



Tom Ramsey, P.E., Commissioner
Harris County Precinct 3

March 18, 2021

AGENDA ITEM

Members of Commissioners Court
Administration Building
Harris County, Texas

Members of the Court:

Commissioner of Precinct Three requests discussion and possible action in support of The Gulf Coast Rail District and Senate Bills 1988 and 1990 in the 87th session of the Texas Legislature and to approve a resolution stating that Harris County Commissioners Court supports these bills.

Your consideration and approval of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.
County Commissioner
Precinct Three

TR:cj



Resolution

- WHEREAS, The 87th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature opened on January 12, 2021; and,
- WHEREAS, The Gulf Coast Rail District (GCRD) is a political subdivision of the State of Texas pursuant to Chapter 171, Texas Transportation Code, and the District's powers and authority are derived from several statutes that may be subject to amendment and directly impact the GCRD; and,
- WHEREAS, Transportation options for commuters and passenger transport is a growing area of focus for Harris County, the Houston-Galveston Area Council, the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO), the Texas Department of Transportation, and the Texas Legislature; and,
- WHEREAS, A large part of GCRD's mission is to address the challenge of getting to and from one's place of work in the Greater Houston Region; and
- WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1988 by Senator Boris Miles works to amend HB 931 passed in the 85th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature that related to liability of certain electric utilities that contract with political subdivisions for certain uses of land that the electric utility owns, occupies, or leases, to now include Public Transportation as a use of land and again remove liability of CenterPoint Energy allowing the Gulf Coast Rail District, the ability to promote passenger transport within the shared CenterPoint right of way; and,
- WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1990 also by Senator Boris Miles will amend the Texas Transportation Code Section 171 to include Advanced Transportation Technologies, Bus Rapid Transit or other modes of service in lieu of commuter rail if technical data indicates it is more efficient and cost effective.
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Harris County Commissioners Court supports Senate Bill 1988 and Senate Bill 1990 during this 87th Legislative Session to facilitate important advancement for the transportation future of the Greater Houston Region .
- IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of The Harris County Commissioners Court this 30th day of March 2021.

Lina Hidalgo
County Judge

Rodney Ellis .
Commissioner Precinct 1

Adrian Garcia
Commissioner Precinct 2

Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.
Commissioner Precinct 3

R. Jack Cagle
Commissioner Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Teneshia Hudspeth, County Clerk
Harris County, Texas