and its surrounding communities; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce supports the proposed Texas Central High-Speed Rail Project for both mobility and economic development.

ADOPTED this 18 day of May 2016 by the Board of Directors of the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ryan Adudell, Board Chair

Bruce Hillegeist, President