

THE CITY OF BRISTOL, TENNESSEE

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Office of the City Manager

February 4, 2009

Mr. David Foster Executive Director RAIL Solution 342 High Street Salem, Virginia 24153

Dear Mr. Foster

Please find enclosed for your file a copy of Resolution No. 09-13 supporting the building of a 21st Century Rail Steel Interstate Service in the I-81 corridor.

Resolution No. 09-13 was unanimously adopted by the Bristol City Council at its meeting on February 3, 2009.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey J. Broughton City Manager

Resolution No. 09-13

A Resolution Supporting the Building of a 21st Century Rail Steel Interstate Service In the I-81 Corridor

WHEREAS, while Europe approaches numerous 21st Century "Steel Interstate" rail service concepts, no such rail service is in the offing in the United States, exposing the nation to greater risk from petroleum depletion, cost increases, supply interruptions and economic competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, Steel Interstate rail provides reduced dependence on imported fuel, builds modal redundancy, enhances national security, and when electrified, offers the nation opportunity to employ domestic renewable energy sources and efficiency to drive transportation; and

WHEREAS, Steel Interstate rail demonstrates vastly greater transportation throughput productivity over equivalent investment in expensive interstate highway expansion; and

WHEREAS, Steel Interstate technology offers positive advantages for communities, for the states, and for the United States relating to cost, safety, economic growth, tourism development, decreased fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, improved air quality and public health, varied freight and passenger service options, reduced financing and carbon cap and trade risk exposure; and

WHEREAS, numerous Tennessee and Virginia communities have supported improved rail service over massive widening of I-81 in the past; and

WHEREAS, no passenger rail and limited public bus service exists in much of the I-81 corridor; and

WHEREAS, Congress is considering investments in transportation, energy efficiency, fuel conservation, renewable energy, greenhouse gas abatement, and infrastructure as fiscal stimulus for the nation, and the Steel Interstate offers outstanding opportunity in all these areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Bristol, Tennessee, that the City supports passage of a Federal transportation demonstration grant to assemble in the I-81 Corridor between Knoxville, Tennessee and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the pilot segment of 21st Century rail, the North American Steel Interstate System.

WHEREUPON, Mayor Staton declared the Resolution adopted, affixed his signature and the date thereto, and directed that the same be recorded.

Joel D. Staton, Mayor

Date: 2-3-0

Tara Musick, City Recorder

Approved as to Form and Legality this 24 day of January 2009

Jack W. Hyder, Jr., City Attorney