CITY OF TOPEKA RESOLUTION NO. 8128

SHAWNEE COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2008-165

A JOINT CITY OF TOPEKA AND SHAWNEE COUNTY RESOLUTION introduced by Deputy Mayor Jeff Preisner, endorsing transportation improvements for Shawnee County, Kansas, and the City of Topeka, Kansas, concerning the enactment by the Kansas Legislature of a new state-wide comprehensive transportation program.

WHEREAS, one of the major responsibilities of Shawnee County and the City of Topeka is to plan for the immediate and long-term transportation needs of the Shawnee County and the City of Topeka within the county; and

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of Shawnee County and the City of Topeka have identified the transportation capital improvements that are needed within Shawnee County and the City of Topeka; and

WHEREAS, these specific transportation capital improvements are essential to the health, safety and welfare of our citizens in the future; and

WHEREAS, these specific transportation capital improvements are essential to the economic well-being of Shawnee County and the City of Topeka and to their long-term growth and development; and

WHEREAS, the failure to undertake these transportation capital improvements will impede and may prevent the economic needs and goals of Shawnee County and the City of Topeka from being accomplished; and

WHEREAS, Shawnee County and the City of Topeka are unable to finance such capital transportation improvements without substantial assistance from the State of Kansas and the Kansas Department of Transportation; and
WHEREAS, the State of Kansas and the Kansas Department of Transportation cannot sufficiently address the transportation needs of Shawnee County and the City of Topeka and other cities and counties across the state without the enactment of a new Comprehensive Transportation Program by the Kansas Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SHAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS AND THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS:

Section 1. Priority Transportation Projects.

After careful investigation of the transportation needs in Shawnee County and the City of Topeka, the following transportation capital improvements are hereby declared to be vital to the future economic growth and development of the county and city and the safety of their citizens and to all those who use the mentioned highways and other means of transportation:

State Highway Projects

1. I-70 Polk Quincy Viaduct – reconstruct and realign for safety reasons and to maximize riverfront development.

2. Improve the US-24 Corridor according to recommendations from Corridor Studies, including improvements west to Manhattan and east to Lawrence.

3. Southside Corridor – Connecting local project, 77th St to 15th St to I-70.

4. US-75 interchange at 49th St and US-75 corridor improvements south to Lyndon and north from Holton to Nebraska.

5. Complete the Oakland Expressway, add additional 2-lanes the entire Oakland Expressway route & complete the connection from the Oakland Expressway through US-24 to northern K-4.

6. K-10, construct a 4-lane extension from Lawrence to Topeka.

Local Highway Projects

2. Increase the share of transportation revenues to city & county governments for use within local transportation systems.

Public Transit

1. Increases in state funds for public transit operations.

2. Park & ride service for commuter traffic between Topeka and Lawrence.

Highway Policy Recommendation

1. Establish statewide policies to address overnight truck parking needs in major corridor projects as they are planned and constructed.

Aviation

1. Support the Kansas Association of Airports Improvement Program to increase funding for airport infrastructure.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Trails

1. The completion of pedestrian trails radiating within Topeka/Shawnee County, then to surrounding cities and counties.

2. Incorporation of bike routes in highway & local street construction and reconstruction.

Railroads

1. Improve safety by addressing at-grade crossings that are identified as problematic.

2. Increase access to passenger rail service to commute to Kansas City and Oklahoma City.

Section 2. New Comprehensive Transportation Program.

Shawnee County and the City of Topeka hereby endorse and support the enactment of a new Comprehensive Transportation Program by the Kansas Legislature of sufficient size and magnitude to address the specific transportation capital improvements set forth in Section 1.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Shawnee County Clerk and the Topeka City Clerk shall send copies of this Resolution and any supporting documents to the following: Governor Kathleen Sebelius; State Senator Laura Kelly; State Senator Anthony Hensley; State Senator Vicki Schmidt; State Representative Rocky Fund; State Representative Mike Burgess; State Representative Lana Gordon; State Representative Ann Mah; State Representative Joe Patton; State Representative Annie Kuether; State Representative Annie Tietze; State Representative Vaughn Flora; State Representative Harold Lane; and, State Representative-Elect Sean Gatewood; all local news media outlets; the Kansas Association of Counties; and the League of Kansas Municipalities.
ADOPTED and APPROVED by City Council November 25, 2008.

CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

__________________________________
William W. Bunten, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda Younger, City Clerk

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Board of County Commissioners, Shawnee County, Kansas __________________________.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Shawnee County, Kansas

__________________________________
Michelle Buhler, Chair

__________________________________
Vic Miller, Vice Chair

__________________________________
Theodore Ensley, Member

ATTEST:

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Cynthia Beck, County Clerk