

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-10

ORIGINAL

**RESOLUTION TO URGE THE STATE OF TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
TO RECOGNIZE AND SUPPORT THE ROLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY  
DEPARTMENTS PLAY IN THE SUCCESS OF THE OVERALL  
STATE OF TENNESSEE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, the continued lack of funding for county highway projects has reached a critical point in Tennessee as state gasoline/ fuel tax collections remain consistently stagnant; and

**WHEREAS**, at the state level, the Administration has identified more than a \$6 billion backlog of needed transportation projects. County highway departments are continuing to scale back or cancel resurfacing projects and reduce staffing until additional revenues become available; and

**WHEREAS**, as a part of the overall Tennessee transportation system, county roads and bridges are an integral part of the state's economic and community development success, the impact it has on safe and efficient transportation of school children, the essential element in providing emergency services to our taxpayers, and the daily life value it adds to the citizens of our counties. The vast majority of vehicle trips in Tennessee begins and ends on a road maintained by local government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee County <sup>Service</sup>~~Commission~~ Association (TCSA) asks that the State of Tennessee General Assembly recognize and support the important role county government highway departments play in the success of overall state transportation system; and

**WHEREAS**, Weakley County supports the efforts of organizations such as the National Association of Counties and National Association of County Engineers to encourage Congress to enact a secure and long-term funding strategy for the future of the Federal Highway Trust Fund and pass a long-term surface transportation bill, preferably six (6) years in length, that provides sufficient funding and supports counties' surface transportation priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, TCSA urges the General Assembly to enact an adequate, multi-faceted funding solution for Tennessee's transportation needs based on usage of the transportation system that includes a growth component to ensure that funding of our critical infrastructure is sustainable in the long term; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the county legislative body of Weakley County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th of November 2015 in Dresden, Tennessee hereby encourages the State of Tennessee to maintain its current "pay-as-you-go" strategy and urge the General Assembly to avoid issuing debt to address transportation needs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Weakley County Commission along with TCSA urges the General Assembly to enact an adequate, multi-faceted funding solution for Tennessee's transportation needs based on usage of the transportation system that includes a growth component to ensure that funding of our critical infrastructure is sustainable in the long term. We encourage the State of Tennessee to maintain its current "pay-as-you-go" strategy and urge the General Assembly to avoid issuing debt to address transportation needs. We oppose general reliance on toll funding to support the state's overall strategy for transportation infrastructure.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, we urge the General Assembly to restore the \$260 million in TDOT funding that was diverted to the general fund under a prior administration, including the restoration of money diverted from the state aid program. However, we urge the administration and General Assembly not to consider this one-time restoration a fix to a long-term funding shortfall.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to State Senator John Stevens, State Representative Andy Holt, and to the executive directors of Tennessee County Commissioners Association and Tennessee Highway Officials Association.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all resolutions of the Board of County Commissioners of Weakley County, Tennessee, which are in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it. This resolution shall be spread upon the minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

**Pursuant To The Rules Of The Commission, This Resolution Is Sponsored By The Following Members Of The Weakley County Board Of County Commissioners:**

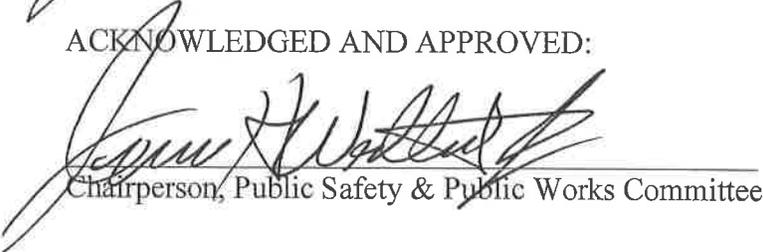
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ACKNOWLEDGED AND APPROVED:

  
Chairperson, Public Safety & Public Works Committee

Motion made by Commissioner Taylor that the foregoing resolution be adopted: Motion seconded by Commissioner Westbrook.

voice  
Upon being put to a roll-call vote, Motion carried by a vote of 18 Yeas,  
0 Nays, 0 Passed and 0 Absent.

ATTESTED:

  
Kim Hughey, County Clerk

APPROVED:

  
Jake Bynum, Chairperson, County Mayor

This the 16th day of November 2015.