



**CITY OF PLANO
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

CITY SECRETARY'S USE ONLY				
<input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory				
Council Meeting Date:		February 25, 2013		
Department:		City Manager's Office - Development		
Department Head		Frank F. Turner		
Agenda Coordinator (include phone #): Sherry Jackson - Ext. 7122				
CAPTION				
A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Plano, Texas, supporting the Cotton Belt Project to include filing of legislation to form a special district; authorizing its execution by the City Manager or his authorized designee; and providing an effective date.				
FINANCIAL SUMMARY				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE <input type="checkbox"/> OPERATING EXPENSE <input type="checkbox"/> REVENUE <input type="checkbox"/> CIP				
FISCAL YEAR: 2012-13	Prior Year (CIP Only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Budget	0	0	0	0
Encumbered/Expended Amount	0	0	0	0
This Item	0	0	0	0
BALANCE	0	0	0	0
FUND(s): N/A				
COMMENTS: This item has no fiscal impact.				
STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL: Supporting the Cotton Belt Project to include filing of legislation to form a special district relates to the City's Goals of Financially Strong City with Service Excellence and Partnering for Community Benefit.				
SUMMARY OF ITEM				
Resolution supporting the Cotton Belt Project to include filing of legislation to form a special district.				
List of Supporting Documents: Memo and Resolution			Other Departments, Boards, Commissions or Agencies	

Memorandum

To: Bruce G. Glasscock, City Manager
From: Frank F. Turner, Deputy City Manager
Date: 2/15/2013
Re: Cotton Belt Legislation

A public/private partnership as provided by Subchapter A of Chapter 2267 of the Texas Government Code is proposed as the means for implementing the Cotton Belt Regional Passenger Rail Service. Plano and other affected jurisdictions and authorities have been asked to approve a resolution supporting legislation to create a special district establishing broad powers necessary to undertake the design, financing, development and operation of the rail service. The district would cover the entire 62 mile corridor and cross portions of 13 municipalities. The district is required create a single governmental entity to form a partnership with a private entity (most likely a consortium) to undertake the project. The district would be responsible for securing public revenue for the project through various means, including subarea property assessment districts and tax increment finance districts surrounding many Cotton Belt stations. Only a preliminary draft of the proposed bill has been prepared. We are unaware of any member of the legislature who has agreed to introduce the proposed bill.

The resolution recommended for council approval supports introduction and deliberation of legislation to create a district, but does not endorse a specific bill. Should the legislature approve the creation of the proposed district, Plano retains complete discretion on participation in the district and commitment of financial resources. Thus far, only Richardson, Addison, Coppell and DART have approved resolutions in support of legislation. Other cities are scheduled to consider a resolution during the coming weeks.

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Plano, Texas, supporting the Cotton Belt Project to include filing of legislation to form a special district; authorizing its execution by the City Manager or his authorized designee; and providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the City of Plano supports the development and operation of the Cotton Belt Regional Passenger Rail Service; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a public private partnership as provided by Subchapter A of Chapter 2267 of the Texas Government Code may be feasible as a near term means of financing the development and operation of the Cotton Belt Regional Rail Passenger Service; and

WHEREAS the participation of multiple political jurisdictions and authorities is required to create such a public private partnership; and

WHEREAS, legislation is required to establish a special district as the foundation of the public private partnership; and

WHEREAS, the details of such legislation are dependent on development of consensus among the affected political jurisdictions, authorities and private entities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS, THAT:

Section I. The City of Plano supports the introduction and deliberation of legislation to form the district, whose authorization should be limited to those powers essential to the public private partnership as uniformly supported by the affected political jurisdictions, authorities and private entities.

Section II. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED this the 25th day of February, 2013.

Phil Dyer, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Diane C. Wetherbee, CITY ATTORNEY