North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD)

Resolution No. 2018-07

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED SERVICE
BY THE NEW MEXICO RAIL RUNNER

WHEREAS, the North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD) is a duly formed Regional Transit District pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 73-25-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, among the purposes for the formation of the NCRTD is to "serve the public by providing for the creation of regional networks of safe and efficient public transit services"; and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD considers the continuation of service by New Mexico Rail Runner Express (NMRX) to be consistent with the aforementioned goal of creating a regional transit network; and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD is aware that the federal government has mandated Positive Train Control (PTC) systems for rail transit nationally; and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD supports safe and efficient transit alternatives for all New Mexicans; and

WHEREAS, The Rio Metro Regional Transit District (RMRTD) is working with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and tenant railroads (BSNF and Amtrak) to develop a "Risk Mitigation Plan" in accordance with 49 CFR § 236.1019(c)(1)(iii) to allow continued operations of the NMRX after the December 31, 2018 PTC implementation deadline in a temporary capacity; and

WHEREAS, RMRTD, working with the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT), issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on January 29, 2018 for the implementation of PTC on the NMRX; and

WHEREAS, RMRTD has applied for a State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan through NMDOT to partially fund the implementation of PTC on the NMRX; and

WHEREAS, RMRTD is working with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to partially fund the implementation of PTC through a combination of FTA 5337 formula funds and grant anticipation financing using FTA 5337 formula funds to service debt; and
WHEREAS, the State Transportation Commission will consider the SIB application at their March 15, 2018 regularly scheduled meeting in Rio Rancho, NM; and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD believes that it would be in the best interest of the traveling public and regional connectivity to continue Rail Runner services past the 2018 deadline while the implementation of PTC is still pending; and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD board wishes to express its support for a resolution to the PTC issues that ensures continuation of rail service pending the instillation and implementation of a PTC system.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of the NCRTD, hereby supports the continued service by Rail Runner of rail transit services past the 2018 federal deadline and encourages all persons and entities involved, including but not limited to the agents of the federal government, to take such steps as are reasonably practicable to permit and ensure that Rail Runner transit services continue pending the instillation of a PTC system. Further, the Board of Directors of the NCRTD hereby supports the RMRTD SIB loan application being considered by NMDOT and also supports RMRTD’s efforts working with FTA to finance a portion of PTC Implementation with grant anticipation financing using FTA 5337 funds to service debt.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT ON THIS 2nd, DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2018.

Daniel Barrone, Chairman

Approved as to form:

Peter Dwyer, Counsel