



June 4, 2026

Mr. Marc D. Williams  
Executive Director Texas Department of Transportation  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Dear Mr. Williams:

On behalf of the City of Fort Worth, I write in strong support of continued state funding for the Amtrak Heartland Flyer.

Fort Worth is the southern anchor of this route. For more than 25 years, the Heartland Flyer has brought passengers into the heart of our city through Fort Worth Central Station, connecting our residents and visitors to Oklahoma City and, by way of our regional and intercity rail links, to Dallas, San Antonio, and beyond. The line is not an abstraction to us — it is a daily, working part of Fort Worth's transportation network and a direct contributor to our local economy.

Those connections matter more every year. As one of the fastest-growing large cities in the nation, Fort Worth is investing heavily in the transit and rail infrastructure our future demands, and the Heartland Flyer is an established, proven piece of that picture. The route carried more than 80,000 passengers this past year, with ridership rising sharply. Many of those travelers step off the train and into our Stockyards, our cultural district, our restaurants, and our hotels, supporting jobs and generating sales-tax revenue for the city and the region. Losing the service would reverse that momentum, push tens of thousands of additional vehicle trips onto an already strained I-35, and sever a connection we have spent decades building.

With a funding deadline approaching this summer, I respectfully urge TxDOT to commit the resources needed to keep the Heartland Flyer running through the next legislative session, when a long-term, sustainable solution can be put in place. Fort Worth is a committed partner in keeping this region connected, and we stand ready to help however we can.

Thank you for your consideration and for TxDOT's continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Mattie Parker  
Mayor, City of Fort Worth

**MAYOR MATTIE PARKER**

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CITY OF FORT WORTH ★ 100 FORT WORTH TRAIL ★ FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102