

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-5

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LAPORTE COUNTY COUNCIL
MAKING LAPORTE COUNTY A FINANCIAL PARTICIPANT
IN THE NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT'S MAIN LINE DOUBLE-TRACKING PROJECT**

WHEREAS, LaPorte County has for decades supported the commuter rail operations of the South Shore Line; and

WHEREAS, LaPorte County, in cooperation with Lake, Porter and St. Joseph Counties committed to fund the preliminary engineering and environmental analysis necessary to advance the double tracking project which will reduce travel time, increase train frequency, reliability and safety for the benefit of LaPorte County residents and the region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, LaPorte County, along with Lake, Porter and St. Joseph Counties, urged the General Assembly to provide funding for constructing of this project, which resulted in a State of Indiana commitment to fund this project of \$6 million per year for 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the funding provided by the General Assembly for the project requires a four county local match which will enable the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District to seek a 50% federal matching grant to undertake the construction of the project improvements; and

WHEREAS, LaPorte County, recognizing the substantial benefits that this project will bring to the residents of the County in terms of increased job opportunity, income, economic development, populations growth, and revenue for the county, is prepared to join with Michigan City to jointly fund the county share of the project:

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. LaPorte County resolves to be a cash participant in the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District's Main Line Double-Tracking Project ("Project") pursuant to Indiana law, and will make a cash payment to the Development Authority as defined for the Project by Indiana law, for LaPorte County's share of the local part of the state and local costs of the Project as detailed below.

Section 2. LaPorte County commits and appropriates \$6,083,333.33 to the Project; \$5,000,000 of which shall come from LaPorte County's Major Bridge Fund and \$1,083,333.33 shall come from the special LIT distribution currently received in the Emergency Reserve Fund.

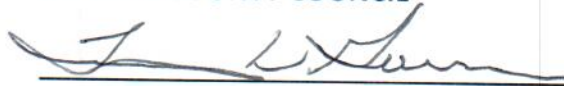


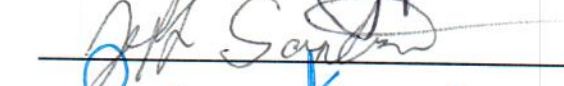

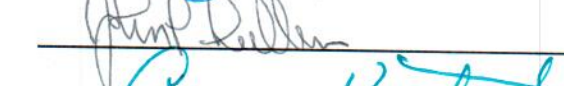

Section 3. The \$6,083,333.33 shall be paid as directed by the Indiana Finance Authority within 120 days after the final Financing Plan is agreed to by the Development Authority and the Indiana Finance Authority, or by December 31, 2017, whichever is earlier.

Section 4. The remainder of LaPorte County's share of the rail project's cost, the same being \$12,166,666.67, shall come from Michigan City governmental units.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESOLVED this 30th day of May, 2017.

LAPORTE COUNTY COUNCIL

By:

ATTEST:


Joie Winski, LaPorte County Auditor