

RESOLUTION NO. JR-011-2024

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE LAFAYETTE CITY COUNCIL AND THE LAFAYETTE PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORTING AND ENDORSING THE I-49 LAFAYETTE CONNECTOR AND URGING THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council, that:

WHEREAS, the I-49 Lafayette Connector is a 5.5-mile segment of highway between I-10 and the Lafayette Regional Airport (herein the “I-49 Connector”) that needs to be brought to interstate standards; and

WHEREAS, it is a critical transportation link for the City of Lafayette, for Acadiana and for the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the I-49 Connector provides a hurricane evacuation route for New Orleans and all of south Louisiana; a link between High Priority Corridors 1 and 37; and facilitates commerce between the Port of New Orleans and the oil production region of Louisiana up to Canada and throughout the central United States; and

WHEREAS, according to a study by Regional Economic Impact Models, the I-49 Connector has the potential to create 6,000 jobs statewide, and it is estimated to increase the state’s gross domestic product by more than \$2,300,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the lack of interstate standard facilities at one (1) of the primary interstate intersections in Louisiana hampers local, regional and statewide economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development (herein the “DOTD”) recognizes the significance of this project and beginning in 2015 has spent well over \$22,000,000 in the planning and development of the I-49 Connector; and

WHEREAS, before DOTD can submit the I-49 Connector to the Federal Highway Administration for acceptance, the final stages of the development of the project must be completed, including, but not limited to, the completion of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Study; and

WHEREAS, because of the extreme delays with the development of the I-49 Connector and the \$1,000,000,000 - \$2,000,000,000 estimated cost, leverage of all potential sources of funds are necessary and time is of the essence; and

WHEREAS, the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council desire to show the support by the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government of the I-49 Connector and request that the Governor of the State of Louisiana urge the DOTD to expedite the final development stages of the I-49 Connector.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council, that:

SECTION 1: All of the aforescribed “Whereas” clauses are adopted as part of this resolution.

SECTION 2: The Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council on behalf of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government endorse and support the I-49 Connector and request that the Governor of the State of Louisiana urge DOTD to expedite the final stages of the development of the I-49 Connector.

SECTION 3: All resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This resolution having been submitted to Parish Council vote, the results were as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Richard, Stansbury, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

This resolution having been submitted to City Council vote, the results were as follows:

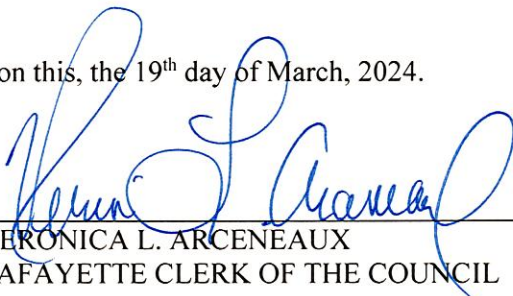
YEAS: Broussard, Naquin, Hebert, Hooks, Boudreaux

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

AND the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 19th day of March, 2024.


VERONICA L. ARCENEUX
LAFAYETTE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

LAFAYETTE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTAL FORM

1) **JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:** A joint resolution of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council supporting and endorsing the I-49 Lafayette Connector and urging the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to expedite the process.

2) **ACTION REQUESTED:** Adoption of resolution

3) **REQUESTED ACTION OF LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH COUNCIL:**

A) INTRODUCTION: 03-19-2024

B) FINAL ADOPTION: 03-19-2024

4) **DOCUMENTATION INCLUDED WITH THIS REQUEST:**

A) Resolution

B) Submittal Form

5) **FISCAL IMPACT:**

 Fiscal Impact (Explain)

 X No Fiscal Impact

AUTHORED BY:
/s/ Monique B. Boulet
MONIQUE B. BOULET
LAFAYETTE MAYOR-PRESIDENT

