



RESOLUTION # 74-1/09

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM #

BOARD ACTION

Adopted:
For: 28
Against: -
Abs/Excd: 6, IVAC.
Vote Req: _____
Other Action: _____

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted: 1-7-09
For: 7
Against: -
Abs/Excd: 2

RE: SUPPORT OF MIDWEST HIGH SPEED RAIL ROUTE - CHICAGO TO THE TWIN CITIES VIA LA CROSSE, WI

WHEREAS, the route of Chicago to the Twin Cities via La Crosse (La Crescent & Winona, MN) for high speed passenger rail service has been endorsed by the Wisconsin Freight and Rail Passenger Plan offered by the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation; and,

WHEREAS, this Plan calls for the frequency of trains to be increased to 6 per day versus the current 1 train per day; and,

WHEREAS, the concept of increasing the frequency of trains on this route makes high speed rail a viable alternative to driving for those wishing to travel to the Twin Cities, Madison, Milwaukee, or Chicago because a roundtrip may be accomplished in 1 day; and,

WHEREAS, this increased frequency of trains on the route through La Crosse becomes especially attractive to business travelers and high speed rail then serves as a economic development catalyst; and,

WHEREAS, Eau Claire would like a portion of this rail service as well, but splitting the frequency of the trains so that only 3 go through La Crosse and 3 go through Eau Claire would diminish the feasibility of roundtrip travel, would greatly reduce ridership on both routes and would increase the infrastructure costs in constructing two high speed rail lines; and,

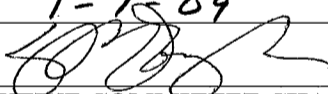
WHEREAS, the transportation policy that is recommended in the La Crosse County Comprehensive Plan 2007-2027 is to encourage and promote the development of the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative which would service the City of La Crosse on the main line; and,

WHEREAS, once the high speed line is placed through La Crosse, it will create a gravitational flow that will create even greater ridership.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby support the route for high speed passenger rail service between Chicago and the Twin Cities, via La Crosse and the increase of frequency of trains on this route to 6 per day versus the current 1 train per day.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Clerk shall mail copies of this resolution to Senator Russell Feingold, Senator Herbert Kohl, Representative Ron Kind, Representative Tim Walz, Governor Jim Doyle, State Senator Dan Kapanke, State Representative Michael Huebsch, State Representative Jennifer Shilling and the WCA.

FISCAL NOTE: It is anticipated that there will be no cost to La Crosse County if this route is developed.

Date: 1-7-09

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: 1-8-09

RECORDING CLERK

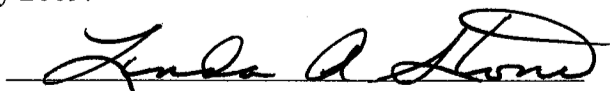
	Recommended	Not Recommended	Reviewed Only
Co. Admin.	<u>SO</u>	_____	_____
Fin. Director	<u>GI</u>	_____	_____
Corp. Counsel	<u>WAP</u>	_____	_____

Requested By: Jeff Schroeder
Date Requested: December 12, 2008
Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 15 Day of JANUARY, 2009

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Linda A. Stone, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board adopted on the 15th day of January 2009.



Linda A. Stone, La Crosse County Clerk