

DRAFT

**RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE CONSIDERATION OF
TOLL FINANCING TO CONSTRUCT THE TRIANGLE PARKWAY
(NC 147 SOUTHERN EXTENSION FROM I-40 TO I-540)**

WHEREAS the Triangle region continues to receive many national accolades, including being among the best places to live, start a business, and raise a family, and

WHEREAS our continued population growth - more than 70 percent between 1980 and 2000 compared to a 20 percent national growth rate - has created a tremendous and growing strain on the Triangle's transportation system, and

WHEREAS the region's economic heart, the Research Triangle Park, still has the potential to double in employment from 45,000 to 90,000 employees by build out, and

WHEREAS the Triangle Parkway would provide an alternative route and a connector to the Park that will save time, money, and lives for travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS a completed Triangle Parkway will help attract, create, and retain jobs throughout the Triangle area by providing delay-free travel to employees, suppliers, and customers during off-peak periods and dramatically reduced travel times during peak periods; and

WHEREAS the construction of the Parkway will help relieve traffic congestion which hampers the ability of areas beyond the core counties to share in the Triangle's prosperity;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the undersigned members of the Triangle's business, government, and community organizations request that the North Carolina Turnpike Authority consider the Triangle Parkway (NC 147 southern extension to I-540) as one of its initial three toll projects authorized, in order to provide enhanced access to jobs and mobility to and through Research Triangle Park from points throughout the greater Triangle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the undersigned members of the Triangle's business, government, and community organizations encourage the appropriate use of free-flow electronic tolling with variable pricing to help coordinate supply and demand, encourage bus transit use and carpooling, and maintain optimum travel service on the Triangle Parkway – the NC 147 southern extension to I-540.