



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Mayor Calls for Collaborative Action to Save Amtrak's Heartland Flyer**

Gainesville, TX– Gainesville Mayor Tommy Moore is coordinating with state and regional leaders to preserve the Heartland Flyer, the daily Amtrak service connecting Fort Worth, TX to Oklahoma City, OK. The Texas Legislature's proposed 2026-2027 budget does not allocate funding for the passenger rail line, leaving its future in serious jeopardy.

To address the issue, Mayor Moore is connecting with key transportation and policy leaders, including the City of Fort Worth, the Texas Transportation Commission, Texoma Council of Governments and the North Central Texas Council of Governments. His goal is to develop regional strategies that keep the train running and building support among decision-makers in Austin.

"This is more than just trains and tracks," said Mayor Moore. "The Heartland Flyer supports nearly \$20 million in annual economic activity and almost 30 full-time jobs. It provides a vital transportation option for Texans and Oklahomans alike, and losing it will be a major setback for mobility, our environment, and our economy."

Launched in 1999, the Heartland Flyer has served as a critical regional connector for more than two decades, including stops in Gainesville, Fort Worth, Ardmore, and Oklahoma City. Each year, it removes an estimated 50,000 cars from the heavily congested I-35 corridor, helping reduce traffic and cut emissions.

Mayor Moore emphasizes that without Texas contributions to its operating budget, the train service will come to a halt. Oklahoma has signaled its continued support through a bipartisan resolution passed by state lawmakers, encouraging Texas to uphold its share of the funding partnership.

In addition to its economic benefits, the Heartland Flyer has long been seen as a stepping stone toward future passenger rail expansion across the region. "Losing the Heartland Flyer wouldn't

just affect our city—it would undermine long-term visions for improved public transportation across North Texas and the Southern Plains,” said Moore.

“By working together, I believe we can find a solution that keeps the Heartland Flyer on track,” said Moore. “I’ll keep the public informed every step of the way, and I’ll keep fighting to make sure this critical service stays in place for years to come.”

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### **ABOUT THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE**

Nestled in the heart of North Texas, the City of Gainesville was founded in 1850 and is located in Cooke County. The city has a rich history and is sprinkled with landmarks, charming downtown streets, and a vibrant community that honors the past while embracing the future. For information about city-sponsored projects, please visit [GainesvilleTXEngage.org](http://GainesvilleTXEngage.org).