## County of Lackawanna



**Certified Copy** 

Resolution: 22-0057

Lackawanna County Government Center at The Globe 123 Wyoming Ave Scranton, Pennsylvania 18503

File Number: 22-0057

Supporting the Re-Establishment of Passenger Rail Service

WHEREAS, Amtrak has proposed to operate a new corridor between Scranton, the Poconos, and New York City and have calculated the economic benefit of this rail passenger corridor to be \$87 million annually; and

WHEREAS, Lackawanna County has a long history of supporting the re-establishment of the passenger rail link between Scranton and New York City; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority (PNRRA) have already invested over \$18 million in rebuilding this rail corridor; and

WHEREAS, the PNRRA has entered into a contract with Amtrak to provide infrastructure and ridership analysis on their proposed new corridor for which PNRRA is paying Amtrak \$400,000; and

WHEREAS, the residents and core industries of Lackawanna County see rail passenger service as critical for economic growth in Northeastern Pennsylvania; and

**WHEREAS,** Lackawanna County has been without passenger rail service for over 50 years, and now with the passage of the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the funding opportunity has presented itself to provide the restoration of this long-awaited rail passenger service.

**NOW THEREFORE,** The Board of Commissioners of Lackawanna County strongly endorses the Amtrak proposed corridor between Scranton and New York City, based on the recognized economic benefits and broad support in our business, professional, and tourism communities.

**ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Lackawanna County held on February 16, 2022.

OUNTY OF LACKAWANNA

JERRY NOTARIANNI

DEBI DOMENICK, ESQ.

CHRIS CHERMAK

ATTEST:

BRIAN JEFFERS CHIEF OF STAFF

Approved as to form and legality:

FRANK J. RUGGIERO COUNTY SOLICITOR