

**FORSYTH COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: JUNE 13, 2019 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE DESIGNATION OF US HIGHWAY 421 AS A
FUTURE INTERSTATE CORRIDOR
(NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION)**

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS: Recommend Approval

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION: See Attached

ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

SIGNATURE: *f. Dudley Watts, Jr /AMS* DATE: June 10, 2019
COUNTY MANAGER

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE DESIGNATION OF US HIGHWAY 421
AS A FUTURE INTERSTATE CORRIDOR
(NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION)**

WHEREAS Highway 421 connects Interstate 95 with Interstates 40 and 85 which are critical to the state's and nation's economic well being;

WHEREAS Fort Bragg is a critical part of the national defense and access at all times is critical to this mission;

WHEREAS two hurricane events in the last three years has closed portions of Interstate 95 limiting access to Fayetteville and Fort Bragg such that access from the west of Fort Bragg on surface streets was the only viable routes to provide access to and from Fort Bragg for several days;

WHEREAS the Research Triangle Park and the Capital area growth continues to grow, adding thousands of vehicles to the current infrastructure, and connecting Interstate 95 to Interstates 40 and 85 with an interstate facility would provide an alternate route for military and freight traffic and additional evacuation routes and relief and recovery routes to the region;

WHEREAS the population of the Triad region consisting of Greensboro, Winston-Salem, High Point, and Burlington is over 1,668,000, and the population of the Fayetteville metropolitan area is in excess of 375,000;

WHEREAS connecting Interstate 95 to Interstates 40 and 95 with an interstate facility would provide direct connections between two largely populated regions and improve the flow of commuter and freight traffic;

WHEREAS the upgrade to Interstate status to Highway 421 would increase safety, mobility, access for the military and economic development;

WHEREAS the North Carolina Department of Transportation Board has passed a resolution in support of the future interstate designation, and recommended the future interstate designation be pursued through the North Carolina Congressional Delegation; and

WHEREAS the upgrade to interstate status would provide high design evacuation route in the event of natural disasters as recently experienced in Hurricane Florence and would expedite logistics and staging to Fort Bragg in the event of a natural disaster and provide sustainability during emergency events;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby, through adoption of this resolution, supports the effort to designate US Highway 421 a future interstate corridor.

Adopted this 13th day of June, 2019.