



February 5, 2025

City of Wichita Written Testimony In Support of Senate Bill 86

Submitted by Gary Janzen, Director of Public Works and Utilities, City of Wichita

Thank you for the opportunity to express the City's support of Senate Bill 86 (SB86).

We strongly support SB86, which provides crucial financial resources for passenger rail extension in Kansas:

- It can provide another mode of travel for our residents, of particular importance to seniors, students, and workers without access to a vehicle.
- New contemplated services connecting with Southwest Chief at Newton, for example, would link Kansas City to Wichita and other important metropolitan areas further south in Oklahoma and Texas.
- Increase potential for reduction of highway congestion by shifting trips to passenger rail.
- Position Wichita and Kansas more favorably as we compete for future economic development initiatives and major events such as conventions and sporting events.

We strongly support attempts to expand funding for multi-modal transportation as provided by SB86. We urge your support of this initiative for the benefit of all Kansans.