

RESOLUTION OF THE
HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION HCCR – 2017 - _____

WHEREAS; Howard County has several industrial and commercial entities that rely on good transportation systems between Howard County and local, regional, state and national customers, and;

WHEREAS; Completion of US 31 as a stoplight free limited access freeway north to the Indiana Toll Road system and south to the I-465 Interstate system, would enhance the existing transportation needs of existing industrial and commercial entities, greatly improve the Economic Development possibilities for Howard County, and provide greater safety for Howard County residents traveling on US 31, and;

WHEREAS; there remain nearly 250 direct access driveways, 100 road intersections, and 2 at-grade railroad crossings, all of which are opportunities for serious safety hazards for commuters on the unimproved portions of US 31, and;

WHEREAS; the economic vitality and productivity of the entire North Central Indiana Region depend on a safe, high speed, durable highway transportation system both north and south of Howard County, linking Howard County to Indiana's Interstate Highway system, and;

WHEREAS; HB1002, passed in 2017, has provided the funding stream needed to pay for the improvements to make US 31 a limited access freeway, and;

WHEREAS; completion of the US 31 Freeway Project may result in 1,200 fewer accidents and 15 fewer fatalities each year upon completion, and;

WHEREAS; the proposed US 31 Freeway completion is projected to generate 1,190 jobs, \$366 million in economic output, and \$212 million in personal income to residents of Indiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Howard County Council of Indiana;

That we urge the Honorable Eric Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, and Commissioner Joseph McGinness, Indiana Department of Transportation, to immediately begin the process for completion of US 31 between north terminus of the US 31 Freeway in Hamilton County to the south terminus of the Howard County section of US 31 Freeway and between the north terminus in Howard County to the south terminus of the US 31 Freeway in Marshall County, making US 31 a stoplight free, at-

grade crossing free, driveway access free, and railroad crossing free Freeway, without any of the proposed J-Turns, which we believe are not an acceptable solution for a high speed highway, especially a Freeway style highway, due to the speed of traffic that is anticipated on the US 31 Freeway.

RESOLVED, this ____ of _____, 2017.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

Richard Miller

James Papacek

Jeff Stout

John Roberts

Dwight Singer

Stan Ortman

Les Ellison

ATTEST:

Martha Lake, Howard County Auditor