

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:** Capital Improvement  
**AGENDA DATE:** September 29, 2020  
**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** Yvette Hernandez, P.E., CID Director of Grant Funded Programs, 212-1860  
Sam Rodriguez, P.E., City Engineer, 212-0065  
**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** Citywide

**STRATEGIC GOAL: No. 1:** Cultivate an environment conducive to strong, sustainable economic development

**SUBJECT:**

That the Mayor be authorized to sign and send a letter of support to representatives of the federal government regarding an increase in appropriation of funds to assist Amtrak operations.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

The City of El Paso would like to request support in requiring Amtrak to operate all routes at least daily, in addition appropriations of funding for Amtrak in the FY2021 budget.

**COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE BRIEFING:**

Was a briefing provided?  Yes or  Not Applicable (Routine)  
If yes, select the applicable districts.

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7
- District 8
- All Districts

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

NA

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**


N/A

**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

N/A

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO THAT:**

The Mayor is authorized to sign and send a letter of support to representatives of the federal government regarding an increase in appropriation of funds to assist Amtrak operations.

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dee Margo,  
Mayor

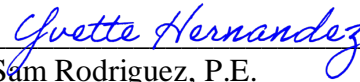
**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine,  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Omar A. De La Rosa  
Assistant City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
For Sam Rodriguez, P.E.  
City Engineer



# Capital Improvement Department

**MAYOR**

Dee Margo

September 14, 2020

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**CITY COUNCIL****District 1**

Peter Svarzbein

**District 2**

Alexsandra Anello

**District 3**

Cassandra Hernandez

**District 4**

Dr. Sam Morgan

**District 5**

Isabel Salcido

**District 6**

Claudia L. Rodriguez

**District 7**

Henry Rivera

**District 8**

Cissy Lizarraga

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**CITY MANAGER**

Tommy Gonzalez

United States Senate  
Senator Ted Cruz  
Russell Senate Office Building 127A  
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Amtrak appropriations

Dear Senator Cruz,

The City of El Paso would like to request your support in requiring Amtrak to operate all routes at least daily, in addition appropriations of funding for Amtrak in the FY2021 budget.

In looking at the services provided by Amtrak, specifically during the pandemic, they have been more resilient than airlines and short-distance trains. Long distance routes accounted for 21 percent of total Amtrak passenger revenue. Long-distance trains are a cost-effective way to provide service to hundreds of cities, and even towns along its route. Therefore it is beneficial to the economy that long distance service should not be cut. Amtrak should not follow through with their cuts in October to reduce frequent departures or daily service.

Thank you for your attention to the matter and the support during the House appropriations bill for FY2021.

Sincerely,

Dee Margo  
Mayor, City of El Paso

**Sam Rodriguez, P.E. – City Engineer / Managing Director**  
Capital Improvement Dept., 218 N. Campbell, El Paso, TX 79901



DELIVERING **EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES**