

RESOLUTION NO. 2333

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SWLA-RPC) FOR LOUISIANA PLANNING DISTRICT 5 APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SWLA-RPC TO APPLY FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT TO FACILITATE RAIL TO THE PORT OF VINTON.

WHEREAS, the Southwest Louisiana Regional Planning Commission completed a comprehensive regional rail study and plan in 2025; **AND**

WHEREAS, the draft Southwest Louisiana Marion "Butch" Fox Regional Rail Study and Plan is currently under review for public comment; **AND**

WHEREAS, one of the primary rail plan objectives is to provide the Port of Vinton with rail access that was thwarted by construction of Interstate Highway 10 in the 1960s; **AND**

WHEREAS, there are new economic opportunities for industrial development north and east of the Port of Vinton that prompt a planned new highway interchange at Fabacher Road allowing for rail access; **AND**

WHEREAS, the City of Vinton, City of Sulphur, the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury and the Lake Charles Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) have expressed support for the new industrial area and related infrastructure needs; **AND**

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of the Southwest Louisiana Regional Planning Commission encompass transportation, land use, drainage, utilities and economic development; **AND**

WHEREAS the proposed rail access opportunity for the Port of Vinton is a project of convergent common objectives and resources coordinated among several local stakeholders; **AND**

WHEREAS, there are rare occasions with multiple objectives may be brought together for a common project and opportunity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SWLA-RPC) FOR LOUISIANA PLANNING DISTRICT 5 APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SWLA-RPC TO APPLY FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT TO FACILITATE RAIL TO THE PORT OF VINTON.

THIS RESOLUTION BEING APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THE 18TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.

ATTEST: Michael Hollier
Michael Hollier, AICP, Director

Jacob Dillehay
Jacob Dillehay, Chair