



RESOLUTION TITLE: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CHARLOTTE AREA TRANSIT SYSTEM'S (CATS) LYNX SILVER LINE EXTENDING INTO GASTON COUNTY AND TO SEEK FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL FUNDING OPTIONS FOR THE SILVER LINE PROJECT

- WHEREAS, more transportation options are needed to provide greater mobility to the existing residents as well as the growing population in Gaston County; and,
- WHEREAS, the US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, LODES, (2018) indicates that 36,364 Gaston County residents are traveling into Mecklenburg County each weekday for work; and,
- WHEREAS, the Charlotte MSA region is home to over 2.6 million people and is expected to grow to over 3.0 million by 2030 and the key to supporting this economic growth is a rapid transit system integrated with land-use planning creating a sustainable, economic-environment which improves the quality of life and attracts businesses and people to the region; and,
- WHEREAS, Gaston County stakeholders have expressed interest in exploring rapid transit options into Gaston County from Mecklenburg County; and,
- WHEREAS, the 2019 adoption of the LYNX Silver Line Locally Preferred Alternative defined the Silver Line as a 26-mile continuous light rail corridor from the Town of Matthews to Center City Charlotte and continuing west to the Charlotte Douglas International Airport and beyond to a western terminus in the City of Belmont and Gaston County; and,
- WHEREAS, in early 2020, the cities of Belmont and Gastonia committed both cash and in-kind services to the LYNX Silver Line Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Plan; and,
- WHEREAS, in January 2020, the Charlotte Area Transit System initiated the Silver Line Design and Environmental Study; and,
- WHEREAS, beginning in March of 2020 the LYNX Silver Line project team worked with staff from the City of Charlotte, Town of Matthews, City of Belmont, Town of Stallings, Town of Indian Trail, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, major stakeholders along the alignment, and the residents in the study area to refine the alignment and station locations in an open, fair, comprehensive, and impartial manner; and,

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CHARLOTTE AREA TRANSIT SYSTEM'S (CATS) LYNX SILVER LINE EXTENDING INTO GASTON COUNTY AND TO SEEK FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL FUNDING OPTIONS FOR THE SILVER LINE PROJECT

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WHEREAS, on April 5, 2021 the City of Belmont adopted a Resolution Supporting the LYNX Silver Line Refined Locally Preferred Alternative; and,

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2021 the Metropolitan Transit Commission adopted the LYNX Silver Line Staff Recommendations; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County must have authority approved by the North Carolina General Assembly to seek additional funding from a county-wide source; and,

WHEREAS, in order to adequately fund the extension of the LYNX Silver Line in to Gaston County the North Carolina General Assembly must increase the current cap of 10% for light rail projects in North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County and effected Municipalities must work directly with the City of Charlotte, CATS, and the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) to secure sufficient federal funds to complete the extension of the LYNX Silver Line into Gaston County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the LYNX Silver Line in Gaston County and will seek federal, state, and local funding options for the Silver Line project.

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Resolution adopted this, the 24th of August, 2021, upon a motion of Commissioner _____ and seconded by Commissioner _____ by a vote of ____ affirmative votes to ____ negative votes.

Chairman Tom Keigher
Gaston County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board

Certificate

The undersigned duly qualified County Clerk of Gaston County certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners held on the 24th of August, 2021.

Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board

Date

(seal)