

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT FUTURE INTERSTATE UPGRADE FOR HIGHWAY 421

WHEREAS, Highway US 421 connects Interstate 95 with Interstates 40 and 85; and

WHEREAS, these interstates and their continued operations are critical to the state and nations economic wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bragg is a critical part of the national defense and access at all times is critical to this mission; and

WHEREAS, two hurricane events in the last three years has closed portions of Interstate 95 limiting access to the Fayetteville and Fort Bragg; and

WHEREAS, access from the west of Fort Bragg on surface streets were the only viable routes to provide access to and from the Fort Bragg for several days during these storms; and

WHEREAS, the Research Triangle Park and the Capital Area growth continues to grow, adding thousands of vehicles to the current infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, connecting Interstate 95 to Interstates 40 and 85 with an interstate facility would provide an alternate route for military and freight traffic; and

WHEREAS, connecting Interstate 95 to Interstates 40 and 85 with an interstate facility would provide additional evacuation routes and relief and recovery routes to the region; and

WHEREAS, the population of the Triad region consisting of Greensboro, Winston Salem, Highpoint and Burlington is over 1,668,000 and the population of the Fayetteville metropolitan area is in excess of 375,000; and

WHEREAS, connecting Interstate 95 to Interstates 40 and 85 with an interstate facility would provide direct connections between two largely populated regions; and

WHEREAS, the upgrade to Interstate status to Highway 421 would increase safety, mobility, access for the military and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the upgrade to interstate status would provide high design evacuation route in the event of natural disasters as recently experience in Hurricane Florence; and

WHEREAS, a high design interstate would expedite logistics and staging to Fort Bragg in the event of a natural disaster and provide sustainability during emergency events; and

WHEREAS, provide an alternate connection to Interstate 40 to support freight and commuter traffic flow; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners that we support the efforts to designate US Highway 421 a future interstate corridor.

Adopted, this the ____ day of _____.