



705 NORTH ZEEB ROAD 2ND FLOOR
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48103-1560
PHONE: (734) 994-3127 FAX: (734) 994-3129
WEBSITE: WWW.MIWATS.ORG
E-MAIL: WATS@MIWATS.ORG

**Resolution to Support State Action to ensure the Matching of
Federal High Speed Rail Transportation Funds**

- Whereas, the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS) is a transportation planning agency responsible for the planning, allocation and programming of federal funds for transportation in Washtenaw County with membership from seventeen of the twenty-eight units of government, two universities, and four transportation agencies; and
- Whereas, rail transit including Ann Arbor to Detroit and WALLY (Howell to Ann Arbor) commuter rail and AMTRAK intercity rail service is an integral component of the Washtenaw County Transit Vision; and
- Whereas, the Michigan Department of Transportation has presented information to the WATS Technical and Policy Committees that indicates that the State's budget, although able to match federal transportation funds beginning 2011 through reductions in general and winter maintenance, and a \$30 million one year bond is unable to match additional federal funds or future federal funds; and
- Whereas, the State of Michigan recently received High Speed Rail funding awards totaling \$161.1 million with \$7.9 million for rail improvements west of Detroit, \$150 million for acquisition and improvement of the rail line between Kalamazoo and Dearborn, and \$3.2 million to prepare a service improvement plan for High Speed Rail service from Pontiac to Chicago; and
- Whereas, the improvements to advance High Speed Rail will also support future commuter rail between Ann Arbor and Detroit; and
- Whereas, it is imperative that the State not turn back federal funding for transportation;
- Whereas, HB 6484 would provide capital funding for both the High Speed Rail funding and funding for capital improvements for Ann Arbor to Detroit and WALLY;


POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- CITY OF ANN ARBOR • ANN ARBOR DDA • ANN ARBOR TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY • ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP •
- CITY OF CHELSEA • VILLAGE OF DEXTER • DEXTER TOWNSHIP • EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY •
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- WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS • WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION • CITY OF YPSILANTI •
- YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP • EX OFFICIO: FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION • SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS •

Now therefore be it resolved, the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study Policy Committee recommends that the State Legislature act immediately to provide funding to match federal funds through the following actions:

- Support and pass HB 6484 allowing the use of bonding authority to match the High Speed Rail capital improvements;
- Continue discussions of how to restructure and fully fund multi-modal transportation in the state of Michigan.

Adopted on November 17, 2010



Jim Carson, Dexter Village
Councilmember
Chair, Washtenaw Area
Transportation Study Policy
Committee