

**A RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GREENVILLE COUNTY TO LEAD IN RESPONDING TO A USDOT “SMART CITY CHALLENGE” (SCC) WITH A BOLD PROPOSAL FOR SMART TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS AND A SMARTER GREENVILLAGES DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Greenville was selected in December 2015 as one of ten Envision America communities and adopted an Envision Greenville focus on “Smart Transportation Corridors and Smarter GreenVillages Development;” and

**WHEREAS**, the USDOT announced in December 2015 a Smart City Challenge designed to help cities begin to address the challenges that the 2015 USDOT “Beyond Traffic” study identified in many mid-sized metropolitan areas will experience, such as rapid population increases (Greenville Metro is projected to double from 500,000 to 1 million by 2030) with correspondent demands on their transportation infrastructure;

**WHEREAS**, the Smart City Challenge will award up to \$40 million in federal resources without a granting requirement into one medium-sized city, selected through a nationwide competition, that presents a plan with bold, data-driven ideas to improve lives by making transportation safer, easier, and more reliable by using technology to connect mobility assets into an interactive network, and will also award an additional \$10 million from its private partner Vulcan Philanthropy to the winning city to support infrastructure for Electric Vehicles (EVs) (learn more at [www.vulcan.com/Areas-of-Practice/Philanthropy/Key-Initiatives/Smart-City-Challenge](http://www.vulcan.com/Areas-of-Practice/Philanthropy/Key-Initiatives/Smart-City-Challenge) [external link]).

**WHEREAS**, USDOT proposes that the ideal winning city will view Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), connected vehicles, and automated vehicles as the next logical step in its existing, robust transportation infrastructure, and include critical systems in vehicles and infrastructure that communicate with each other, allow for active citizen participation, and integrate new concepts that leverage the sharing economy;

**WHEREAS**, Clemson University – ICAR has requested Greenville County to lead a coalition of partners from governmental, corporate, university, and non-profits to join the challenge and submit a Smart City Challenge grant proposal by February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**WHEREAS**, Greenville County Council and its Economic Development Corporation (GCEDC) recognizes that intelligent, connected vehicle technology and automated transport network

(ATN) systems have potential to revolutionize transportation, to reduce accidents, energy consumption, and pollution, thus reducing the costs of congestion and parking, and saving governments and individuals significant future mobility costs with a 60+ mile long ATN system from GSP Airport thru Greenville to Clemson University; and

**WHEREAS**, ATN systems are operating at West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV; Heathrow Airport in London; Masdar City, Abu Dhabi; and Suncheon Bay, South Korea; and local agencies like Greenville Spartanburg (GSP) Airport; the City of Clemson; and Clemson University as well as numerous other entities in Greenville have indicated their desire to build a ATN system in the near future;

**WHEREAS**, automated transport technology has brought significant publicity to Greenville as Bob Jones University undergraduate engineering students automated an electric vehicle assembled by Star EV in Simpsonville, and demonstrated Bruin-1 in Washington, D.C. on June 1, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, South Carolina can build its current transportation cluster by leading the research, development, and manufacture of innovative automation components and automated vehicles, utilizing state universities, research centers, and corporations to create an early adopter environment, promoting an inviting location for development of this evolving multi-billion dollar industry with associated high tech jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, Greenville County has a growing nucleus of researchers and entrepreneurs interested in automating electric vehicles and developing prototype automated vehicles, as well as studying the potential psychological and economic impacts of the innovative technology; and

**WHEREAS**, Greenville County attracts high skill people and companies to a better quality of life, a history of “wow” factor innovations, and with current efforts to create multi-modal corridors with automated transportation services and GreenVillages development; and

**WHEREAS**, Greenville County is an ideal automated pilot site because of its wide range of traffic patterns, rural and urban driving situations, skilled workforce, strong universities, sites for research and development at Clemson University’s International Center of Automotive Research and SC-TAC’s International Transport Innovation Center (ITIC), as well as corporate transportation leaders like Michelin America, BMW Manufacturing, Proterra, Kemet, Bosch, and General Electric; and

**WHEREAS**, Using Greenville County as a pilot site will assist the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), US Department of Transportation, the South Carolina General Assembly and the South Carolina Department of Transportation, as well as nationally recognized experts in automated vehicle legislation and regulations, like University of South Carolina professor of law and engineering, Bryant Walker Smith, with crafting model legislation and policy necessary to maximize the social benefits that ATN technology will enable.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Greenville County Council does hereby consent to GCEDC and County staff working with Local and State Officials, and other Corporate, University, and Community partners to create a collaborative environment and develop the necessary approvals and agreements to authorize Greenville County to:

- a) develop a proposal and support documents focusing on “Smart Transportation Corridors and Smarter GreenVillages Development” and addressing safety, mobility, and environment as well as all priorities of the USDOT Smart City Challenge due February 4<sup>th</sup> to include elements such as the following;
- b) establish multi-modal transportation corridors with intelligent transport systems (ITS) technology, connected buses and other shared vehicles, automated transport network (ATN) systems, and assisted/automated LSEV shuttle deployments;
- c) promote research, development, testing and deployment of ITS and ATN technology, including an emphasis on safe and efficient transportation;
- d) establish demonstration programs and workshops to promote transportation innovations and convene strategic groups of individuals influential in innovation adoption processes; and in doing so,
- e) encourage related technology interests to consolidate in Greenville County and establish an AT ecosystem for people and companies to design, test and develop ITS and ATN infrastructure, vehicles, communications, and control systems; as well as
- f) provide leadership in the development of ATN system standards and guidelines.

**ADOPTED IN REGULAR MEETING THIS \_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.**

**GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL**

---

Bob Taylor, Chairman  
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

---

Theresa B. Kizer  
Clerk to Council

---

Joseph M. Kernell  
County Administrator