

**TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT WITH  
“I-77 MOBILITY PARTNERS” TO TOLL I-77 FOR 50 YEARS**

**WHEREAS**, the Final Draft of the Comprehensive Agreement (the Agreement) between the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and I-77 Mobility Partners (the Developer) requires the NCDOT to compensate the Developer if any future interstate improvement result in a decrease in toll revenues along the planned I-77 HOT lane corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement requires the North Carolina taxpayer to compensate Developer up to 80 percent of the senior outstanding debt of the project in the case of Developer default, and further requires the North Carolina taxpayer to assume the state and federal tax liability of the Developer in certain cases; and

**WHEREAS**, the lanes for the I-77 managed lanes project will be designed to carry cars and transit vehicles only, and therefore will be built to approximately half the thickness of normal general purpose lanes; and

**WHEREAS**, these lanes will not be able to handle the weight of Tractor Trailers, thereby limiting their future use or necessitating a complete reconstruction if they are to accommodate heavy commercial vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, the toll lane project is forecast to cost approximately \$11 billion (based on the 2011 Stantec forecast) over 50 years for the drivers in the HOT lanes; and

**WHEREAS**, I-77 is a primary evacuation route for two nuclear power stations in the event of an accident or terrorist attack, and the fastest, least-intrusive manner to add capacity to I-77 is with general purpose lanes from exit 23 to 36; and

**WHEREAS**, the motorsports community, the service and retail industries, as well as other business owners have actively spoken out against the toll lane plan making a compelling case that tolls in I-77 will impair economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Project design limits access or makes it much more cumbersome at selected exits and therefore will cause economic harm to gas stations, hotels, restaurants and other local businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, I-77 could potentially be de-bottlenecked for approximately \$100 million dollars using public funds that citizens have paid for through the gasoline tax, and the toll lane project will cost state taxpayers approximately \$240 million dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina had a budget surplus of \$400 million this year, and Governor McCrory's budget director has said publicly the state can borrow money to finance road construction, and this improvement in state finances should compel reconsideration of public funding to add general public, free lanes instead of private toll lanes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has concerns about the failed toll road projects around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent local media-led polls it appears that more than 82 percent of our constituents oppose the 50-year toll contract for I-77; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Huntersville overwhelmingly supported and elected a board and mayor who have stood against and continue to stand against the I-77 project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on behalf of the citizens that we represent here in Huntersville, we respectfully ask that the planned 50 year toll contract for Interstate 77 between NCDOT and I-77 Mobility Partners be immediately terminated by NCDOT and the widening of I-77 with general purpose lanes between mile markers 20-36 be scored under the STI.

Adopted this 7th day of December, 2015.

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John Aneralla, Mayor

ATTEST

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Janet Pierson, Town Clerk