



# CITY OF CONCORD

## REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Carlos P. Baía, Deputy City Manager—Development

**DATE:** March 27, 2015

**SUBJECT:** NH Rail Transit Authority Recommendation

### **Recommendation**

Accept this report.

### **Background**

In light of a pending NH Rail Transit Authority vote to recommend a “preferred alternative” for passenger rail in the state, City Council—at its March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting—approved a resolution recommending that any passenger rail service resulting from the NH Capital Corridor Study include service to Concord.

### **Discussion**

The NH Rail Transit Authority project committee, tasked with drafting a recommendation for the Authority as a whole, met on March 24, 2015. Recognizing City Council’s position, the committee scrapped its original recommendation (which had no reference to Concord). After discussion and debate with Concord’s representatives, the committee moved the following motion for consideration:

*To recommend that the preferred alternative is MBTA commuter rail service to Manchester with a continued interest in extending passenger rail service to Concord.*

On March 27, 2015 the Authority as a whole reviewed the proposed motion. The Deputy City Manager for Development, sitting as Concord’s representative, acknowledged that the motion, albeit perhaps not an exact reflection of Council’s position, was a product of deliberation and compromise. However, the DCM noted—for the record—that this City Council or a future Council may wish to revisit the Authority’s recommendation should passenger rail move closer to realistic implementation. The motion was ultimately adopted.