

RESOLUTION NO. R-1-2017

**RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF LA PORTE SUPPORTING THE NORTHWEST INDIANA
DOUBLE TRACK PROJECT FOR THE NORTHWEST INDIANA
COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT (NICTD)
OPERATING THE SOUTH SHORE LINE**

WHEREAS, the Northwest Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD) has for many years operated in the middle of 10th and 11th Streets in Michigan City over track that is embedded in asphalt which presents insurmountable obstacles to modernizing the South Shore Line; and,

WHEREAS, issues that exist because of the present "in street" alignment of the South Shore Line are obstacles to NICTD's ability to enhance safety, comply with the Federal Railway Safety Improvement Act of 2008, address the excessive number of grade crossings, modernize the signal and catenary systems, and provide a fully accessible passenger station; and,

WHEREAS, NICTD is presently engaged in what is referred to as a "Core Capacity Project," a four (4) county project benefiting Northwest Indiana that has an estimated cost of \$250,000,000, approximately half of which is expected to be utilized for modernizing and improving the South Shore Line's facilities through Michigan City, Indiana; and,

WHEREAS, the City of La Porte supports the Core Capacity Project between the four (4) counties, which includes that portion of the project directly affecting Michigan City, which is referred to as the Double Track NWI (the 'Project'); and,

WHEREAS, the Project, which is in the environmental investigation and preliminary engineering phase, involves double tracking the South Shore Line from Tennessee Street in Gary to Michigan Boulevard in Michigan City; and,

WHEREAS, the City of La Porte reasonably believes that the Project will be of tremendous benefit to La Porte County and its residents, businesses, and visitors by increasing ridership on the South Shore Line, increasing train frequency, reducing travel time, improvement of passenger service in La Porte County, enhancing safety crossings, and reduction of track and road maintenance costs all of which will contribute to increasing economic development in the City of La Porte and La Porte County, including, but not limited to, transit oriented development.

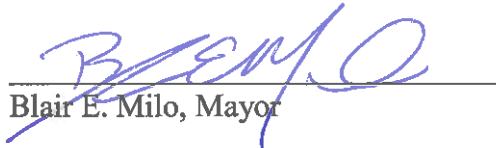
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of La Porte that:

SECTION 1. The aforementioned "Whereas" sections are incorporated herein as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. The City of La Porte resolves to work with all the necessary governmental entities in support of the construction of the Double Track Project at the Northwest Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD).

SECTION 3. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage by the Common Council of the City of La Porte and approved by the Mayor.

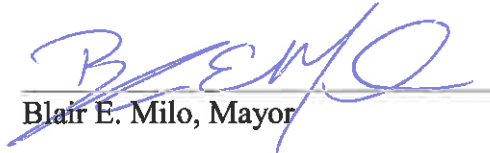
PASSED AND APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of La Porte, Indiana, this 17TH day of JANUARY, 2017.


Blair E. Milo, Mayor

ATTEST:


Teresa L. Ludlow, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED by me this 17TH day of LA PORTE, 2017.


Blair E. Milo, Mayor

ATTEST:


Teresa L. Ludlow, Clerk-Treasurer