



June 27, 2016

Tim Keith, Chief Executive Officer
Texas Central Partners
1409 South Lamar Street, Suite 1022
Dallas, TX 75215

RE: Endorsement of High-Speed Rail Project Connecting Houston and North Texas

Dear Mr. Keith:

On behalf of the Near Northwest Management District, representing a 16-square mile section of Northwest Houston, the Board of Directors enthusiastically endorses the high-speed train project connecting Houston and North Texas in 90 minutes.

The Near Northwest Management District was created by the state of Texas in 2001, with the mission to promote and coordinate economic growth, creation and beautification of area green spaces, and to promote and supplement public security within its borders.

The high-speed rail project's use of state-of-the-art technologies stand to benefit the people of Houston, Dallas and all the communities along the way. In fact, current projections show the project will cost its private investors more than \$10 billion and generate a direct impact of \$36 billion to the Texas economy over the next 25 years. That kind of private investment in Texas' aging transportation infrastructure cannot be overstated. This project will complement the state's existing transportation network and help prepare Texas for generations of future growth.

Among the many reasons we support this project:

- 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.
- In addition to taking cars off the road, the bullet trains will emit 1/12th the carbon dioxide per seat compared to a Boeing B777-200.
- This project is being developed by a Texan-led, Texas-based company employing a market-led approach to mass infrastructure projects.
- Taxing entities along the proposed route would receive an estimated \$2.5 billion in property and sales taxes over 25 years from the project because of the new infrastructure, including passenger stations in Houston, Dallas and the Brazos Valley station in Grimes County.
- This project will create 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.

We are proud to support the first truly high-speed passenger rail system in the United States – a transportation infrastructure project that will provide a safe, reliable and productive travel alternative between Houston and North Texas.

This project is good for Texas.

Sincerely,

James Kilpatrick
Chair, Board of Directors

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