A14/03-12-2013

VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION □ MOTION □ REPORT OF **ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS** COMMITTEE

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

WHEREAS, let it be known that Michigan is losing $3 million per day and more that $1 billion per year due to the maintenance costs and increased wear and tear on our roads and bridges, and;

WHEREAS, Michigan's roads are consistently ranked among the nation's worst, and;

WHEREAS, one-third of all fatal and serious traffic crashes in Michigan can be linked, in part, to poor road conditions, and;

WHEREAS, Michigan's gas tax – the user fee that is the primary source of transportation funding – has not increased since 1997. At the same time, the gas tax revenue collected today, adjusted for inflation, is equal to that which was collected in 1974, and;

WHEREAS, the state's 6 percent sales tax goes into the general fund, not toward road repairs, and;

WHEREAS, we risk a future fiscal crisis if we do not increase our investment in transportation. Currently, 32 percent of Michigan's roads are ranked as being in poor condition. By 2018, this number is expected to jump to more that 65 percent, and;

WHEREAS, bringing a road from poor to good pavement condition costs 6 time more than it does to bring a road from fair to good condition, and;

WHEREAS, investing $10 billion over the next ten years to fix Michigan's roads and bridges would create 12,000 jobs and prevent 100 crash – related deaths per year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby urges Gov. Snyder and Michigan legislators to save taxpayer dollars, save lives, and improve our economy by making the necessary investments to repair our roads and bridges so that our transportation systems can function at peak performance.

Signed: Donald A. Hanson

Mike Totto

Susan Hammond

Richard Freestone

Date: March 12, 2013

FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY: FREESTONE

SECONDED BY: HANSON

CARRIED ☒

NOT CARRIED □