WILMINGTON URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE PORTS
AUTHORITY'S GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S FY2022 REBUILDING AMERICAN
INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE),
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RECUILDING AMERICAN (INFRA), AND PORT
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT (PID) GRANT PROGRAMS TO FUND A NEW
INTERMODAL FACILITY AT THE PORT OF WILMINGTON

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides transportation planning services for the City of Wilmington, Town of Carolina Beach, Town of Kure Beach, Town of Wrightsville Beach, Town of Belville, Town of Leland, Town of Navassa, New Hanover County, Brunswick County, Pender County, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority, and the North Carolina Board of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority owns and operates an ocean port terminal in Wilmington, North Carolina in New Hanover County and the operation of such a terminal is a tremendous catalyst for economic growth and development throughout North Carolina and the region; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority's contributed more than \$15.4 billion in annual economic contribution to the state's economy constituted by goods moving through the port facilities and supported 87,700 full-time jobs at North Carolina businesses; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority strategic plan forecasts container volumes to grow 50 percent at the Port of Wilmington over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, 50,000 containers are projected to arrive or depart the Port of Wilmington via intermodal rail over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, to service existing customers and accommodate growing rail volumes at the Port of Wilmington, a new intermodal facility is needed; and

WHEREAS, the project supports North Carolina's core industry segments including furniture, forest products, pork and poultry, apparel, and textiles; and

WHEREAS, this investment will increase capacity through this growing economic hub has a dual benefit to in-terminal efficiency and outside of terminal congestion reduction; and

WHEREAS, this investment will reduce future truck congestion and improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment as well as deliver environmental benefits to the community; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority is preparing grant applications for the United States Department of Transportation's FY2022 RAISE, INFRA, and PID grant programs to fund the new intermodal facility at the Port of Wilmington.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby supports the North Carolina State Ports Authority's efforts to secure these grants to fund a new intermodal facility at the Port of Wilmington.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Board on February 23, 2022.

David Piepmeyer, Chair

Mike Kozlosky, Secretary