



**RESOLUTION TITLE: RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT APPLICATION TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S 2021 REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE) GRANT PROGRAM**

- WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation's ("USDOT") Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity ("RAISE") provides funding for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure; and,
- WHEREAS, the Lineberger Connector Project was identified as a regional project in the Franklin Boulevard Corridor Access and Alternative Development Mobility Strategy, completed in August 2016 by the City of Gastonia and the City of Lowell; and,
- WHEREAS, the cities of Gastonia and Lowell, in partnership with Gaston County, seek to apply for grant funding to construct the Lineberger Connector Project, which will extend Aberdeen Boulevard east to connect to the existing Lineberger Road with improvements north to NC 7, and provide direct access to approximately 400 acres of property that is ripe for local and regional development; and,
- WHEREAS, the cities of Gastonia and Lowell are actively working with NorthPoint Development for the development of Gateway85; and,
- WHEREAS, the proposed development will include over 3,560,000 s.f. of warehouse and wholesale sales, distribution, and storage operations; and,
- WHEREAS, upon full buildout, NorthPoint Development is estimating over 2,500 new jobs; and,
- WHEREAS, the majority of the property currently has only one access point via Lineberger Road, which is a substandard two-lane facility with a skewed, at-grade crossing of the Norfolk Southern rail corridor; and,
- WHEREAS, in order for freight trucks to avoid this access, it is imperative that Aberdeen Boulevard be extended through the site to allow for a connection to Cox Road to the west, with safe and direct access to I-85; and,
- WHEREAS, this proposed project presents a unique opportunity to provide accessibility to an area that will produce significant economic development and job creation along Interstate 85; and,
- WHEREAS, the Lineberger Connector Project is located within an Area of Persistent Poverty, and will bring a much-needed infusion of investment dollars for economic development into the area, helping to advance equity for all; and,

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**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:**

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RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT APPLICATION TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S 2021  
REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE) GRANT  
PROGRAM  
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WHEREAS, the project will exemplify a strong public-private partnership involving multiple partners in both the public and private sectors, including collaboration among neighboring jurisdictions to achieve both local and regional benefits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby declares support for the funding and construction of the Lineberger Connector Project.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Keigher, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board

Certificate

The undersigned duly qualified Clerk of the Gaston County Board of County Commissioners certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of Gaston County held on June 22, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board      Date

(SEAL)