

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING LEGISLATION THAT PRESERVES LOCAL CONTROL OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, PROVIDES FOR A MORE EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FORMULA BETWEEN MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES, AND PROVIDES FOR ADDITIONAL DEDICATED REVENUE OPTIONS FOR MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSIT PROJECTS; DIRECTING CITY ADMINISTRATION TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, THE WALTON COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, safe and efficient transportation is fundamental to the vitality, economy and public safety of the City of DeFuniak Springs as well as to the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has 112.8 million visitors each year and more than 1,000 new residents each day; and

WHEREAS, transportation congestion is a growing problem throughout the state and in the City of DeFuniak Springs; and

WHEREAS, the state's growing population and influx of visitors causes additional wear and tear on existing transportation infrastructure, which contributes to a growing, recurring need for regular repair and replacement; and

WHEREAS, transportation infrastructure is underfunded, which has adversely impacted the ability of the City of DeFuniak Springs to facilitate economic growth, meet businesses' distribution needs, encourage downtown revitalization, and accommodate future growth in population and visitors; and

WHEREAS, gas tax revenues at both the state and federal levels have not kept up with inflation, while transportation construction costs continue to escalate; and

WHEREAS, the continued increase in the number of fuel-efficient vehicles has resulted in lower gas tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, federal, state and county governments have a variety of tools available to address transportation funding needs, but municipalities have very limited revenue options for funding transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, while the state has authority to charge tolls on certain roadways or increase vehicle registration fees to help fund transportation needs, and counties have the authority to impose additional gas taxes or other sales surtaxes through voter referenda to address transportation funding needs, municipalities do not have authority to exercise these options for addressing municipal transportation funding needs; and

WHEREAS, legislative action is needed to assist municipalities with funding resources for municipal transportation needs, including, but not limited to, low interest loans or grants from the state for municipal transportation projects, or a dedicated and recurring funding mechanism for municipal transportation infrastructure and transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities has included municipal transportation infrastructure funding as one of its 2018 Legislative Priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The above "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of DeFuniak Springs urges all members of the Florida Legislature to preserve local control of transportation planning, and further urges the Legislature to authorize dedicated revenue options and mechanisms for municipal transportation infrastructure and transit projects.

- Section 3.** The City Administration is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Florida League of Cities, the Walton County Legislative Delegation and any other interested parties.
- Section 4.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same are repealed to the extent of such conflict. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.
- Section 5.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

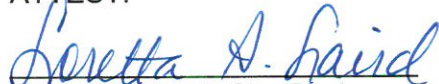
PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA THIS 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2018.

DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA



Mayor, Robert "Bob" Campbell

ATTEST:



Loretta A. Laird, City Clerk