

RESOLUTION NO. 60

WHEREAS, the Parker City Council has recognized the traffic problem of U.S. Highway 231 joining Dothan, Alabama, with the Florida cities of Campbellton, Cottondale, Alford and the 90,000 people of Bay County; and

WHEREAS, a thirty-two (32) mile stretch of U.S. Highway 231 is still a two-lane highway and should be four-laned without delay.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Parker, Florida, that we fully support the joint Resolution of Bay County Chamber of Commerce and the Traffic and Transportation Club of Panama City, Inc., dated 14 July 1977, and signed by presidents Rayford L. Lloyd, Jr., and D. P. Clark of each respective organization above; that

(1) A copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Reubin Askew, Senators Dempsey Barron and Pat Thomas; Representatives Earl Hutto, Billy Joe Rish, and Wayne Mixson; Congressman Bob Sikes and Don Fuqua; and a copy to Tom Webb, Transportation Secretary.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of July, 1977, by the City Council of the City of Parker.

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PARKER


Earl Gilbert
Earl Gilbert, Mayor

Alphoretta K. Holbrook
Alphoretta Holbrook, Mayor protem

John D. Boisky
John Boisky, Councilman

Edward C. Pogue
Edward C. Pogue, Councilman

ATTEST:

Joyce Robertson
Joyce Robertson, City Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Bay County Chamber of Commerce, joined by the Traffic and Transportation Club of Panama City, Inc., have become convinced that urgent action is demanded by the serious inadequacy of, and the growing safety hazards created by, the two-lane condition of U.S. Highway 231; and

WHEREAS U.S. Highway 231 is the major highway artery joining Dothan, Alabama (and points north) with the Florida cities of Campbellton, Cottondale, Alford and the 90,000 people of Bay County; and

WHEREAS a thirty-two (32) mile stretch of U.S. Highway 231 is still a two-lane highway, on which:

- (a) An average of 2.8 persons have been killed each year during the past five years¹;
- (b) An average of 90.8 traffic accidents have occurred each year during the past five years²;
- (c) An average of \$566,760.00 in property damage has occurred each year during the past five years³;
- (d) 1,113 children travel over U.S. Highway 231, on school days in Bay County, in 21 school buses traveling twice daily, making a total of 210 trips weekly⁴;
- (e) 720 children travel over U.S. Highway 231, on school buses in Jackson County, in 12 school buses traveling twice daily, making a total of 120 trips weekly⁵;
- (f) Tourists annually spend \$75 million during the summer (measured by retail sales) in Bay County, and \$7 million during the winter months (again measured by retail sales), and 91% of these tourists arrive by automobile⁶;
- (g) 9,900 truck trips by Great Southern Paper Company alone occur annually over U.S. Highway 231 between Alford and Fountain, emphasizing the role of U.S. Highway 231 as a commercial artery⁷; in addition, trucking companies using U.S. Highway 231 on at least a daily or weekly basis include McKenzie, Motor Fuel Carriers, P.C. White, Florida Rock, Ryder, Howard Hall, M.R.&R., Mercury, Sunshine-Jr. Foods, Standard Oil, Starling Oil, and International Paper Co.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Bay County Chamber of Commerce, joined by the Traffic and Transportation Club of Panama City, Inc., that:

- (1) The critically impacted two-lane portion of U.S. Highway 231 must be four-laned immediately, without further delay; and
- (2) The County Commissioners of Jackson and Bay Counties; the City Commissioners of Campbellton, Cottondale, Alford, and Panama City; the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce; all all other interested public officials, organizations and individuals; are invited to join with us in moving forward now; and

- (3) Senators Dempsey Barron and Pat Thomas, and Reps. Earl Hutto, Billy Joe Rish, and Wayne Mixson are requested to give this matter the highest priority, including an early joint meeting with Gov. Reubin Askew and Transportation Secretary, Tom Webb; and
- (4) Gov. Reubin Askew is requested to assist in reordering priorities in the Florida Department of Transportation, to enable the immediate completion of the construction on the hazardous 32 miles of two-lane of U.S. Highway 231; and
- (5) Congressman Bob Sikes and Don Fuqua are requested to obtain from the U.S. Department of Transportation a report stating what must be done now to move this project off "dead center."

ADOPTED in Bay County, Florida, this 14th day of July, 1977.

BAY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BY Rayford L. Lloyd, Jr.
Rayford L. Lloyd, Jr., President

ATTEST:

Frank J. Bacen, Jr.
Frank J. Bacen, Jr., Executive V. President

ATTEST:

Mildred B. Hunter
Mildred B. Hunter, Secretary

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION CLUB
OF PANAMA CITY, INC.

BY D. P. Clark
D. P. Clark, President

FOOTNOTES

1. Florida Department of Motor Vehicles;
2. Florida Department of Motor Vehicles;
3. Florida Department of Motor Vehicles;
4. Letter from James Hayes, Director of Transportation, Bay County Schools, dated June 13, 1977;
5. Letter from John S. Braxton, Supervisor of Transportation, Jackson County Schools, dated June 23, 1977;
6. Florida Department of Commerce - 1975 estimates;
7. Letter from E. Reid Smith, Manager of Transportation, Great Southern Paper Company, dated June 15, 1977.



BAY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Post Office Box 1850, Panama City, Florida 32401

September 30, 1977

City Council
City of Parker
City Hall
Parker, Florida 32401

Dear Councilmen:

Enclosed is a sample copy of our letter of transmittal to various Florida officials. You will find a list of these officials as well as a list of those, like yourself, who have endorsed the Joint Resolution for the completion of U.S. Highway 231 four-laning, attached.

We sincerely appreciate your concern and endorsement.

Sincerely,

William R. Pullen, Chairman
Transportation Committee
Bay County Chamber of Commerce

D. P. Clark, President
Traffic and Transportation
Club of Panama City, Inc.

WRP,DPC:mmm

Enclosures



Telephone 904/785-5206



BAY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Post Office Box 1850, Panama City, Florida 32401

Enclosed you will find a Joint Resolution prepared by the Bay County Chamber of Commerce and the Traffic and Transportation Club of Panama City, Inc., calling for the four-laning of U.S. Highway 231. In addition to the Joint Resolution, we have included attachments we have received from concerned clubs and organizations in both Bay and Jackson Counties.

The primary reasons we have prepared the Joint Resolution evolve around the fact that, 1) we feel our area's economic growth and stability are most effectively hindered by the fact that we have only two-lane arterial highways in and out of our county; and, 2) we feel that persons traveling to and from Bay County, as well as our own residents, are in ever constant danger considering the numbers of "working trucks" traveling Highway 231 daily.

We urge you to study the Joint Resolution and its attachments carefully, being aware of the positive feelings your Northwest Florida constituents have toward the urgency of four-laning U.S. 231 as soon as possible.

Very truly yours

William R. Pullen, Chairman
Transportation Committee
Bay County Chamber of Commerce

D. P. Clark, President
Traffic & Transportation Club
of Panama City, Inc.



Telephone 904/785-5200

OFFICIALS RECEIVING THE ATTACHED LETTER:

U.S. Senator Lawton Chiles
U.S. Senator Dick Stone
U.S. Representative Robert L. F. Sikes
U.S. Representative Don Fuqua
Governor Reubin O'D. Askew
Lieutenant Governor John H. Williams
Secretary of State Bruce Smathers
Attorney General Robert Shevin
State Comptroller Gerald Lewis
State Treasurer Bill Gunter
Commissioner of Education Ralph D. Turlington
Commissioner of Agriculture Doyle Connor
Senator Dempsey Barron
Senator Pat Thomas
Representative Earl Hutto
Representative Billy Joe Rish
Representative Wayne Mixon
Tom Webb - Department of Transportation (Tallahassee)
Bill Lee - Department of Transportation (Chipley)

ATTACHMENTS TO JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY:

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON:

Parker City Council	July 19, 1977
City of Parker	July 20, 1977
Graceville-Campbellton Council	July 20, 1977
Bay County Planning Commission	July 21, 1977
City of Lynn Haven	July 26, 1977
Exchange Club of Panama City	July 27, 1977
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce	July 27, 1977
Jackson County Board of County Commissioners	July 28, 1977
City of Panama City Beach	August 1, 1977
City of Springfield	August 2, 1977
Bay County Motel & Restaurant Association	August 3, 1977
Bay County Home Builders Association	August 8, 1977
Panama City Lions Club	August 8, 1977
Bay County Board of County Commissioners	August 9, 1977
Cedar Grove City Commission	August 9, 1977
Kiwanis Club of Panama City	August 10, 1977
City of Graceville	August 12, 1977
American Legion	August 13, 1977
Rotary Club of Panama City	August 17, 1977
City of Callaway	August 21, 1977
Panama City-Bay County Board of Realtors	August 23, 1977
Veterans of Foreign Wars	August 28, 1977
City of Panama City	August 30, 1977
Panama City Woman's Club	August 30, 1977
Rotary Club of Panama City Beach	August 30, 1977
Panama City Junior Woman's Club	August 31, 1977
Lynn Haven Rotary Club	August 31, 1977
Optimist Club of Panama City	August 31, 1977
Association of Bay County Educators	September 3, 1977
Panama City Jaycees	September 21, 1977
Town Council of Mexico Beach	September 21, 1977
Bay County School Board	September 22, 1977