

Resolution No. 14-040

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO ADDRESS THE
SHORTFALLS IN FEDERAL HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND TO
COMPLETE A LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION
REAUTHORIZATION BILL PRIOR TO ITS EXPIRATION ON
SEPTEMBER 30, 2014.**

WHEREAS, transportation is a critical factor in our economy. This is true locally, statewide and nationally. The United States has been nearing a crossroads in surface transportation for many years but this year the crossroads could result in a roadblock; and

WHEREAS, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance has provided Ports-to-Plains' Congressional delegation with its Federal Priorities of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance for MAP-21 Implementation and Reauthorization and these Federal Priorities describe a short term and a longer term funding issue; and

WHEREAS, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance and the City of Williston support a user fee increase and indexing required to meet current funding levels and to expand transportation funding lost due to inflation in the past twenty years since the user fees were last changed; and

WHEREAS, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance and the City of Williston support a five or six year reauthorization bill, which is consistent with previous surface transportation bills and necessary for proper long-term planning. Operating under a series of short-term extensions is problematic and difficult on federal and state transportation agencies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Williston wishes to see two priorities to ensure projects like the Ports-to-Plains Corridor, North America's Energy Corridor, and other critical transportation projects can continue.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF WILLISTON THAT:

Section 1. We urge you, as the Member of Congress representing the City of Williston in Williams County, to work to ensure that Congress—

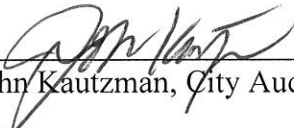
1. Passes a short-term fix immediately so that the Trust Fund does not run out of money in August, 2014; and
2. Passes a long-term fix by September 31, 2014, or as soon thereafter as possible, that accomplishes the following:
 - a. Reauthorizes Federal transportation programs (MAP-21) for five or six years in accordance Ports-to-Plains Alliance priorities; and
 - b. Provides the user-fee-based, sustainable revenues for the Highway Trust Fund necessary to support the higher levels of investment needed to modernize the America's national transportation network, including rural freight corridors important to energy development and agricultural production like the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway.

Section 2. This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Commissioner Bekkedahl moved the adoption of the foregoing Resolution. The motion was Seconded by Commissioner Cymbaluk. On roll call vote of the Commissioners, the following Commissioners voted "AYE": Cymbaluk, Brostuen, Bekkedahl and Klug and the following Commissioners voted "NAY": None. Absent and not voting: None.

WHEREUPON, the motion was passed and the Resolution declared adopted this 12th day of August, 2014.

ATTEST:



John Kautzman, City Auditor



Board of City Commissioners
Howard Klug, President