



State of South Carolina)
County of Horry)
Town of Surfside Beach)

Resolution #16-169

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INTERSTATE 73 (I-73)

WHEREAS, this matter comes before the Council of the Town of Surfside Beach at a regularly scheduled meeting held the 26th day of July 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Surfside Beach has a long standing history of supporting construction of Interstate 73, evidenced by its Resolution #94-06 dated June 7, 1994 and Resolution #03-033 dated May 13, 2003, copies of which are attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Surfside Beach is located just a few miles south of Myrtle Beach, which is one of the fastest-growing regions in the United States, with a permanent population that increased 37% in the 2010 census and recognized as the second-fastest growing Metropolitan Statistical Area two years in a row; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Strand area welcomes nearly 18 million visitors each year, making it the busiest vacation destination in America without interstate access; and

WHEREAS, the combined resident-tourist population of the Myrtle Beach area meets or exceeds the population of every city in North and South Carolina during its peak tourist season; and

WHEREAS, the region's tourism industry needs interstate access to sustain its rate of growth and expand its visitor base; and

WHEREAS, the visitors and residents of the Myrtle Beach area will benefit from having an additional evacuation route, which could save lives in the event of a major hurricane; and

WHEREAS, the Myrtle Beach area is heavily dependent upon tourism and seeks to diversify its economy by attracting new industry and higher-paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, a study performed by Coastal Carolina University reveals that construction of I-73 will create 7,700 jobs during construction; and

WHEREAS, a study performed by Chmura Economics & Analytics reveals that the construction of I-73 will create 22,300 jobs after construction; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has deemed the I-73/I-74 Corridor a High-Priority Corridor in ISTEAA, and further deemed the South Carolina portion of I-73 a Road of National and Regional Significance in SAFETEA-LU; and

WHEREAS, the Pee Dee region, which is a key part of the regional economy with close economic ties to the Myrtle Beach area, has experienced unemployment rates well above the state and national averages for many years now;

WHEREAS, South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has presented a dynamic mitigation plan to counter the environmental impact of constructing I-73 and that plan far exceeds all applicable federal requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Surfside Beach Town Council does hereby resolve and reaffirm its unwavering support for I-73 and desire for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to promptly issue a construction permit, enabling I-73, a Pathway of Progress for South Carolina, to finally become a reality.

BE IT SO RESOLVED, this 26th day of July 2016.

Robert F. Childs, Mayor

Ron Ott, Mayor Pro Tempore

Timothy T. Courtney, Town Council

Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

David Pellegrino, Town Council

Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

Vacant Seat

Attest:

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk



Resolution

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF HORRY)
TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH)

IN SUPPORT OF HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL'S
UNITED EFFORT FOR A ROUTE THROUGH HORRY
COUNTY TO THE GRAND STRAND FOR THE PLANNED
INTERSTATE CORRIDOR BETWEEN DETROIT,
MICHIGAN AND CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

WHEREAS, the Grand Strand Area is one of the most frequented vacation spots in the United States, it being reported in the American Automobile Association Magazine for example, that its New England readers ranked the Myrtle Beach area as one of the best vacations spots in the World, second only to Orlando; and,

WHEREAS, the County's resident population is currently 144,000, but the number of visitors during the tourist season bring the County's population to in excess of 500,000 during any given week; and,

WHEREAS, the tourists visiting the Grand Strand Area generate large amounts of revenue for the State of South Carolina through taxes on accommodations, fuel, and retail sales; and,

WHEREAS, the revenue stream flowing from the Grand Strand into State coffers in Columbia is of vital importance to the economic health of the entire State of South Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, the Grand Strand Area is in desperate need of major improvements to its transportation system in order to handle the ever-increasing number of tourists who visit our area; and,

WHEREAS, recent indications are that serious consideration is being given to locating I-73 outside of Horry County, to the detriment of both the Grand Strand and the entire State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Surfside Beach, duly assembled, to hereby join with Horry County Council in a united front to accept nothing less than a route through Horry County to the Grand Strand for the planned interstate corridor between Detroit, Michigan and Charleston, South Carolina.

SIGNED, SEALED, AND ADOPTED THIS SEVENTH DAY OF JUNE, 1994

Deak M. Johnson
MAYOR

Archie Benton
TOWN COUNCIL

Ray Hyman
TOWN COUNCIL

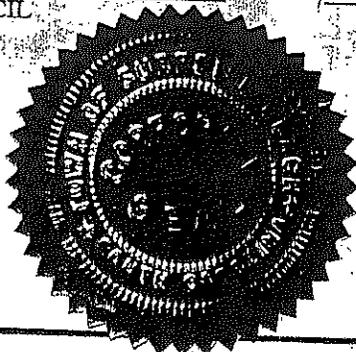
TOWN COUNCIL

Thomas W. Higgins
TOWN COUNCIL

Judith L. Lawe
TOWN COUNCIL

Flumbe E. Kears
TOWN COUNCIL

#94-06



ATTEST:

Blaine A. Stewart
TOWN CLERK



*Resolution #03-033
To Support Naming Interstate 73
in Honor of Lloyd Ashby Ward*

WHEREAS, the Surfside Beach Town Council adopted Resolution #94-06 on July 7, 1994, in which it joined Horry County to support construction of Interstate Highway 73 to connect the Grand Strand to the mid-west; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Surfside Beach has a history of supporting issues promoted by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Surfside Beach enjoyed being the home of the late Lloyd Ashby Ward and during his lifetime declared numerous proclamations, including Proclamation #99-03 declaring "Ashby Ward Day," supporting his unselfish dedication to Horry County and its citizens;

WHEREAS, Surfside Beach lost a true friend, model citizen, and leader with the recent death of Lloyd Ashby Ward, longtime president and chief executive officer of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the name "Ashby Ward" was synonymous with the Grand Strand for generations of vacationers, and his leadership was vital to the area's dynamic growth and success during the past three decades; and

WHEREAS, thanks in large measure to his efforts, tourism is South Carolina's number one industry and the Grand Strand is the number one tourism destination in the state, welcoming nearly 14 million visitors each year; and

WHEREAS, One of Mr. Ward's long-held goals was the construction of an Interstate corridor to provide fast, easy automobile access to the Grand Strand for the millions of visitors who vacation here each year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ward did not live to see this dream of Interstate access become a reality, but it is closer now than ever before, due to his leadership, spirit and vision;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Surfside Beach encourages the South Carolina Legislature to make Interstate access to the Grand Strand a top priority and supports and endorses the naming of the future Interstate 73 connector to the Grand Strand in honor of Ashby Ward in recognition of his years of service to the tourism industry, the Town of Surfside Beach and the entire Grand Strand;

AND, BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Surfside Beach extends its deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to Mr. Ward's family and to the staff of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce as they cope with the sudden loss of a husband, father, friend and leader.

BE IT SO RESOLVED this 13TH day of May 2003.

Roy Hyman, Jr., Mayor

K. Allen Deaton, Town Council

Joseph R. Martin, Town Council

James S. Truett, Mayor Pro Tem

P. L. Mabry, Town Council

Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

Judith K. Tuttle, Town Council

Attest:

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

