



BRYAN / COLLEGE STATION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

September 5, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: Support for the TxDOT Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan Grant

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to support the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Transportation Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan Grant Application that will provide funds for the necessary planning for a possible high-speed passenger rail service between Austin and Houston, Texas. The results of TxDOT's Statewide Ridership Study indicated that the potential ridership between Austin and Houston was one of the highest in the state.

The Bryan/College Station Metropolitan Planning Organization (BCSMPO) is pleased to support this important passenger rail corridor investment plan grant. The results of this study will further the development of high speed passenger rail in Texas and could have a significant impact both on the region and the nation. To my knowledge, the planning grant application meets all federal requirements as published in the Notice of Funding Availability.

TxDOT's Austin to Houston Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan Grant application has the support of the BCSMPO and I respectfully request that the U.S. Department of Transportation give serious consideration to this application.

Sincerely,

Brad McCaleb, P.E.
Director
Bryan/College Station MPO