

RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL
CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MISSISSIPPI

WHEREAS, the cities and counties of the Mississippi Gulf Coast have been actively seeking the restoration of passenger rail following suspension of the Sunset Limited due to Hurricane Katrina in 2005; and,

WHEREAS, the loss of this rail service at a time when our coast was already decimated by the storm exacerbated the loss that the people were feeling, that in reality we were disconnected from much of the country; and,

WHEREAS, the current efforts of the Gulf Coast Working Group, along with the Federal Railroad Administration, Southern Rail Commission, Amtrak, CSX and other key stakeholders to restore passenger rail service along the CSX rail line from New Orleans, Louisiana to Florida has the unbridled support of the public and this body, as this service will be a major linchpin in the sustainable recovery of the Mississippi Gulf Coast; and,

WHEREAS, the benefits of having passenger rail that connects the Gulf Coast states to this to Amtrak, the national rail system, can be measured as being regionally and nationally significant. This service will provide:

1. Mobility and access, connecting people to places for jobs, schools, health care and recreation that may not otherwise have no means of travel;
2. Connection to a nation-wide rail system to travel across the country in a safe, relaxed environment;
3. Economic development initiatives in proximity to the station locations and across the Gulf Coast region;
4. Intermodal connectivity to complete the trips via automobile, public transportation, bicycles and as pedestrians.

NOW, THEREFORE, City Council expresses its wholehearted support of the restoration of daily passenger rail service to the Gulf Coast from Louisiana to Florida; and

FURTHERMORE, the City Council of Diamondhead, Mississippi pledges to work with the Gulf Coast Working Group to satisfy the demands of the people in our region and the nation's Capital for a well-planned, cost effective rail service;

THUS, LASTLY, the City Council of Diamondhead, Mississippi commends the Southern Rail Commission and our U.S. Congressional Delegation, for their vision and dedication to the sustained recovery and growth of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The foregoing Resolution having first been reduced to writing, was read by the Clerk, so moved by Councilmember Rech, seconded by Councilmember Knobloch, and acted upon by the following vote:

	AYES:	NAYS:	ABSENT:
Councilmember Lopez	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Councilmember Woolbright	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Councilmember Rech	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Councilmember Sislow	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Councilmember Knobloch	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____
Mayor Schafer	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____

Mayor Thomas Schafer, IV then declared the Resolution adopted this 5th day of July, 2016.

ATTEST:

Jeannie Klein
Jeannie Klein, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Thomas Schafer, IV
Mayor Thomas Schafer, IV

