

**CITY OF WATHENA, KANSAS**

**RESOLUTION 2022-2**

**A RESOLUTION TO FORMALLY REQUEST THAT THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SUSPEND FURTHER STUDY OF THE FINAL OPTIONS BEING CONSIDERED CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF INTERSTATE 229 AND TO KEEP AND REHABILITATE THE INTERSTATE 229 BRIDGE.**

**WHEREAS,** the Missouri Department of Transportation has been conducting an alternatives study to identify various options for the future of I-229; and

**WHEREAS,** I-229 is a vital corridor that carries thousands of vehicles daily, providing area residents with an express connection to and from North/South; and

**WHEREAS,** I-229 is a crucial transportation route for hundreds of millions of dollars in local, regional, national, and international commerce each year, along with critically essential routes to and from St. Joseph Agriculture Markets, and St. Joseph livestock markets; and

**WHEREAS,** the State of Missouri receives 90% reimbursement from the Federal Government for I-229, which would place maintenance of this important route as a lower priority and generally worse condition than allowed for interstates relative to general maintenance, snow control and pavement condition; and,

**WHEREAS,** Elimination of I-229 would be noted for being the first decommissioning of an Interstate highway in the State of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS,** other options exist that would have a fundamental and positive impact on a metropolitan and bi-state basis if explored further; and

**WHEREAS,** more time and effort should be provided to key stakeholders to further explore and take advantage of and leverage MoDOT's need to invest substantial funds in infrastructure in a manner to supports the future needs of Downtown St. Joseph, freight movement, community access, development, national security, economic impacts, and the region overall.

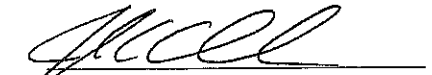
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATHENA, KANSAS AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the City of Wathena, Kansas hereby expresses its formal request to suspend all work to further study the existing alternatives identified in the I-229 Study currently in progress.


**SECTION 2.** That the City of Wathena, Kansas formally requests that the Missouri Department of Transportation join with it, stakeholders, and the St. Joseph MPO to work toward

other solutions that could profoundly and positively impact the region by keeping and improving the I-229 Double Decker Bridge.

**SECTION 3.** That the City of Wathena, Kansas formally requests that the St. Joseph Metropolitan Planning Organization consider Wathena's position to retain the Interstate status for I-229 and retain, rehabilitate, and maintain the existing I-229 bridge through Downtown St. Joseph.

  
John A. Cluck, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Tammy Bembrick, City Clerk

(City Seal)

