

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 2796

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASCO IN SUPPORT OF THE DOWNTOWN HIGH SPEED RAIL ALIGNMENT ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE EXISTING BNSF RAIL ALIGNMENT.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Wasco openly supports the HSR alignment on a downtown location adjacent to the BNSF Railroad line; and

WHEREAS, the BNSF Railroad lines on the east side of the tracks are important to BNSF but should not be a barrier to locating the HSR alignment at the most advantageous location; and

WHEREAS, the commercial and residential properties affected by a west alignment of the HSR would potentially eliminate hundreds of jobs in Wasco and devastate the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the property tax revenue losses resulting from relocation and loss of business activity in Wasco would be significant; and

WHEREAS, the east side alignment of the HSR has significantly fewer impact to the community because there is very little existing development on the east side of the BNSF line that would be a barrier to the HSR tracks; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Wasco does hereby resolve, find, declare, determine, and order as follows:

1. That all of the facts in the recitals set forth above are hereby found to be true and that the City Council has a vested interest in the specific location of the High Speed Rail alignment.
2. The HSR should mitigate impacts to the community, including cooperative efforts to relocate the Wasco Amtrak Station, if necessary,
3. Because the BNSF and HSR trains will further inhibit pedestrian traffic across their respective rights-of-way, the HSR should also build a pedestrian crossing over the BNSF line to facilitate easier access for residents that now live on the east side of those tracks.
4. The City Council hereby supports location of the downtown HSR alignment on the east side of the BNSF tracks.

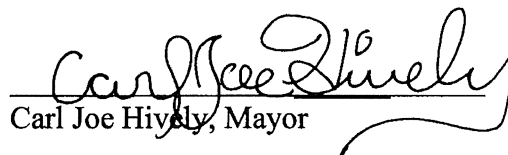
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of Wasco on the 19th day of July, 2011.

AYES: Hively, Cortez, Espitia, Wegman-Craig, West

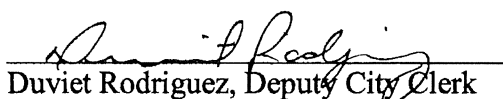
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None


Carl Joe Hively, Mayor

ATTEST:


Duviet Rodriguez, Deputy City Clerk