

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2022

EXPRESSING the support of the Mayor and City Council in improving and expanding passenger rail service in Ohio and urging Governor Mike DeWine to participate in the Federal Railroad Administration’s new Corridor Identification and Development program to better connect Ohio communities with enhanced intercity passenger rail service.

WHEREAS, Governor DeWine has asked the Ohio Rail Development Commission to engage Amtrak to determine the cost and feasibility of improved and expanded passenger rail service in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration recently unveiled a new Corridor Identification and Development (“Corridor ID”) program, authorized in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which provides an unprecedented \$66 billion for passenger rail, and which will create a pipeline of passenger rail projects to guide future federal grant funding; and

WHEREAS, to participate in the Corridor ID program, the state must submit an expression of interest as outlined in the Federal Register, FRA-2022-0031; and

WHEREAS, specifically, Council requests that Ohio express interest in exploring feasibility and costs for improved service on existing corridors as proposed in Amtrak’s “Connects US” plan: the Cincinnati-Elyria-Sandusky-Toledo-Chicago corridor; the Cincinnati-Buffalo-Rochester-NYC corridor; the Cincinnati-Pittsburgh-Philadelphia-NYC corridor; the Cincinnati-Washington, D.C. corridor; and the Cincinnati-Toledo-Detroit corridor; and

WHEREAS, cost-effective service improvements to these corridors will enhance Northeast Ohio’s status as a significant hub on Amtrak’s national network, improving economic opportunity and quality of life for all Ohioans; and

WHEREAS, Council also requests that Ohio express interest in exploring new service on the Amtrak-proposed 3C+D Corridor, connecting Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland, and Dayton; and

WHEREAS, this proposed corridor would connect Ohio’s largest metropolitan regions as well as smaller and rural communities, facilitating safe, efficient, and convenient travel throughout Ohio, allowing the economies of these cities and regions to better interact, and creating a multiplier effect from business investments in any one region; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio

Section 1. That the Mayor and Council express their support for improving and expanding passenger rail service in Ohio and urge Governor Mike DeWine to participate in the Federal Railroad Administration's new Corridor Identification and Development program to better connect Ohio communities with enhanced intercity passenger rail service.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and to Erin Rosiello, All Aboard Ohio, 3136 Kingsdale Center #112, Columbus, Ohio 43221.

Passed: _____, 2022

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Mayor Aftab Pureval