

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S PLAN TO EXPAND A 3.5 MILE SEGMENT OF THE FLORIDA TURNPIKE/STATE ROAD 91 FROM ATLANTIC BOULEVARD TO WILES ROAD TO ADD FOUR NEW EXPRESS LANES; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Florida Turnpike (State Road 91) ("Turnpike") is part of the turnpike system operated by Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, part of the Florida Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Turnpike is a toll road that currently divides Florida communities, including Coconut Creek and Margate, with multiple lanes of high-speed traffic and the associated noise, air pollution, and traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation intends to commence a project during the current State fiscal year to widen an approximately 3.5 mile segment of the Turnpike from Atlantic Boulevard to Wiles Road to increase the number of travel lanes from six lanes to ten lanes in order to add four new express lanes; and

WHEREAS, the project is scheduled to commence during the current State fiscal year, with construction continuing into fiscal year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the intrusion into neighboring communities caused by this expansion will be entirely to the west and will therefore unequally impact the neighboring communities, including a sound barrier wall that will be only five feet from the property line in many neighboring communities to the west; and

1 WHEREAS, the neighborhoods to the west of the planned expansion will suffer the
2 brunt of the additional expansion, including increased noise, air pollution, and traffic
3 congestion, as well as the inherent physical intrusion resulting from the need to support
4 four additional express lanes; and

5 WHEREAS, insufficient environmental assessments have been conducted to
6 determine the environmental conditions of the area and the impact of the planned
7 expansion on the neighboring communities as well as on the South Florida environment;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, while the failure to conduct such assessments would most directly
10 impact residents of Coconut Creek and Margate, such failures, if not objected to, could
11 impact many other Broward residents in connection with future state projects; and

12 WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners opposes the expansion of this
13 very limited section of the Turnpike at significant monetary expense and at enormous,
14 deleterious impact to the surrounding communities, NOW, THEREFORE,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
16 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

17 Section 1. The Board hereby expresses its opposition to the planned expansion
18 of the Turnpike for the approximately 3.5 mile section from Atlantic Boulevard to Wiles
19 Road to add four new express lanes.

20 Section 2. The Board urges the Florida Department of Transportation to
21 discontinue the project to expand the Turnpike between Atlantic Boulevard to Wiles Road
22 at such significant monetary, environmental, and societal expense, and, if it wishes to
23 restart the project, that it do so only after conducting and completing a current and
24 thorough project development and environmental study and further traffic and design

1 analyses to identify an alternate traffic solution that would create less harm to County
2 residents.

3 Section 3. SEVERABILITY.

4 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any Court to be invalid, the invalid
5 portion shall be stricken, and such striking shall not affect the validity of the remainder of
6 this Resolution. If any Court determines that this Resolution, or any portion hereof, cannot
7 be legally applied to any individual(s), group(s), entity(ies), property(ies), or
8 circumstance(s), such determination shall not affect the applicability hereof to any other
9 individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance.

10 Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

11 This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

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13 ADOPTED this day of , 2017.

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17 Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
18 Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

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20 By /s/ René D. Harrod 10/09/17
21 René D. Harrod (date)
22 Deputy County Attorney

23 RDH/ab
10/09/17
24 Reso Opposing Turnpike Expansion.doc
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