

**STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF ROCKDALE**

**A RESOLUTION FOR RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

Whereas: the Rockdale County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of assuring safe, equitable, and environmentally efficient connectivity for its citizens utilizing various modes of transportation, and:

Whereas, some major roadway connections such as Interstate Highway 20, while providing greater access and economic development for the region, have also been a major barrier to intra-county connectivity. Multimodal connectivity barriers like Interstate Highway 20 impact the County's traditionally underserved residents and those who have limited transportation options; and:

Whereas, in 2021 The United States Congress passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA), and:

Whereas, the IIJA provides funds that are available through the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) to local governments under a competitive grants process., and;

Whereas, on May 22, 2022, the USDOT released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Reconnecting Communities Discretionary Grant Pilot Program, that allows applicants to request planning funding for the development of a Reconnecting Community Action Plan, through a community-based effort to identify, analyze and prioritize improvements to multimodal transportation options for underserved and disadvantaged communities.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Rockdale County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes that county staff to apply for, and accept if awarded, a planning grant under the USDOT's Reconnecting Communities Discretionary Pilot Grant Program, and;

Be it further resolved that the County affirms its commitment to provide matching local funds as necessary from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, and;

Be it Further resolved that, Rockdale County commits to the establishment of a Community Advisory Committee, which will be charged with oversight of the Action Plan development, implementation, and monitoring of the grant-funded study. This Committee will lead community planning activities to ensure robust engagement with the public and relevant stakeholders,


including the private sector and community groups, that allows for both community representation and feedback. Information received from engagement and collaboration will be analyzed and incorporated into the Action Plan. The City of Conyers, the Georgia Department of Transportation, and other applicable agencies will be included in the process to assure alignment with other governmental plans and processes to the extent practical.

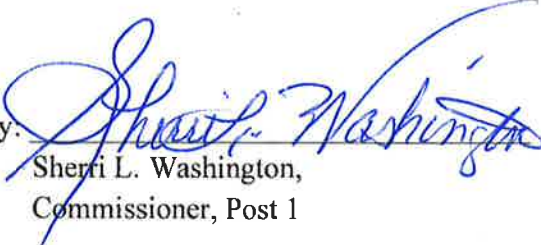
Be it further resolved that, the County further commits that this Action Plan development will utilize inclusive and representative processes. Underserved communities will be identified through data and other analyses in collaboration with appropriate partners to successfully meet the DOT strategic plan goals of safety, economic strength, equity, climate and sustainability, transformation, and organizational excellence. The analysis will include both population characteristics and initial equity impact assessments of the proposed strategies aimed at mitigating the economic barrier of existing roadway connections such as Interstate Highway 20 on minorities, areas of poverty, and other traditionally underserved communities, with the additional goal of reducing greenhouse gasses, and;


Be it further resolved that, Rockdale County will, upon approval of the Planning Grant under the Reconnecting Communities Discretionary Pilot Grant Program, move forward with the implementation of the Reconnecting Communities Action Plan.

This 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

**ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

By:   
Osborn Nesbitt, Sr.,  
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

By:   
Sherri L. Washington,  
Commissioner, Post 1

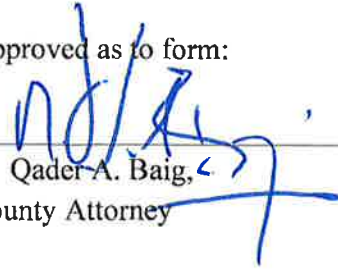
By:   
Doreen L. Williams,  
Commissioner, Post 2

Attest:



Jennifer Rutledge,  
County Clerk

Approved as to form:



M. Qader A. Baig,  
County Attorney