

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT FUNDING FROM GREENVILLE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THE SUSTAINABLE LONG TERM OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF PROJECTS FUNDED WITH THE 2016 TIGER VIII

WHEREAS, Greenville County has joined efforts with the City of Greenville and the Greenville Transit Authority (operating as Greenlink) to submit the 2016 TIGER VIII grant application to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT): Greenlink: Creating Circuits of Economic Success; and

WHEREAS, USDOT's TIGER program has funded and will continue funding transformative transportation projects that dramatically improve the status quo making broad and long lasting, positive changes in economic development, health, safety, quality of life, environmental sustainability, and state of good repair; and

WHEREAS, in selecting projects, USDOT will assess whether and to what extent projects have a source of revenue for their long term sustainability; and

WHEREAS, TIGER VIII grant funding would transform Greenlink from a local to a regional transportation network incorporating bicycle and pedestrian facilities designed to connect the transit system and the Swamp Rabbit Trail through low income communities and reach the farthest points of Greenville County with express bus routes served by zero-emission buses improving access to jobs, educational opportunities, and retail and health care centers; and

WHEREAS, total operating expenses for the Greenlink system are covered by federal assistance, state assistance, local government assistance, user fares, and other sources such as advertising revenues and miscellaneous income; and

WHEREAS, the County of Greenville presently funds the Greenlink system with an annual apportionment for its transit system's annual operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, the County and City of Greenville intend to continue their collaborative efforts to expand Greenville County's multi-modal transportation network to improve and support workforce and economic development and access to jobs, education, and health care centers;

WHEREAS, the County of Greenville committed and has appropriated \$1.5 million in its FY2016 and FY2017 capital budgets approved by County Council and has committed an additional \$4 million as cash match for the extension of the Swamp Rabbit Trail; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to demonstrate in the 2016 TIGER VIII grant application Greenville County's commitment to provide cash and in-kind match and dedicate a source of funding in order to assist Greenlink's long-term sustainable operations resulting from the expanded routes and schedules and for the maintenance costs of the multimodal Swamp Rabbit Trail corridor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Council is

committed to provide (a) an additional in-kind match that will include the value of the abandoned railroad corridor, staff time, and equipment as described in the TIGER VIII grant application; (b) ongoing maintenance to the SRT transportation corridor; and (c) funding to support Greenlink's operating budget resulting from its expanded transit system, which will be included in the FY2019 budget.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2016.

Dr. Bob Taylor, Chairman
Greenville County Council

Joseph Kernell
County Administrator

ATTEST:

Theresa B. Kizer
Clerk to Council