

Resolution of the City of Paterson, N.J.

No. 16 Res. # 15:540 Date of Adoption JULY 28, 2015

Division . . . ADMINISTRATION

Factural Contents Certified By

TITLE:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW JERSEY TRANSIT MOVING FORWARD THE PROPOSED PLAN TO RESTART COMMUTER SERVICE ON THE NEW YORK SUSQUEHANNA & WESTERN FREIGHT LINE A/K/A THE PASSAIC-BERGEN COMMUTER RAIL

..... Title

..... Date

Approved As to Form and Legality on Basis of Facts Set Forth

André Sayegh
/SAYEGH CORPORATION COUNSEL

7/21/15
Date

COUNCILPERSON ANDRE SAYEGH Introducing the Following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the New York, Susquehanna and Western Railway (“NYS&W”) ran passenger service on its tracks up until 1966, serving commuters in Passaic, Bergen, and Hudson Counties; and

WHEREAS, now NYS&W uses the railway primarily for freight line service, although the infrastructure is still in place to restart passenger service; and

WHEREAS, in 2007 NJ Transit Board of Directors approved \$5.7 million dollars to fund final design, creation of an operating plan and preparation of bid documents to restart commuter service on this line, with eight stops planned in Hawthorne, Paterson, Elmwood Park, and Hackensack; and

WHEREAS, the project would introduce Federal Railroad Administration compliant Diesel Multiple Unit (“DMU”) technology into the NJ Transit fleet of rail equipment and will provide new passenger service along more than eight (8) miles of existing freight track; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic-Bergen Commuter Rail (“Commuter Rail”) will spur economic development, reduce traffic congestion, and help in diminishing emission of greenhouse gas into the environment; and

WHEREAS, the freight track infrastructure is in place to further expand the line to Hudson County, where a seamless connection to the Hudson Bergen Light Rail exists, and connecting the second and third largest municipalities in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, although the project remains dormant, significant work has been done on a draft Environmental Impact Study, and its completion is vital to the long-term transportation and economic needs of Passaic, Bergen, and Hudson Counties in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Jose “joey” Torres is a strong proponent of affordable mass transit which will create jobs and economic development opportunities for the City; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to begin development on the Passaic-Bergen Commuter Rail project as soon as possible; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paterson has been working in concert with the other municipalities on the Commuter Rail to advocate for this project; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2014 the City received \$50,000.00 in funding from the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council for the TDR Receiving Zone Feasibility study; and

WHEREAS, the TDR Receiving Zone Feasibility Study is directly related to the “Madison Avenue Commuter Rail Corridor Study”, which was adopted by Resolution of the City of Paterson Planning Board on June 2, 2010 in order to promote mixed use higher density development surrounding the Madison Avenue Train Station being built as part of the Passaic/Bergen Passenger Rail Service Restoration Project which envisions future expansion to Jersey City, Hudson County; and

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COMMUTER RAIL**

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WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of Paterson adopted a Resolution on March 10, 2015 authorizing the transfer of \$50,000.00 for the TDR Receiving Zone Feasibility study funding to the County of Passaic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PATERSON that it wholly supports the Passaic-Bergen Commuter Line project and urges New Jersey Transit to continue its progress in the near future; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that City of Paterson will continue to work in conjunction with neighboring communities to lobby State and federal officials to fully fund and complete this vital project.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Resolution is to support the proposed Passaic-Bergen Commuter Line project plan which will restart commuter service on the New York Susquehanna and Western Freight Line.

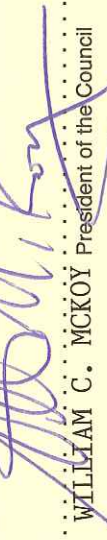
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SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON MOHAMMED AKHTARUZZAMAN

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RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
1. AKHTARUZZAMAN, MOHAMMED	X			
2. COTTON, RUBY N.				X
3. DAVILA, MARITZA	X			
4. MCKOY, WILLIAM C.	X			
5. MENDEZ, DOMINGO A.	X			
6. MORRIS, KENNETH	X			
7. SAYEGH, ANDRÉ	X			
8. STATON, JAMES E.				X
9. TAVAREZ, JULIO	X			

Adopted at a meeting of the Municipal Council of the City of Paterson, N.J., JULY 28, 2015


.....
WILLIAM C. MCKOY President of the Council


.....
SONJA L. GORDON ACTING City Clerk

This Resolution when adopted must remain in the custody of the City Clerk. Certified copies are available.