

A RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF GREENVILLE COUNTY'S APPLICATION TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK (SIB) FOR ASSISTANCE IN FUNDING MAJOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN GREENVILLE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, Greenville County is one of the fastest-growing counties in the Country, and is the fastest-growing county in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the pace of recent and expected future growth and development of Greenville County has outstripped the capacity of current transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Greenville County is submitting an application for financial assistance from the South Carolina State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) for five major highway and transportation improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, these important projects will benefit not only the residents of Greenville County and the surrounding regions in their daily commutes and travels, but will also assist with better freight movement and improve the overall safety of these corridors; and

WHEREAS, these major highway and transportation improvement projects will enhance mobility and safety, promote economic development, and increase the quality of life and general welfare of the citizens of Greenville County; and

WHEREAS, despite the need and priority of these projects within the County, State and region, current funding allocations and prioritization mechanisms are insufficient to fund these major projects within the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, Greenville County Council supports important transportation improvements projects locally for the advancement of public safety, economic development, quality of life and economic viability for the citizens of Greenville County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County Council hereby supports Greenville County's application to the SIB for funding contributions to the following projects:

1. I-85/Batesville Road Interchange: Construct a new I-85 interchange at Batesville Road to relieve dangerous and detrimental chronic congestion in the vicinity of SC Hwy 14 and Pelham Road. This project is needed to improve safety and relieve extreme congestion; however, SCDOT has not expressed any plans for this much needed I-85 interchange. Upon receiving SIB funding, this project could be accomplished within 5 to 10 years pending Federal approval for changes to Interstate 85.
2. US Hwy 25 Improvements: Make improvements to US Hwy 25 from Tigerville Road north to the state line to address critical traffic safety concerns. Under current funding mechanisms, only major critical safety improvements to US Hwy 25 will receive funding; however, the remaining much needed improvements will likely

never rank high enough to receive funding. Upon receiving SIB funding, all improvements could be accomplished within 5 years.

3. Woodruff Road Parallel: Make improvements and additions to the current road infrastructure to create a roadway from Miller Road to Mall Connector running parallel to Woodruff Road, relieving extreme traffic congestion. Current funding mechanisms only provide for a portion of this project to be under construction by 2021, but other portions will likely not receive funding for 10 to 15 years. Upon receiving SIB funding, all improvements could be accomplished within 5 to 10 years.
4. West Georgia Road Widening: Widen and improve West Georgia Road in four segments to improve safety and relieve traffic congestion. Under current funding mechanisms, this project is likely not eligible for funding for the next 20 years. Upon receiving SIB funding, the improvements could be accomplished within 5 to 10 years pending necessary right of way acquisition.
5. I-185 Realignment: Realign a portion of I-185 and create a new access road to streamline and expedite ingress to a hospital emergency room and expand general access to a health care campus development. This project is needed to improve public safety, relieve congestion, and provide for present and future economic development. This project will likely not receive funding under current funding mechanisms; however, upon receiving SIB funding, the improvements could be accomplished within 5 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon subsequent decisions of County Council and the SIB review and approval process these transportation improvement projects, or any other projects that County Council approves for submission, are subject to change to best meet County transportation needs and SIB requirements.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2017.

Herman G. Kirven, Jr., Chairman
Greenville County Council

Theresa B. Kizer
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator