



RESOLUTION ENDORSING ARPO – RTAC’S REQUEST TO CHANGE THE STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS (STI) LAW

WHEREAS, the Town of Nags Head recognizes that the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) is the duly recognized transportation decision-making body of the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO); AND

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly in 2013 adopted House Bill 817, creating the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) law, with the goal to better connect all North Carolinians to jobs, health care, education, and recreation experiences through better leveraging of existing funds; AND

WHEREAS, the STI formula places more emphasis on congestion and population and less emphasis on economic development which causes a negative impact on funding rural regions’ transportation needs; AND

WHEREAS, metropolitan highway divisions have the additional advantage of receiving more transportation funding resources including Urban Loop Funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Compliance funds; AND

WHEREAS, rural regions have valid transportation needs, but these needs are minimized under the current STI formula which identifies congestion as a predominant factor; AND

WHEREAS, the STI divides funding into three tiers; Statewide, Regional, and Division tiers; AND

WHEREAS, in the last round of funding, only two rural counties were awarded funds out of the Statewide tier and, overall, rural regions received only 4.5% of the statewide tier funds available for transportation projects throughout the state; AND

WHEREAS, rural regions cannot compete against metropolitan regions in the Statewide tier of funding, under the current STI formula.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners does hereby request that the STI law be revised to require that the Statewide tier of funding include a geographic distribution factor so rural regions can effectively compete against metropolitan regions for transportation funds.

ADOPTED this 15th day of February, 2017.


Robert C. Edwards, Mayor
Town of Nags Head



ATTEST:


Carolyn F. Morris, Town Clerk