

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 16.

DATE OF REQUEST: February 11, 2009

REQUESTED BY: Chairman Tate and Commissioner Brown

SHORT TITLE: Resolution Advocating Federal Stimulus Funding for US 17 Hampstead By-Pass Project

BACKGROUND: The US 17 Hampstead By-Pass project is a priority regional transportation project but is not funded for construction in the most recent State Transportation Improvement Program. As the federal economic stimulus package being considered by Congress may likely provide funding for transportation projects, the Board is requested to adopt a resolution requesting funding specifically to expedite this project.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: To adopt the attached resolution advocating funding of the US 17 Hampstead By-Pass Project with federal economic stimulus package funds.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.

BS
Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

The attached resolution advocating federal economic stimulus funding for the US 17 Hampstead By-Pass project is hereby adopted.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Tate ___ Brown ___ Blanchard ___ Rivenbark ___ Williams ___

Jimmy T. Tate, Chairman Date

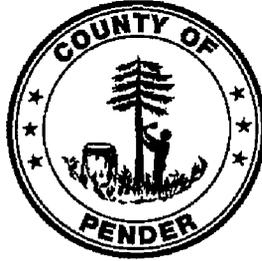
ATTEST Date

County of Pender

Board of Commissioners

Jimmy T. Tate, Chairman
George R. Brown, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Norwood Blanchard
F.D. Rivenbark
J. David Williams, Jr.

Rick Benton, County Manager
Paul Parker, Assistant County Manager



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Resolution Advocating Federal Economic Stimulus Funding For US 17 Hampstead By-Pass Project

WHEREAS, US Highway 17 is a major north-south transportation artery throughout Pender County and the region, serving citizens, visitors, the military, industry and commercial users alike; and

WHEREAS, the US 17 Hampstead Bypass project is proposed to be a 14-mile multi-lane facility on new location, reducing congestion on existing US Highway 17 and greatly improving the safety and mobility of users and drivers in Pender County; and

WHEREAS, the US 17 Hampstead Bypass project is listed on the North Carolina Department of Transportation's *State Transportation Improvement Program* (STIP); and

WHEREAS, the US 17 Hampstead Bypass project is estimated to cost \$152 million, with planning and design work underway but with the next scheduled expenditure set for the year 2013; and

WHEREAS, the longer the North Carolina Department of Transportation delays funding for this important project, the more expensive right of way acquisition and construction become due to inflationary pressures; and

WHEREAS, accelerating the US 17 Hampstead Bypass project will save lives, reduce congestion, improve mobility and improve economic development opportunities for Pender County and the region; and

WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina expects to receive in excess of \$800 million for transportation infrastructure as part of the federal economic stimulus package passed by Congress;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pender County Board of Commissioners respectfully asks the North Carolina Department of Transportation to invest some of its transportation stimulus money to accelerate the planning, permitting, design, right of way acquisition and construction of the US 17 Hampstead Bypass project in Pender County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the North Carolina Department of Transportation as well as state and federal elected officials representing Pender County.

Adopted this the 16th day of February, 2009.

Jimmy T. Tate, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Rick Benton, County Manager