



January 30, 2023

To: The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Deborah Oyler
Mayor

Roy Cessna
Commissioner

Shannon L. Dick
Commissioner

Manny Ortiz
Commissioner

Troy R. Unruh
Commissioner

Matthew C. Allen
City Manager

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Garden City, Kansas is pleased to offer support for the Kansas Department of Transportation, Oklahoma Department of Transportation, and Texas Department of Transportation's joint application for the Heartland Flyer Extension to be accepted into the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration's Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) Program.

The City of Garden City, Kansas has long enjoyed the benefit of passenger rail service via the Southwest Chief. For over a decade, our local government in partnership with other local governments and rail advocacy groups throughout the Midwest have directed energy and financial resources to helping underwrite the preservation of this important cross-country transportation service. We continue to advocate for the important next step of including the Heartland Flyer Extension into the Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) Program.

The Heartland Flyer Extension is a long-held economic development and transportation objective to re-connect numerous Oklahoma and Kansas communities north to the national network via the Southwest Chief at Newton, Kansas, and points across the nation. The long-awaited, full re-connection of this corridor in America's Heartland would provide increased transportation choices and economic opportunity for rural and urban residents and businesses alike.

We ask you to look favorably on the joint application of the three State Departments of Transportation and are available for follow-up questions you have about our support by email at matt.allen@gardencityks.us or by phone at 620-276-1163.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Oyler".

Deborah Oyler
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Allen".

Matthew C. Allen
City Manager

City Administrative
Center
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620-276-1160
www.garden-city.org