



Resolution to Implore the Union County Board of Commissioners to Cooperate with Waxhaw to Develop Transportation Solutions

WHEREAS, Waxhaw has developed deliberate strategies for planning transportation networks and infrastructure to mitigate traffic congestion and accommodate long-term growth;

WHEREAS, Waxhaw seeks transportation solutions which embraces regional connectivity and enables participation in state funding programs;

WHEREAS, the FHWA, NCDOT, and CRTPO acknowledge the creation of connected and alternate road networks reduces trips and miles driven, which reduces congestions;

WHEREAS, based on a recent study, 67.5% of the traffic in and around the area of downtown Waxhaw is non-local, pass-through traffic, which illustrates **all** residents in the area of Waxhaw are **directly impacted** – regardless of their proximity to the proposed Waxhaw Parkway alignment - by the need of a regional transportation solution is needed to accommodate existing traffic and alleviate bottlenecks and congestion in downtown Waxhaw;

WHEREAS, the existing train tracks in Waxhaw experience significant daily train usage which creates one of the most significant traffic bottlenecks at train crossings;

WHEREAS, the Waxhaw Parkway has been planned for decades as a way to alleviate the congestion at train crossings and provide connectivity between existing collector roads and thoroughfares most heavily traveled by Waxhaw residents;

WHEREAS, limited progress has been made over the past several decades related to the construction of the Waxhaw Parkway due to, among other things, the significant costs of crossing the railroad tracks;

WHEREAS, Waxhaw contributes a substantial, and growing share of property tax revenue – more than \$17 million annually – to Union County and deserves support and investment from the County commensurate with the Town’s tax contribution;

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of County Commissioners voted on April 15, 2024 to egregiously remove the Waxhaw Parkway from Union County's supported projects to be included in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan;

WHEREAS, because of the actions of the Union County Board of County Commissioners, it is significantly less likely that funding from CRTPO and / or NCDOT for Waxhaw's critical road infrastructure, including the Waxhaw Parkway, will be appropriated;

WHEREAS, the recent actions of Union County Board of County Commissioners are another example, in a long history of examples, of delaying the implementation of crucial infrastructure investments by deferring needed road and utility investments which will significantly burden future citizens and Commissions;

WHEREAS, the actions of the Union County Board of County Commissioners to eliminate the Waxhaw Parkway from the Comprehensive Transportation Plan was done without any provided alternative solution or future strategy;

WHEREAS, members of the Union County Board of County Commissioners publicly stated, and by their actions, have shown a willful disregard for North Carolina General Statute §136-66.2, which requires comprehensive transportation plans be developed as a planning tool to "serve present and anticipated travel demand in and around the municipality" including the consideration of "population growth, economic conditions and prospects, and patterns of land development in and around the municipality";

WHEREAS, the actions of the Union County Board of County Commissioners were punitive against the citizens of Waxhaw due in part to the lack of representation of Western Union County towns on the all at-large elected Board of County Commissioners;

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of County Commissioners, through its past and recent actions, related to critical infrastructure, have infringed on our Town's ability to effectively self-govern and implement established strategic plans for the good of our citizens;

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of County Commissioners' vote on April 15, 2024, showed contempt for the citizens of Waxhaw through its lack of willingness to engage in the creation of any strategy which might help alleviate existing congestion by refusing to participate in a CRTPO facilitated collaboration of multiple municipalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Waxhaw, North Carolina, that the Union County Board of County Commissioners take the following actions:

Reconsider and approve the recommendation of Union County Transportation Planning staff, and the request of the Town of Waxhaw, to update the Comprehensive Transportation Plan to include the proposed alignment of the Waxhaw Parkway.

Duly adopted and effective this 25th day of June, 2024.

RES2024015

Robert J. Murray III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brandi Stroud, Deputy Clerk