

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING NCDOT TO STUDY THE I-74/US-74 CORRIDOR
IN BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Rural Transportation Planning Organization (RPO) was established to facilitate the coordination of transportation planning efforts between the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and local officials in the Cape Fear RPO planning boundary; and

WHEREAS, the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) is the duly established transportation planning policy board for the Cape Fear RPO; and

WHEREAS, the US-74/I-74 corridor is identified as Corridor “H/U” in NCDOT’s Strategic Transportation Corridors Network, the core network of multimodal transportation corridors moving large volumes of people and freight throughout the state and connecting centers of economic activity considered to be of statewide and regional significance; and

WHEREAS, Governor McCrory’s *25-Year Vision for North Carolina: Mapping Our Future* identifies the improvement of US-74 to interstate standards from Charlotte to Wilmington as a needed infrastructure solution; and

WHEREAS, Governor Easley’s Logistics Task Force *Final Report* recommended upgrading I-74 from Charlotte to Wilmington, including: (1) Upgrade all of US 74/76 to interstate standard; (2) Completion of the Monroe Bypass; (3) Reroute I-74 design (from the Green Swamp route) to connect to the I-140 bypass; and (4) US 74/76 short-term improvements (right of way/access management/grade separations); and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Maritime Strategy identifies the US-74 corridor as a key route to enhance freight mobility for waterborne truck freight; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT 2040 Plan identifies the upgrade of I-74 from Wilmington to Charlotte as a transportation priority for the Port of Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear RPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (in 2003 and again in 2013) and the Wilmington MPO Transportation Advisory Committee (in 2013) each adopted resolutions encouraging the construction of I-74 to the Wilmington Bypass (I-140) [attached].

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners hereby requests NCDOT conduct a corridor study of the I-74/US-74 corridor in Brunswick and Columbus Counties.

Adopted at a regular meeting on _____, 2015.

Scott Phillips, Chairman
Cape Fear RPO

Margie Stephenson, Clerk to the Board