

# Resolution

By Gordon

Supporting Route 1 for the planned Midwest Regional Rail Initiative (MWRRI) Twin Cities to Chicago High Speed Rail Corridor

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis is a member of the Red Rock Corridor Commission, a joint powers board of the County Regional Rail Authorities and communities along the Red Rock Corridor, established in 1998; and,

Whereas, commuter rail has been identified through an alternatives analysis in 2007 as the preferred long-term transitway improvement for the corridor; and,

Whereas, commuter rail along the Red Rock Corridor will connect to the Depot in Saint Paul and the Interchange in Minneapolis, capitalizing on the investments already made in these facilities; and,

Whereas, the Minnesota Department of Transportation has recommended Route 1, the existing Amtrak route running from Milwaukee-Watertown-Portage-Tomah-La Crosse-Winona-Hastings-Saint Paul-Minneapolis as the most reasonable and feasible passenger rail alternative; and,

Whereas, the Draft Alternatives Selection Report finds that Route 1 provides the most competitive and attractive alternative mode of transportation by reducing travel time and increasing train frequency by phasing the build out of the route; and,

Whereas, the Red Rock Corridor Commission has formally supported Route 1 for high speed rail;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved by the City Council of the City of Minneapolis,

That the City of Minneapolis supports Route 1 (the River Route) for the planned Midwest Regional Rail Initiative (MWRRI) Twin Cities to Chicago High Speed Rail Corridor, and supports the State of Minnesota's continued planning and investment for high speed rail along this corridor as part of the MWRRI, the State Rail Plan and the preparation of the Tier I Environmental Impact Statement.