RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NORTH CAROLINA'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTHEAST CORRIDOR, INCLUDING THE RAILROAD CORRIDOR REFERRED TO AS THE S-LINE FOR THE BENEFITS OF JOB CREATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT

WHEREAS, the federal government may look to advance infrastructure stimulus programs that will seek projects that are shovel-ready, provide immediate economic stimulus during a construction phase and then promote further economic stimulus post construction; and

WHEREAS, the S-Line is shovel-ready, would provide immediate economic stimulus as well as long-term economic stimulus, particularly for rural counties surrounding the urban center; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has worked with local, state, regional, and federal partners to develop plans for the federally designated Southeast Corridor, a passenger and freight rail system extending from Washington, D.C. through North Carolina to Jacksonville, Fla.; and

WHEREAS, a Record of Decision to develop the Raleigh to Richmond portion of the Southeast Corridor was approved by the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) in March 2017, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT is in the process of securing the S-Line and the SA-Line for additional development; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation has developed an agreement to secure the S-Line from Ridgeway to Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the development, construction, and maintenance of railroad infrastructure support local economic activity and create job opportunities throughout the state and region, including rural areas; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT has a long tradition of progressing successful passenger and freight railroad projects that support economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, NCDOT has prioritized projects such as the Rail Division's Piedmont Improvement Program, investing over \$1B in railroad infrastructure improvements and associated construction, engineering, and planning jobs; and

WHEREAS, the developed S-Line and would provide greater access to job centers, health care, and education and provide new options for the movement of both goods and people; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Youngsville, North Carolina, that we support the development and construction of the S-Line, including a local match for planning purposes not to exceed \$30,000 through fiscal year 2028.

This the 10th day of March 2022.

Motion by: Scott Brame
Second by: Corey Pursche
Mayor: Mayor

ATTEST: Enily fleed, Town Clerk

