

CITY OF NORTHFIELD, MN
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2024-117

SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE THROUGH NORTHFIELD

WHEREAS, the City of Northfield unanimously adopted Motion 2014-207 “approving a letter of support endorsing inter-city passenger rail between Northfield and the Minneapolis Metropolitan Area” using existing rail infrastructure through Northfield; and

WHEREAS, the City of Northfield unanimously adopted Resolution 2022-020 supporting “State General Funds for a Corridor Study of Regional Passenger Rail Service Connecting South Central Minnesota and the Twin Cities on Existing Rail Line through Northfield; and

WHEREAS, other cities, post-secondary institutions, chambers of commerce, businesses and community groups have joined in passing similar resolutions in support of regional passenger rail connections for the southern tier of the State; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT revised the Minnesota State Rail Plan in 2015 with the addition of a regional passenger rail corridor designation connecting South Central Minnesota to the Twin Cities on existing rail line through Northfield, and identified the corridor as a top ranked Phase One Corridor in the Revised Minnesota Statewide Rail Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Phase One designation of the South Central Minnesota Passenger Rail Corridor through Northfield makes the project eligible for immediate study and potential implementation; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT will be revising their State Rail Plan for 2025-2035 and Northfield and other area cities

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THAT:

the Northfield City Council supports continued prioritization of the Twin Cities-Albert Lea and Twin Cities-Mankato passenger rail corridor as Phase 1 of the 2025 State Rail Plan and for the introduction of a passenger rail designation for the existing east-west Canadian Pacific/former DM&E rail line that connects the Mankato and Albert Lea Corridors in Southern Minnesota, and affords the opportunity to extend passenger rail service to Southern Minnesota cities including Waseca, Rochester/Mayo Clinic/DMC and Winona.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Northfield on this 26 day of November 2024.

ATTEST


City Clerk


Mayor

VOTE: Y POWNELL Y HOLMES Y NESS Y PETERSON WHITE
Y REISTER Y SOKUP Y ZUCCOLOTTO