

CITY OF ROANOKE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

215 Church Avenue, S. W., Suite 456 Roanoke, Virginia 24011-1536 Telephone: (540) 853-2541 Fax: (540) 853-1145 E-mail: clerk@roanokeva.gov

SHEILA N. HARTMAN, CMC Deputy City Clerk

CECELIA T. WEBB Assistant Deputy City Clerk

March 17, 2009

The Honorable Robert W. Goodlatte United States Congressman 10 Franklin Road, S. E., Suite 540 Roanoke, Virginia 24011

The Honorable Mark R. Warner United States Senator **B40C** Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing copy of Resolution No. 38380-031609 requesting the City of Roanoke's Congressional delegation to obtain an appropriation to build a rail "steel interstate" in the I-81 corridor to provide a national demonstration of fast rail freight and passenger service incorporating 21st Century "green" transportation technology.

The abovereferenced measure was adopted by the Council of the City of Roanoke at a regular meeting held on Monday, March 16, 2009.

Sincerely.

Stephanie M. Moon, CMC

City Clerk

SMM:ew

Attachment

Reese Shearer, Chair, Rail Solution, P. O. Box 117, Emory, Virginia 24327 pc: Dave Foster, Executive Director, Rail Solution, 342 High Street, Salem,

Virginia 24153

Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager William M. Hackworth, City Attorney mx

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA The 16th day of March, 2009.

No. 38380-031609.

A RESOLUTION requesting the City of Roanoke's Congressional delegation to obtain an appropriation to build a rail "steel interstate" in the I-81 corridor to provide a national demonstration of fast rail freight and passenger service incorporating 21st Century "green" transportation technology.

WHEREAS, a "steel interstate" rail system will reduce truck traffic and dependence on imported oil while increasing national security and economic competitiveness;

WHEREAS, a "steel interstate" rail system will improve the environment through decreased fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, better air quality, and improved public health;

WHEREAS, today no passenger rail service and limited intercity public bus service exists in the Roanoke Valley and the I-81 corridor; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress is considering making investments in transportation, energy efficiency, fuel conservation, renewable energy, greenhouse gas abatement, and public infrastructure, and a "steel interstate" rail project would help achieve all of these goals.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Roanoke that it requests the Members of Congress who represent Roanoke to work with other Members of Congress representing I-81 corridor states to obtain a federal transportation demonstration grant to build a pilot segment of the "North American Steel Interstate System" between Knoxville, Tennessee, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.