



TARRANT COUNTY
Commissioners Court

RESOLUTION

**SUPPORTING HIGH SPEED INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL
CONNECTING DIRECTLY TO THE CENTRAL TERMINAL AREAS
OF THE DALLAS-FORT WORTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

WHEREAS, the North Texas region is an intricately integrated area with over 200 municipalities that exhibit cooperative regionalism at the highest level;

WHEREAS, the North Texas region continues to grow at an astounding rate, so much so that it has become not only the largest inland population center but also is the fastest growing megaregion in the country;

WHEREAS, Tarrant County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation being ranked as the 15th largest county;

WHEREAS, the local, regional, state and federal governments have spent billions of dollars on mitigating urban congestion in Tarrant County with one of the nation's largest surface transportation expansion programs;

WHEREAS, because it is unable to keep pace with the growing demands of the rapidly expanding Texas population, intrastate connectivity, from major population center to major population center, continues to burden the transportation system and the State;

WHEREAS, the Wright Amendment expires in October 2014 and short haul commuter aviation will be negatively impacted, creating a market for a new way to move people between population centers within the State of Texas;

WHEREAS, high-speed intercity passenger rail, the future of economic development within the State of Texas, with service speeds in excess of 220 miles per hour connecting the major population centers of the State of Texas – defined as the North Texas region, Houston, College Station, Austin, and San Antonio – is not only appropriate, but also is within our reach;

WHEREAS, neither the State of Texas nor the Federal Government have the mechanisms in place to fund such a high speed intercity passenger rail system, which will have to be constructed through public private partnerships, relying on private sector financing;

WHEREAS, with limited stops available within the North Texas region, station placement must be maximized from a regional perspective;

WHEREAS, the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport is the regional international airport for the area and the third busiest airport in the world;

WHEREAS, the entire North Texas region will benefit by having high speed intercity passenger rail connect directly to the central terminal areas of the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport; and

EXHIBIT "A"

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WHEREAS, Tarrant County appreciates the City of Fort Worth's regional support of resolution 3812-11-2009, which is conditioned upon the development of high speed rail into the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County, Texas hereby:

THAT fully supports high speed intercity passenger rail with speeds in excess of 220 miles per hour connecting the major population centers of the State of Texas to the North Texas region through a station located at the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport central terminal areas A and B linking to the DART Orange line by 2014 and the Tex Rail line by 2018;

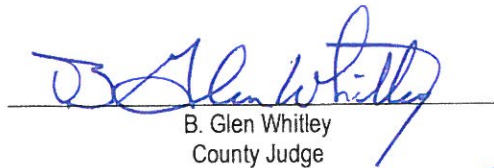
THAT supports a high speed intercity passenger rail alignment into the North Texas region should follow the State Highway 360 Corridor, from the south, directly into the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport;


THAT identifies this as a top priority and directs its administration and departments to take any and all reasonable steps and measures to ensure the achievements of the goals of this resolution;

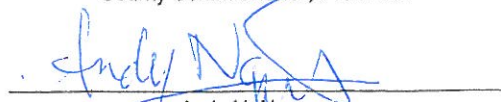
THAT encourages Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Regional Transportation Council, and stakeholders to identify and exclusively study the State Highway 360 alignment into the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport central terminal area and ensure that all affected planning documents, construction projects and developments include the forthcoming high-speed rail service along the herein specified route; and

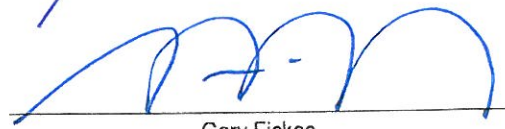
FURTHER, that this resolution be adopted and circulated to the Federal Railroad Administration, the Texas Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Texas, members of the Texas legislature, the Texas Transportation Commission, the Texas Department of Transportation, Cities, Counties, Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development Corporations and Metropolitan Planning Organizations throughout the State of Texas, as well as the media and others.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, witness our hands on this the 16th day of April, 2013.


B. Glen Whitley
County Judge


Roy Charles Brooks
County Commissioner, Precinct 1


Andy H. Nguyen
County Commissioner, Precinct 2


Gary Fickes
County Commissioner, Precinct 3


J.D. Johnson
County Commissioner, Precinct 4