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**Heller Applauds Progress with Amtrak on “X-Train” Service from LA to Las Vegas**

**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) is welcoming continued progress by Amtrak, its Board of Directors, and X Rail Entertainment, Inc. (XREE) on exploring passenger rail service from Los Angeles to Las Vegas. The proposed service, known as the “X-Train,” would operate once per week and improve travel opportunities to Las Vegas, the Entertainment Capital of the World.

“As a strong supporter of increasing travel options to Nevada and boosting its tourism economy, I look forward to Amtrak and X Rail Entertainment taking the next steps toward connecting Los Angeles to Las Vegas through passenger rail service,” **said Heller**. “Whether it’s professional sports teams, diverse show experiences, or the revitalization of downtown Las Vegas, southern Nevada is a premier tourist destination and continued development of a variety of travel options to the city is critical.”

In May of this year, [Senator Heller wrote to Amtrak in support of advancing this effort expeditiously](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/152e038f-64aa-4795-be85-93aafb6006e1/05022017%20Heller%20Letter%20to%20Amtrak%20re%20Xtrain%20Approval.pdf). In 2016, Heller also pushed Amtrak to initiate the review process for this passenger rail line between Los Angeles to Las Vegas. [ADD IN ANOTHER LINK W/QFR?]  It has been nearly two decades since regular passenger rail service has been in place between Los Angeles and Las Vegas, and there is only one major highway to serve the millions of southern California visitors each year who travel by automobile to reach Las Vegas.

Earlier this year, [Heller was announced as the newest co-chair of the Senate Travel and Tourism Caucus.](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2017/2/senate-travel-tourism-caucus-welcomes-new-co-chair-senator-dean-heller) He will co-chair the caucus with Senators Roy Blunt (R-MO), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), and Brian Schatz (D-HI). The Travel and Tourism Caucus works to promote common-sense policies and raise awareness of the importance of the job-creating travel and tourism industry.

[Add in stats about southern NV tourism economy?]

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