

# Resolution No. 591-2022

By Council Members Howse and McCormack

## AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Supporting Governor Mike DeWine's interest in improving and expanding passenger rail service in Ohio and urging him 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.

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

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) recently unveiled a new Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) program, authorized in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), 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, this 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 Cleveland-Elyria-Sandusky-Toledo-Chicago corridor; the Cleveland-Buffalo-Rochester-NYC corridor; the Cleveland-Pittsburgh-Philadelphia-NYC corridor; the Cleveland-Washington, D.C. corridor; and the Cleveland-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, this Council also requests that Ohio express interest in exploring new service on the Amtrak-proposed 3C+D Corridor, connecting Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati 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, creating a multiplier effect from business investments in any one region; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council supports Governor Mike DeWine's interest in improving and expanding passenger rail service in Ohio and urges him 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 the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Ohio Governor Mike DeWine.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SDH:rns  
6/6/2022

