Mayor
Gordon T. Gollott

Council
At Large Mary F. Martin
Ward 1 Johnny Jones
Ward 2 Hurley Ray Guillotte
Ward 3 Casey C. Vaughan
Ward 4 Charles "Rusty" Anderson
Ward 5 Adam D. Colledge

City of Gautier

Gautier, Mississippi

City Manager
Samantha D. Abell

City Clerk
Cynthia Russell

3330 Highway 90
Gautier, MS 39553
Phone: (228) 497-8000
Fax: (228) 497-8028
Email: gautier@gautier-ms.gov
Website: www.gautier-ms.gov

TO: U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation

Via: Southern Rail Commission

DATE: May 12, 2014

SUBJECT: Support for Southern Rail Commission 2014 TIGER Planning Grant
Feasibility Assessment & Economic Impact Study
Supporting Restoration of Gulf Coast Passenger Rail Service

Secretary Foxx:

The Gulf of Mexico defines a common border across political boundaries. Since 2005, passenger rail service has been absent from New Orleans east across coastal Mississippi, Alabama, and the service has been absent from New Orleans east across coastal Mississippi, Alabama, and the panhandle of Florida. Meanwhile, highway and airway transportation have become more costly and congested, impacting our regional and national economic potential. It's time to restore our passenger rail service and give better transportation choices across the Gulf Coast states.

The Southern Rail Commission is submitting an application for a FY 2014 TIGER Planning Grant supporting restoring intercity passenger rail operations east of New Orleans. The Grant will fund a Feasibility Assessment & Economic Impact Study of the conditions, needs, readiness, social and economic benefits related to restoring suspended operations to a daily level of service.

The City of Gautier fully supports this planning grant action and request your approval of the FY2014 Tiger application submitted by the Southern Rail Commission.

Sincerely,

Gordon T. Gollott
Mayor

Chassity Bilbo

From:	Dan Dealy <ddealy@dsdservicesgroup.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 14, 2014 10:44 AM
To:	sabell@gautier-ms.gov
Cc:	cbilbo@gautier-ms.gov
Subject:	FW: Gulf Coast Passenger Rail - FY2014 TIGER Planning Grant, Southern Rail Commission (Mayors)
Attachments:	SouthernRailCommission_LetterRequestingSupportforFY14TIGERPlanningGrant.pdf; TIGER Fy2014PG Estimating in-kind staff match_040814.pdf; TIGER Fy2014PG Estimating in-kind staff match_040814.doc; EXAMPLE_Letter of support_ TIGERFY14PlanningGrantSRC4-25-14.doc
Importance:	High

Ms. Abell: Thank you for reviewing this information. I'm available to answer any questions.

Dan Dealy

DSD Services Group, LLC

Executive Program Management

Project Development, Support, & Delivery

Strategic Business Development

251.510-7143 Phone

251.621.0392 Fax

From: Dan Dealy [mailto:ddealy@dsdservicesgroup.com]
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2014 1:04 PM
To: Mayor A.J. Holloway, Biloxi, MS; Mayor Alvin Brown, Jacksonville, FL; Mayor Ashton Hayward, Pensacola, FL; Mayor Billy Hewes, Gulfport, MS; Mayor Bob Campbell, DeFuniak Springs, FL; Mayor Connie Moran, Ocean Springs, MS; Mayor David Cadle, Crestview, FL; Mayor Freddy Drennan, Slidell, LA; Mayor Garth Nobles, City of Live Oak, FL; Mayor Gordon Gollott, Gautier, MS; Mayor Guy Thompson, Milton, FL; Mayor Jim Blevins, Pascagoula, MS; Mayor Jim Catron- Madison, FL ; Mayor Jim Staff, Atmore, AL; Mayor John Marks, Tallahassee, FL; Mayor Landrieu, New Orleans, LA; Mayor Les Fillingame, Bay St Louis, MS; Mayor Linda Cain, Chipley, FL; Mayor Robert Wills, Bay Minette, AL; Mayor Sandy Stimpson, Mobile, AL; Mayor Stephen Witt- Lake City, FL
Cc: 'Knox Ross'; 'John Robert Smith'; Beth Osborne (T4A)
Subject: Gulf Coast Passenger Rail - FY2014 TIGER Planning Grant, Southern Rail Commission (Mayors)

All -

Last month, an update was sent to many of the route mayors and immediate stakeholders regarding Gulf Coast passenger rail service - or rather – what movement has been happening to get suspended operations restored to a daily level of service.

This email will touch a much wider base. It is being sent separately to on-route Mayors, route stakeholders, and as a courtesy copy to select county and state elected representatives.

Last month's update mentioned the Southern Rail Commission (SRC) was moving to apply for a FY2014 TIGER Planning Grant.

That application is being prepared for the SRC by their executive affairs consultant – Transportation For America (T4A).

I have been engaged by the SRC to support T4A and help with stakeholder communications and in seeking support.

This is a fast turnaround! The application is due to Department of Transportation on the 28th of this month!

How can you support?

Cash Match is great – and since this is an application, it would only be a commitment at this time.

More likely from most of our communities and stakeholders – in-kind match.

As this is a PLANNING GRANT, if you, your staff, or your organization can contribute to the planning, those man-hours are not being paid to a consultant group and can be counted as match.

Attached to this email is a Word document, also saved as a pdf, which offers a set of questions that can help estimate where and to what level of effort you, your staff, or your organization might participate. There are likely elements of information or planning which are not covered in this 'guide" – and if those are something you, your staff, or your organization might be able to offer assistance with – please do!

Not all this information requires official "planning staff" to be generated.

ANY LEVEL OF SUPPORT IS WELCOME !

Along with your offer of in-kind support, please endorse this effort with a Letter of Support. Many of you have provided letters and Resolutions in the past, supporting restoration of operations to a daily level of service. This will be a specific for this planning grant. A draft example is also attached for your use.

Please contact me for questions. I am available to travel to you and assist in any way possible, a presentation with your City Council or your organization's leadership or at an informal meeting. You may also contact:

John Robert Smith, Transportation For America (601) 527-5040 (cellular) / (202) 955-5543 x204 (office);

Beth Osborne, Transportation for America (202) 955-5543 ext 203 (office) / (202) 302-0240 (cell)

On behalf of the Southern Rail Commission and Transportation for America, THANK YOU!

Dan Dealy
DSD Services Group, LLC
Executive Program Management
Project Development, Support, & Delivery
Strategic Business Development
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