



Resolution of Support for the High-Speed Passenger Rail System Between Houston and North Texas

WHEREAS, the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1974 to serve the greater northwest area of Harris County; and

WHEREAS, the Chamber is committed to the economic health of the region; and

WHEREAS, the bullet train will connect Houston and North Texas with a stop in the Brazos Valley in under 90 minutes; and

WHEREAS, the project is being developed by a Texan-led, Texas-based private company employing a market-led approach to mass infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, the project will create an estimated 40,000 jobs over the four-year peak construction period, plus 1,000 permanent highly skilled jobs to support the railroad's operations when it is in full service; and

WHEREAS, the technology being deployed is the world's safest high-speed rail technology – the N700-I total bullet system, which boasts a flawless 50-year safety history in Japan; and

WHEREAS, the high-speed rail system will help take cars off congested Texas roads; and

WHEREAS, taxing entities along the proposed route would receive an estimated \$2.5 billion in property and sales taxes over 25 years because of the new infrastructure, including passenger stations in Houston, Dallas and the Brazos Valley station in Grimes County; and

WHEREAS, a strong transportation infrastructure is vital to the economic future of Houston and the state of Texas;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the privately-funded development of the Houston to North Texas high-speed rail project for both mobility and economic development.

Adopted, this 27th day of July, 2016 by the Board of Directors of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce.

Acknowledged and Agreed:

Handwritten signature of Nancy Blackwell in blue ink.

Handwritten signature of Barbara Thompson in blue ink.

Chairman of the Board

President