**Texas cities, towns, counties and organizations agree that DAILY passenger rail service along the Southern Tier is needed**

Background: Amtrak’s tri-weekly Sunset Limited serves cities and towns in Texas on its service between Los Angeles and New Orleans. The rail service has been growing in ridership and revenue but is constrained because it only operates three days a week East-West.

The train serves El Paso / Alpine / Sanderson / Del Rio / San Antonio / Houston and Beaumont but only three days a week. Flatonia, Texas midway between San Antonio and Houston has applied for a stop and has drawn up plans for a station.

**What would daily service mean along Texas’ Southern Tier counties?**

* A transportation choice. Many of these towns and cities do not have direct air service to connect between them
* Some of the towns served have infrequent or no other ground transportation choices
* States served by the Sunset along the I-10 corridor have seen a population increase of 22%, far outstripping other parts of the country
* Increased economic opportunity and tourism growth
* Safe, affordable and reliable alternative to automobile and air travel
* Future opportunity to add shorter distance corridor trains (I.e. San Antonio-Houston-Beaumont) for additional service

**Supporters of daily train service along Texas’ Southern Tier counties:**

**(as of March 1, 2019)**

* Houston – Mayor Sylvester Turner
* San Antonio – Mayor Ron Nirenberg / San Antonio City Council Resolution
* Beaumont – Jefferson County Judge Jeff Branick / Jefferson County Commissioners Court / Jasper County Commissioners Court / City of Groves
* Del Rio - Val Verde County Judge Lewis Owens / Del Rio Mayor Bruno Lozano / Del Rio Chamber of Commerce
* Sanderson – Terrell County Judge Santiago Flores
* Alpine – City Council
* El Paso – Coming soon
* Other: Tucson AZ - Mayor Jonathan Rothschild



