

SPONSOR: Daniel Spitale
Councilman At Large

RESOLUTION NO. R23

A Resolution Establishing the City of Hammond's Contingent Support of the "Hammond Alternative" to the West Lake Corridor Project

WHEREAS, The City of Hammond by the City Council and its Mayor have by prior resolution committed funds to support the cost of a Draft Environmental Impact Study, prepared by AECOM Corp (AECOM), for the Northwest Indiana Commuter Transit District (NICTD), for the Westlake Corridor Project; and

WHEREAS, Since said commitment, NICTD has along with its engineers (AECOM) explored various portions of the project that would directly benefit the City of Hammond; and

WHEREAS, These benefits include but are not limited to a Gateway Station located in Hammond that would allow passengers to connect to both the east/west and north/south South Shore lines, a maintenance facility to be located west of Sheffield Avenue and north of Hoffman Street, and a South Hammond station at approximately 173rd and Lyman, all which would result in approximately a \$300 million dollar investment in the City of Hammond; and

WHEREAS, this "Hammond Alternative" is the alternative that provides the maximum benefit to the City of Hammond and should be advanced by NICTD as the Preferred Alternative in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement when it is published in the Federal Register; and

WHEREAS, this represents a significant investment in the City of Hammond which could and will impact positively the city and its residents and will also allow the potential for further RDA investment in the city through Transit Oriented Development (TOD) in the amount of at least \$40 million dollars in and around the proposed Gateway Station and the current Gostlin Street Station, and other areas along the corridor; and

WHEREAS, NICTD is at a critical time frame in its planning process and are transitioning from route planning to actual engineering and project development and wishes to commit \$10-15 million dollars to further design the project, and, advance the project through the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision; and

WHEREAS, to continue to develop the project, NICTD is in need of a further commitment of funds from the City of Hammond, which commitment is specifically contingent upon the Hammond Alternative being adopted and other contingencies being adopted as listed herein; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to allow NICTD to continue exploration of the Hammond Alternative as it is a significant potential investment in the City, but that the City will only further commit funds requested contingent upon the NICTD Board of Trustees committing to the following:

- 1) The Hammond Alternative (Gateway Station, Maintenance Facility and South Hammond Station) is approved and is adopted by the NICTD Board of Trustees as part of the West Lake Corridor Project;

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- 2) That the NICTD Board of Trustees commits to design the South Hammond Station in such a manner that parking lot traffic will use 173rd Street and will not negatively impact the neighborhood between Lyman and Hohman Avenues with any vehicular traffic;
- 3) That the NICTD Board of Trustees agrees that the current bike trails and rights of way along the proposed route are not disturbed or impacted, or, if they are impacted, they are restored at or near the current location and at or above their current condition including any and all bicycle/pedestrian bridges; and
- 4) The NICTD Board agrees that The Hammond Alternative will not be designed or constructed to standards that would accommodate freight train traffic;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That if the above contingencies are met, and the Hammond Alternative is included as the Preferred Alternative in the Draft Environmental Impact Study and approved and adopted by the NICTD Board of Trustees, The City of Hammond by and through the Hammond City Council and its Mayor, commits for the duration of the West Lake Extension Corridor Project (not to exceed thirty (30) years) a financial commitment equivalent to 33 1/3% of its proportional distribution of Lake County CEDIT revenue (not to exceed \$900,000 per year).

RESOLVED this 8th day of August, 2016.

Janet Venecz, President /s/
Hammond Common Council

ATTEST: _____
ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond to the Mayor said City for approval on the 12th day of August, 2016.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/

The foregoing Resolution No. R23 consisting of two (2) typewritten pages, including this page, approved by the Mayor on the 14th day of August, 2016.

THOMAS M. MCDERMOTT, JR. , Mayor /s/
City of Hammond, Indiana

PASSED by the Common Council on the 8th day of August, 2016.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/