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DRAFT  
RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF EXPRESS HIGH OCCUPANCY LANES  
ALONG INTERSTATE 40 IN THE TRIANGLE AREA  
USING TOLL FINANCING OR OTHER MEANS

**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 Greater Research Triangle Park area still has the potential to double in employment from 100,000 to 200,000 employees by build out, and

**WHEREAS**, significant growth in jobs and enrollment is anticipate a the region’s colleges and universities – including an additional 20,000 at Carolina North at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and an additional 30,000 at NC State University’s Centennial Campus, and

**WHEREAS**, the triangle continues to struggle with increasing congestion and air quality concerns, and

**WHEREAS**, federal transportation funding to North Carolina has not increased adequately to meet the need for expanded roadways, transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the ability of North Carolina’s Highway Fund – and indeed the Highway Trust Fund, passed in 1989 – to serve as a statewide funding source for all needs is being steadily eroded by ever increasing statewide demands, and

**WHEREAS**, the business community, elected officials, and community leaders possess a shared commitment for the region’s continued prosperity and high quality of life, and

**WHEREAS**, a continued effort to forge a consensus on the need for additional revenues and institutional frameworks to improve mobility has been sustained by members of the Regional Transportation Alliance – a partnership of 15 chambers of commerce – in concert with local, county and state elected officials, and

**WHEREAS**, a 2000 study commissioned by the mayors of Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, and Cary identified a series of multimodal transportation components – such as new express lanes along congested freeway corridors – that would help to maintain mobility and travel options throughout our urban region,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the undersigned members of the Triangle’s business, government, and community organizations are committed to implementing express high occupancy free-flow lanes along Interstate 40 in Orange, Durham, and Wake Counties, (with the western Triangle being the higher priority), in order to encourage carpooling and transit ridership and create an effective alternative for users during peak travel conditions.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the undersigned members of the Triangle’s business, government and community organizations encourage the consideration of free-flow electronic tolling that would enhance the mobility of travelers while providing an additional source of revenue to accelerate the construction and maintenance of the express high-occupancy corridor.