

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE CITY OF EUGENE'S SUPPORT FOR AN IMPROVED PASSENGER RAIL CORRIDOR SERVING THE EUGENE DEPOT.**

**The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:**

- A.** The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is considering the location of an improved passenger rail line serving the Willamette Valley.
- B.** The Union Pacific rail line currently serving the Willamette Valley is the least expensive and least obstructed route of the alternatives being considered by ODOT.
- C.** The State of Oregon, in partnership with Amtrak and the City of Eugene, and utilizing federal grant funding, has invested more than 5.6 million dollars to construct, update and maintain the nationally registered historic railroad passenger depot and associated parking.
- D.** The proximity of the Union Pacific Line to Interstate 5 allows for efficient connection to other modes of transportation and is closest to population centers.
- E.** Passenger rail travel is 20 percent more efficient than airline travel and 28 percent more efficient than automobile travel, supporting value of the City of Eugene's triple bottom line practices.
- F.** Recent studies indicate that the ridership on the Cascade route, running along the Interstate 5 corridor, is increasing so significantly that it is becoming the fastest growing corridor in the national rail service's West Coast system.
- G.** The City of Eugene is the population, government and business center of the southern Willamette Valley.
- H.** The City of Eugene has a rich, history and demonstrated enthusiasm for both passenger and freight rail in the state economy.
- I.** The Union Pacific alignment can be implemented in phases which is consistent with the funding that will likely be available in Oregon for construction of passenger rail improvements.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:**

**Section 1.** The Eugene City Council supports maintaining and improving rail passenger service on existing Union Pacific right-of-way.

**Section 2.** This Resolution is effective immediately upon its passage by the City Council.

**The foregoing Resolution adopted the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.**

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**City Recorder**