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**SCOTT COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

180 WEST JACKSON STREET
GATE CITY, VA 24251

Phone: (276) 386-2525 Fax: (276) 386-6158

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March 26, 2009

Mr. Rees Shearer
P.O. Box 117
Emory, VA 24327

Mr. Dave Foster
342 High Street
Salem, VA 24153

Dear Mr. Shearer and Mr. Foster:

Please find enclosed a Resolution from the Scott County Economic Development Authority supporting a model "steel interstate" service in the I-81 corridor.

This resolution passed unanimously at the March 25th, 2009 meeting of the EDA Board.

Sincerely,

John H. Kilgore, Jr.
Executive Director

JHK/ph

Enclosure

cc: Robert Barker, EDA Chairman



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**RESOLUTION OF THE SCOTT COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
SUPPORTING A MODEL 21ST CENTURY RAIL "STEEL INTERSTATE" SERVICE IN
THE I-81 CORRIDORS TO DEMONSTRATE FAST RAIL FREIGHT AND PASSENGER
SERVICE TO THE NATION**

WHEREAS, Europe approaches numerous 21st Century "Steel Interstate" rail service concepts, no rail service in the United States offers this promise, exposing our 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 U.S. opportunity to employ domestic renewable energy sources and efficiency to drive transportation; and

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

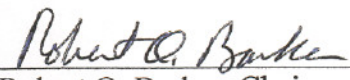
WHEREAS, Steel Interstate technology offers positive advantages for communities, the Commonwealth, other I-81 states, and the United States relating to cost, safety, economic growth, tourism development, decreased fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, improved air quality and public health, varied freight and passenger service options, reduced financing and carbon cap and trade risk exposure; and

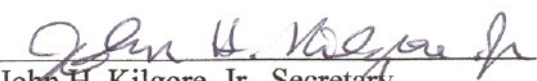
WHEREAS, no passenger rail and limited public bus service exists in this Corridor south of Staunton/Clifton Forge, west of Lynchburg/Danville, or north of Atlanta/Birmingham, despite efforts by dozens of local governing bodies and private groups in the Commonwealth to restore passenger rail service through the Trans Dominion Express; 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 that the Scott County Economic Development Authority urgently petitions federal legislators to work in concert with representatives of other I-81 Corridor states to sponsor and secure 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.

Approved this 25th day of March, 2009


Robert Q. Barker, Chairman


John H. Kilgore, Jr., Secretary