



COPY

RESOLUTION

Of the Polk County Commissioners Court

Regarding state legislation to delay or prohibit the use of public/private partnerships to advance critical state infrastructure projects

Whereas, Polk County, Texas is a member of the Alliance for I-69 Texas, a 501 (c) (6) organization created in 1993 to further the development of Interstate 69 as an international trade corridor most directly connecting Mexico, the United States and Canada.

Whereas, there is long-standing local, state and federal support for the development of I-69 Texas, and in the last ten years the Texas congressional delegation has successfully secured over \$55 million in federal funding for required environmental studies, rights of way and construction;

Whereas, upon the conclusion of the federally required environmental studies, it will cost another estimated \$12 to \$15 billion for right-of-way acquisition and construction of the I-69 Texas project;

Whereas, traditional methods of highway funding are not adequate to bring this project to fruition in the foreseeable future;

Whereas, public/private partnerships which make private financing available are a legitimate tool for the construction of long-standing, internationally significant infrastructure projects such as I-69 Texas;

Whereas, the Legislature should not significantly restrict the use of tools enacted by previous Legislatures to build transportation projects in Texas; and

Whereas, in particular, a two year moratorium on public/private partnerships to build toll roads in Texas, as envisioned in SB 1267 and HB 2772, would delay not only I-69 Texas but seven other ongoing projects in Texas, causing increased costs for these projects and creating a chilling effect on investment in our state's infrastructure.

Therefore, be it resolved that Polk County Commissioners Court of Polk County, Texas is opposed to the moratorium language contained in SB 1267 and HB 2772, urging instead that the 80th Texas Legislature resolve issues regarding contract provisions in comprehensive development agreements while in regular session.

Therefore, be it further resolved that Polk County Commissioners Court of Polk County, Texas is opposed to any significant legislative restrictions on the use of tools enacted by previous Texas Legislatures to build transportation projects in Texas.

RESOLVED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of April, 2007:

John P. Thompson
John P. Thompson, County Judge

Attest:
Barbara Middleton
Barbara Middleton, County Clerk

