

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY
OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THE
IMMEDIATE REPEAL OF SB 7068 (2019) AND DEFUNDING
OF THE MULTI-USE CORRIDORS OF REGIONAL AND
ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Senate Bill 7068 (SB 7068) into law to create the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance ("M-CORES") Program, bypassing the Florida Department of Transportation's ("FDOT") Corridor Planning Process (5 year work plan); and

WHEREAS, the M-CORES task forces (Northern Turnpike, Suncoast, and Southwest-Central Florida Connectors) presented final recommendation reports to Florida's Governor, House of Representatives and Senate on November 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, each of the final reports of three appointed Task Forces stated that "The Task Force did not reach a conclusion based on the information available at this time that there is a specific need for a completely new greenfield corridor or modification of existing facilities through the study area to achieve the statutory purpose."; and

WHEREAS, SB 7068 and Section 338.223, Florida Statutes, lay out numerous requirements such as need, economic feasibility and economic impacts, applicable to proper planning for and evaluation of the M-CORES corridors; and

WHEREAS, highways fragment wildlife habitat and collisions with vehicles are an added source of wildlife mortality, and for endangered large mammals like the Florida panther, additional fragmentation of remaining habitat could imperil their existence; and

WHEREAS, more than 4 million acres of protected conservation land and more than 400,000 acres of land in already-approved Florida Forever projects, is located within the M-CORES Corridor study areas, underscoring the immense conservation value of these corridors and the irreversible harm the destruction of these lands would have on the state's natural resources and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, any transportation capacity, operational or safety deficiencies within the state's transportation system should first be met by improvements to existing transportation corridors, and new transportation corridors should only be considered as alternatives once significant improvements have been planned and programmed to existing corridors; and

WHEREAS, since SB 7068 was signed, the COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the financial constraints in the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA:

Section 1: The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated in this Resolution.

Section 2: In order to operate with fiscal discipline, protect environmental assets and resources, and preserve rural lands, the agriculture industry, and the quality of life of Florida's citizens:

- 1) The City Commission urges Governor DeSantis and the State Legislature to immediately cease funding for M-CORES, effectively terminating all of the post-task force process phases of the program; and
- 2) The City Commission supports repeal of SB 7068 (2019).

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

JOSH LEVY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PATRICIA A. CERNY, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL
SUFFICIENCY for the use and reliance
of the City of Hollywood, Florida only.

DOUGLAS R. GONZALES
CITY ATTORNEY