

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE, TEXAS DECLARING SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT
CONNECT HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT SYSTEM PLAN EFFORTS**

WHEREAS, the Transit Working Group (TWG), a subcommittee of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), has deliberated exhaustively on issues of regional mobility and connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the Transit Working Group has been supported in its deliberations by the Project Connect collaborative planning effort for high-capacity transit initiated by the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, City of Austin, Lone Star Rail District and CAMPO; and

WHEREAS, Central Texas' regional population growth is projected to double in the next 25 years; and

WHEREAS, the TWG, civic and business leaders and the public are in consensus that traffic congestion is a serious problem threatening our region's economic health and quality of life and needs to be addressed; and

WHEREAS, a poorly planned and executed regional transportation system impairs our region's opportunities to continue to attract quality job creation; and

WHEREAS, Pflugerville is of a suburban context and automobile dependent but with transit supportive densities, long term transportation solutions should integrate regionally, with diversified transit options that complement an expanding roadway network; and

WHEREAS, high-capacity transit includes modes such as Transit on Express Lanes, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), Commuter/ Regional Rail and Urban Rail; and

WHEREAS, the TWG members determined that the North and Central corridors are the highest priority for regional high-capacity transit based on travel demand and high ridership potential, land use, economic development, employment and travel patterns; and

WHEREAS, high-capacity transit projects should maximize the use of dedicated rights-of-way, such as the MoKan Corridor, and other means of gaining a travel time advantage where financially and physically reasonable and not otherwise detrimental to adjacent land uses or existing transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, future high-capacity transit projects should strive for a "true alternative" to driving, providing quality competitive trips among and within the CAMPO adopted and emerging regional activity centers utilizing seamless connectivity between high-capacity transit components and other modes; and

WHEREAS, the city's comprehensive plan establishes that the Mokan Corridor shall continue to be utilized as a hike and bike trail and evaluate the potential for developing public transit options; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pflugerville has twice passed Resolutions opposing rail implementation in the abandoned rail (Mokan) Corridor and as presented, the Project Connect Vision proposes regional commuter rail in the Corridor without consideration of a transit station opportunity; and

WHEREAS, to secure Pflugerville's support for any specific project or transit system component, such proposed project or system must demonstrate a financial cost/benefit to our community; and

WHEREAS, some funding, such as the Urbanized Area Formula Program (5307) is apportioned on the basis of legislative formulas to Capital Metro as the designated recipient based on the region's population and population density, including Pflugerville, and other factors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pflugerville is a home rule city in Travis and Williamson counties and reserves the right to evaluate compatibility of any proposed plans for the Mokan Corridor and approve any plans and mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, the TWG agrees that participating communities in the region should participate financially for the benefit yielded from the regional transit system; and

WHEREAS, the TWG finds that the Project Connect effort to plan, fund and operate a regional high-capacity transit system as a "Single System" provides a solid framework that should be further evaluated; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pflugerville passed a resolution on March 11, 2014 in support of Project Connect;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Pflugerville supports the concept of a regional vision as was outlined in the Project Connect process, but notes additional revisions and clarifications are necessary and currently under consideration with the Project Connect North Corridor alternatives analysis process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Central and North Corridor Studies project teams and related working groups should collaborate and use the TWG Priorities and Recommendations to be outlined in the forthcoming multimodal System Plan to further evaluate and analyze the routes, alignments, modes, funding and organization to the extent that the result is scalable and feasible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Project Connect Final Report should be revised to reflect the completed Central and North Corridor studies and submitted for

consideration by the CAMPO Policy Board and supporting Technical Advisory Committee and that the report's findings and recommendations be incorporated to the fullest extent possible in the CAMPO 2040 Plan, especially including projects identified for implementation under the anticipated initial funding availability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff is hereby directed to outline corresponding transit goals, policies and actions to be included in the city's Master Transportation Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff is hereby directed to secure consultant services necessary to implement the short to medium term relevant components of the Project Connect North Corridor Locally Preferred Alternative that provides for a park and ride facility near the SH 45 and SH 130 interchange; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff is hereby directed to collaborate with Capital Metro, TxDOT and other necessary parties regarding the long term feasibility of utilizing the MoKan Corridor (Exhibit A-1) for High Capacity Transit (Commuter Rail) as referenced in the attached Exhibit A-2 that is financially feasible, integrates one or more station locations in Pflugerville (Old Town and near Pflugerville Parkway or SH 45), does not unduly impede other modes of transportation or result in grade separations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Project Connect should continue its collaborative efforts to inform area agencies, organizations and the public about the TWG's recommendations and Project Connect efforts to implement high-capacity transit in Central Texas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Resolution No. 1397-14-03-11-0186 is hereby rescinded and this Resolution shall substitute in its place.

APPROVED this 8th day of July, 2014.

CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE, TEXAS

By: _____
Jeff Coleman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen Thompson, City Secretary