

RESOLUTION NO. 08 10 02

AUTHORIZING THE SUPPORT OF THE SELECTION OF ALIGNMENT B FROM THE RAIL RELOCATION FOR COLORADO COMMUNITIES (R2C2).

WHEREAS, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) continues to evaluate the potential construction of a new north-south rail alignment that would bypass east of the Colorado Front Range Communities; and,

WHEREAS, the R2C2 study which has been undertaken to evaluate the potential realignment currently includes the development of optional railway lines that would divert rail traffic away from the Front Range.

WHEREAS, CDOT's R2C2 study currently underway is evaluating two future alignments east of the Colorado Front Range Communities; and,

WHEREAS, alignment B bypasses the City of Fort Morgan thus avoiding the some of the public travel delays, noise and public safety issues created within the City by alignment A; and,

WHEREAS, The R2C2 study model showed that there were 25 trains per day in 2007 between Fort Morgan and Denver on the BNSF line. The Model also suggests that approximately 17 trains per day would be re-routed onto Alignment B between Brush and Las Animas if it were to be built.

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Fort Morgan believes that the detour of trains on Alignment B of the R2C2 study would enhance the public health and safety of the citizens of Fort Morgan,

WHEREAS, Alignment B may create additional economic development opportunities for the City of Fort Morgan while Alignment A's increased number of trains would hinder those opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fort Morgan, Colorado that:

SECTION 1: The City of Fort Morgan supports a recommendation to CDOT and other government decision makers of Alignment B, which diverts train traffic coming through the City of Fort Morgan near Hwy 71 at Brush, to mitigate the travel delays, noise and public safety issues to the citizens in the City of fort Morgan.

SECTION 2: The City of Fort Morgan encourages CDOT and its consultants to carefully

evaluate the concerns regarding the use of eminent domain and the long-term fair market value for the land required to construct a future Alignment B.

SECTION 3: The City of Fort Morgan encourages CDOT, in future studies, to develop a final route using existing highway and / or transmission line corridors to limit additional affects to agricultural lands in eastern Colorado.

SECTION 4: If any portion or provision of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such portion or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution, the intention being that the same are severable.

INTRODUCED, PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of October, 2008, the vote upon roll call being as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Darnell; Councilmembers Deal, McAlister, Powers, Schafer Shaver and Simmons.

Nays: None.

Absent : None.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FORT MORGAN, COLORADO

[SEAL]

BY: 
Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk