

RESOLUTION:

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT ELIMINATING THROUGH TRACTOR TRAILER TRUCK TRAFFIC IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF THE CITY OF VALDOSTA, LOWNDES COUNTY, GEORGIA

WHEREAS, major through tractor trailer truck traffic (truck traffic) on the state and federal routes in downtown Valdosta has had, and continues to have, a detrimental effect on the economic development, quality of life, and safety of motorists, businesses, and pedestrians in downtown Valdosta; and

WHEREAS, during this period of time numerous truck and other vehicular by-passes have been built across Georgia, including, but not limited to, Thomasville, Moultrie, Douglas, and Albany, the same being constructed by or under the auspices of the Georgia Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation has developed an executive summary on a study to alleviate truck traffic in downtown Valdosta which was distributed in May, 2019; and

WHEREAS, this study identified several alternatives in re-routing truck traffic out of and around downtown Valdosta, said alternatives being viable in costs, design, and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, such a re-routing benefits the trucking industry by providing a route that is freer of passenger vehicular traffic, will have broader, more accommodating lanes, fewer traffic control devices, and, therefore, provides a route that is safer and quicker; and

WHEREAS, all commerce will benefit from such a re-routing as those industries in Valdosta's industrial parks will have direct access to the new route, existing downtown merchants, professional and business offices, and entertainment establishments will enjoy a safer, quieter environment in which to conduct their business, and businesses outside of Lowndes County will receive their goods and commodities in a faster and safer manner; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners does hereby formally request that the Georgia Department of Transportation construct an alternate route and, upon completion thereof, designate the same as a permanent by-pass route with full enforcement authority to prohibit through truck traffic on state and federal routes in the downtown area of the City of Valdosta.

Approved and adopted this ___ day of _____, 2019.

Bill Slaughter, Chairman

ATTEST:

Paige Dukes, Clerk