



Resolution for accountability in toll-funded road creation

Proposed changes to state law to allow local participation in decisions to build toll-funded roads or to convert free roads to toll roads.

§ 1. **Whereas**, a significant number of toll roads and toll-funded projects are now in planning stages that would directly impact neighborhoods in the greater Houston/Harris County area;

§ 2. **Whereas**, under current state law, toll road authorities, including the Harris County Toll Road Authority, are not required to seek approval of their projects with affected citizens or municipalities;

§ 3. **Whereas**, toll road authorities are not bound by federal laws that would require public meetings and reviews;

§ 4. **Whereas**, toll road authority funded road projects have an enormous impact on transportation, quality of life, economics and the health of our citizens;

§ 5. **Whereas**, the Texas state legislature should enact changes to our laws that would require all toll road authority funded projects to have the approval of affected municipalities and local citizens.

§ 1. **RESOLVED**, That all toll road authority funded projects for which construction contracts are not yet let must have the explicit approval of the municipalities and county governments to be impacted; and

§ 2. **RESOLVED**, That new toll road authority funded projects may not proceed to the design and engineering stage unless all affected municipal and county governments approve the specific project proposed by the authority or Texas Department of Transportation through an affirmative vote of their council and County Commissioners Court or the County Commissioners Court alone if no municipality is involved (The inclusion of the project in a Metropolitan Planning Organization's long range plans would not constitute such an approval); and

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§ 3. **RESOLVED**, That all toll road authority funded projects must pass through a robust public citizen and environmental review process. This would include at least three public meetings (a day, an evening and a weekend meeting) held at least 60 days after a public announcement of the meetings and the public release of information, environmental review, and plans detailing the proposal.

§ 4. **RESOLVED**, That citizens must have the statutory right to use the petition process to require a referendum to approve or disapprove a new toll road authority funded project; and

§ 5. **RESOLVED**, That existing highways or roads cannot be converted to toll roads, including the establishment of tolled lanes, unless subjected to the process discussed above for new toll roads.

Adopted by:

Organization _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Date _____

Website (if any) _____

Officer signature _____

Print name _____ Title _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Please return one signed copy from your organization:

by fax to 713-524-8352
(you may phone 713-524-4578 to confirm arrival)

or mail to



Citizens' Transportation Coalition

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