

RESOLUTION NO. 1054-2010

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING MCHENRY COUNTY STATION LOCATIONS FOR
AMTRAK INTER-CITY RAIL SERVICE ON ROUTE A: AMTRAK-METRA-UP-CN

- WHEREAS, the central northern Illinois region, comprised of the Counties of Boone, Kane, McHenry, and Winnebago and having a population of over 984,000 people, has collectively been working on a comprehensive vision for passenger rail service in the Metra-CP-CN corridor known as Amtrak Route A and NICTI CR6; and
- WHEREAS, the central northern Illinois region has successfully advocated for a co-location of inter-city passenger rail service (Amtrak) and commuter rail service (Metra) on the Metra-UP-CN corridor between Rockford and Elgin; and
- WHEREAS, growth pressures will continue to put a strain on the existing roadway transportation network, and alternative transportation modes must be explored to maintain a thriving region for economic development and livable and sustainable communities; and
- WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Transportation has allocated \$60 million for rail infrastructure investments for restoration of inter-city passenger service in northern Illinois between Chicago and Dubuque, IA; and
- WHEREAS, the Northern Illinois Commuter Transportation Initiative (NICTI) has adopted the Union Pacific Railroad's Belvidere Subdivision (CR6) as the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for commuter service between Rockford and Elgin Big Timber; and
- WHEREAS, the Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning (RMAP) approved Resolution 2008-8 which ratified the LPA decision and officially amended the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan accordingly; and
- WHEREAS, the regional transit partners from Boone, Kane, McHenry and Winnebago counties wish to maximize the investment of public funds and speak with a unified voice; and
- WHEREAS, the capital funding commitment by the State of Illinois for the Metra-UP-CN route can provide the greatest service to the citizens of the region and maximize ridership by including station locations within McHenry County in concert with the commuter rail planning;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Belvidere:

- 1) Endorses McHenry County passenger rail stations to be included in the implementation of inter-city passenger service currently being planned and funded by the State of Illinois.
- 2) Encourages the Illinois Department of Transportation, Amtrak, the counties of Boone, Kane, McHenry and Winnebago, the cities of Rockford, Belvidere, Marengo, Huntley and Elgin, and all of the elected officials and regional leaders in transportation and business to work with the host railroads to secure operating agreements and implement passenger rail service as quickly as possible.
- 3) Endorses future efforts to obtain funding for subsequent stages of project development to implement commuter rail service between Rockford and Elgin Big Timber via Belvidere, Marengo and Huntley on the UP Belvidere Subdivision and encourages local, state and federal legislators to commit and earmark funding in transportation budget cycles.

Adopted by the Belvidere City Council this 3rd day of May, 2010.



Mayor Frederic C. Brereton

Attest:

