

RESOLUTION 02 – 2010

SUPPORTING THE

Existing Amtrak “Empire Builder” Mississippi River Route

for

High Speed Rail Service between Chicago and the Twin Cities

WHEREAS, the existing Amtrak “Empire Builder” service along the Mississippi River Route (the River Route) between Chicago and the Twin Cities represents the most cost effective and the lowest cost alternative for high speed rail through Wisconsin and Minnesota given the existing passenger train level trackage and the double track right-of-way, and;

WHEREAS, High Speed Rail will serve as a significant benefit to existing businesses and as a catalyst for economic development, and;

WHEREAS, High Speed Rail service along the River Route will help further the goals of reducing local congestion and greenhouse gas emissions, and;

WHEREAS, the Empire Builder High Speed Rail Coalition in Wisconsin and the Minnesota High Speed Rail Commission in Minnesota have organized to advocate for the selection of the River Route as the preferred High Speed Rail Route between Chicago and the Twin Cities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the La Crosse Area Planning Committee hereby supports and joins both coalitions in advocating for the River Route and designates the Executive Director to represent the Committee at coalition meetings and related advocacy events.

LA CROSSE AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE

Lynnetta Kopp, Chairperson

Tom Faella, Executive Director

Dated: January 20, 2010