



**RESOLUTION TITLE: GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LEGISLATIVE REQUEST: TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN GASTON COUNTY AND TO
REQUEST THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO
RESTORE FUNDING**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation owns many of the major thoroughfares throughout Gaston County and is responsible for ensuring that these thoroughfares are maintained in a manner that safely moves people and freight; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County is part of the Gaston Cleveland Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (GCLMPO), and as such has worked to secure funding for various transportation improvement projects in Gaston County that are to begin in the next few years; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County's population has grown by 8.5% between 2010 and 2018 and that trend will continue into the future as Gaston County continues to become a more desirable place to live and work; and,

WHEREAS, in order for Gaston County to maintain its quality of life it must offer safe mobility options for its residents and businesses that will keep up with its growth; and,

WHEREAS, NCDOT recently announced that due to cash balance concerns, it is suspending preliminary engineering on transportation projects in Gaston County, including the widening of Interstate 85, the replacement of the Sloan's Ferry Bridge over the Catawba River, and other major projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby supports NCDOT's projects in Gaston County and requests that funding for preliminary engineering for them be restored in order to promote the quality of life and to provide economic opportunities for the County and the well-being of its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Local Legislative Delegation to the North Carolina General Assembly and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman

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