

**RESOLUTION BY THE MOORE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OPPOSING ANY NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CTP) PROJECT THAT WOULD ROUTE ANY PORTION OF THE FUTURE OF THE U.S. 1 CORRIDOR THROUGH HORSE COUNTRY NEAR SOUTHERN PINES**

**WHEREAS**, several documents prepared by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) related to the work of the Moore County Transportation Committee refer to and discuss a proposed U.S. Highway 1 bypass around Southern Pines and Aberdeen in Moore County and a U.S. Highway 1 freeway through Southern Pines and Aberdeen in Moore County; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2005 NCDOT Strategic Highway Corridor plan states that it is the intention of NCDOT to upgrade U.S. Highway 1 in Moore County to a freeway; and

**WHEREAS**, there is great concern that The Walthour-Moss Foundation is in the path of a proposed bypass alignment, one example of which is set forth on a working highway map from the CTP developed in 2005 and referenced as *Highway Map of Southern Moore County, Working Map, Plan date of June 1, 2006*; and

**WHEREAS**, the 4,000 acres of The Walthour-Moss Foundation are, among other things, home to endangered and threatened animal and plants, is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, has been dedicated and used for pedestrian and equestrian purposes for more than seventy-five (75) years, and is open to the public from sunrise to sundown; and

**WHEREAS**, assurances have been given by Eugene Conti, Secretary, NCDOT, and Ted Vaden, Deputy Secretary of Internal and External Affairs, NCDOT, to representatives of The Walthour-Moss Foundation, as well as concerned residents and stakeholders, that the 2005 CTP plan was never adopted locally and has since been abandoned; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Conti further states, in a March 4, 2011 letter to Amos C. Dawson, III, counsel to The Walthour-Moss Foundation, that *"For a CTP to be implemented and its recommendations developed into transportation improvement projects, the CTP must first be mutually adopted locally and by the Department. In order for a project to be implemented, it must go through a process of project prioritization, be funded in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and undergo a rigorous environmental review process."*; and

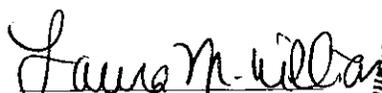
**WHEREAS**, Mr. Conti concluded the March 4, 2011 letter stating there are no "current" transportation plans that would impact The Walthour-Moss Foundation's property and the Moore County Board of Commissioners wish to dissuade and avoid the adoption of any implementation of any transportation plans by NCDOT that would impact The Walthour-Moss Foundation's property; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 22, 2011, the Mayors of the Towns of Southern Pines, Aberdeen, Pinebluff and the Village of Pinehurst agreed to propose to their respective Boards the adoption of a Resolution opposing the proposed U.S. Highway 1 bypass in Moore County; and

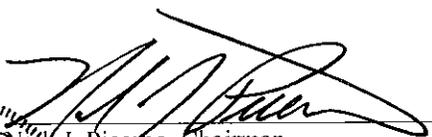
**WHEREAS**, Patrick Corso, Executive Director of Partners in Progress, a non-profit economic development corporation for Moore County, and the Mayors of the Towns of Southern Pines, Aberdeen, Pinebluff and the Village of Pinehurst agreed to request a meeting with NCDOT Secretary Eugene Conti to discuss the U.S. Highway 1 bypass issue at his earliest convenience.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Moore County Board of Commissioners (a) value the rural nature of Moore County and believe that a proposed U.S. Highway 1 bypass is an inappropriate use of The Walthour-Moss Foundation property as well as any property located in what has been deemed "horse country" in Southern Pines, North Carolina, (b) oppose any NCDOT project that would route any portion of a U.S. Highway 1 corridor through horse country near Southern Pines, and (c) respectfully request that NCDOT reclassify U.S. Highway 1 in Moore County to its current classifications, rather than as a freeway, on the NCDOT Strategic Highway Corridor Plan, and therefore approves this Resolution and authorizes its Chairman to execute the same and directs the Clerk to the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to Representative Jamie Boles, Representative Joe Hackney and Senator Harris Blake to inform them of the opposition surrounding this issue.

Adopted this 5th day of December, 2011.

  
Laura M. Williams  
Clerk to the Board



  
Michael J. Picerno, Chairman  
Moore County Board of Commissioners