



CITY OF HOUSTON

Sylvester Turner

Mayor

P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

Telephone – Dial 311
www.houstontx.gov

April 15, 2019

House Transportation Committee
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Members of the House Transportation Committee,

As we all know, Texas is one of the fastest-growing states in America. As a result, we just can't build roads fast enough to keep up. As soon as they're built, they seem to be immediately clogged with traffic. We aren't going to be able to build our way out of this problem. Of course, this growth is a blessing, but it comes with some complications. The I-45 corridor between Houston and Dallas is one of the clogged corridors that needs to be addressed.

One solution, which will cost the taxpayers of Texas nothing, is the Texas Bullet Train. The Bullet Train will give Houston, North Texas and our entire state a competitive advantage over our competitors. No other state will be able to offer the same confluence of economic factors associated with this high-speed transportation amenity. It will create 10,000 jobs each year during construction and an estimated 1,000 new, highly-skilled jobs.

It is expected to add more than \$10 billion in direct investment, \$2.5 billion in tax revenues and have an economic impact of \$36 billion over ten years. It will also be environmentally friendly. The train is 6 times more efficient than travelling by car and emits about 1/12 the carbon of a commercial airliner. More than 60% of the route will be in the form of elevated viaducts, which will allow for free movement of animals, people and vehicles.

With a 90-minute trip time, it will be much faster than traveling by car, and significantly safer — the I-45 corridor is the second-deadliest highway in the country. The technology that will be used in this project — which is called Shinkansen — has a 52-year safety record that is the best in the world. This project will connect approximately half the state's population. With all factors taken into account, every Texan wins with this plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sylvester Turner".

Sylvester Turner,
Mayor