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

pc:  Reese Shearer, Chair, Rail Solution, P. O. Box 117, Emory, Virginia 24327  
     Dave Foster, Executive Director, Rail Solution, 342 High Street, Salem, 
     Virginia 24153  
     Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager  
     William M. Hackworth, City Attorney
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:

[Signature]
City Clerk.