



TEXAS
ASSOCIATION OF
BUSINESS

THE TEXAS STATE CHAMBER

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The Honorable Ann D. Begeman
Chairwoman, U.S. Surface Transportation Board
395 E. St, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Chairwoman Begeman,

On behalf of our 2,000 members and 200 chamber partners, the Texas Association of Business is writing in strong support of the Texas Central High-Speed Rail project.

As you know, this privately funded project has made significant progress in acquiring right of way, engaging local communities and property owners, and making a strong case to Texas citizens and community and business leaders.

Texas has an unparalleled record of attracting private investment, private employers, and private sector jobs. We welcome risk-takers and entrepreneurs willing to invest their capital in the Lone Star State.

Most Texans welcome the private investment from Texas Central Rail. Texas Central is expected to create more than 17,000 jobs during construction and a multi-billion-dollar economic impact for Texas and the US economy. By virtue of the project and Texas' economic demographics, many of those benefitting from project development dollars will be a small, minority, and veteran-owned businesses.

Additionally, Texas needs economic stimulus to help our neighbors and communities quickly recover from the COVID-19 and ongoing energy crises. Public and private sector infrastructure projects are key to reinvigorating the Texas economy while benefitting mobility, public safety, and job creation.

The Texas business community and most Texans remain firmly committed to Texas Central, and their willingness to invest private dollars in Texas transportation infrastructure. That private investment is even more important as our state and national economies recover from the current crisis.

We appreciate the U.S. Department of Transportation's continued support for the Texas Central High-Speed Rail project, and hope you agree to move it through the federal approval process.

Onward,

Jeff Moseley
President & CEO
Texas Association of Business