

October 17, 2014



Letter of Support urging The Ohio Kentucky and Indiana Regional Council of Government to fund a Feasibility Study of a Higher-Speed Rail Connection to Indianapolis and Chicago

To: Community Partners, Stakeholders, and Supportive Organizations

OKI Council of Governments:

The City of Hamilton would like to lend its official support, in concert with Hamilton County, the All Aboard Ohio organization and other partners, in asking OKI to fund a feasibility study regarding the advancement of passenger rail in our region. It is our position that such a study, officially a business plan and economic impact analysis, will prove invaluable in pursuing an effective policy and strategy that advances regional freight and passenger rail.

A well-thought out approach around regional rail will have significant economic impact, not only to the City of Hamilton, but to our neighbors, the region, the Midwest, and the Nation. We believe an investment in feasibility study is a critical first step that will guide potentially the entire process.

The Hoosier State Service passenger rail has the potential to greatly benefit Southwest Ohio, as well as numerous communities in Illinois and Indiana. Our early adoption and support of this project is vital considering the scope. The region must address the rail transportation issue, and we are happy to "partner" with Hamilton County in urging OKI to conduct a feasibility study.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joshua A. Smith".

Joshua Smith
Hamilton City Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pat Moeller".

Pat Moeller
Mayor of Hamilton