RESOLUTION NO. 2015-02R
A RESOLUTION OF IVINS CITY, UTAH, ENCOURAGING THE STATE OF UTAH TO ADDRESS COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

WHEREAS, a safe and efficient transportation system creates the foundation for economic growth and improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the creation and maintenance of transportation infrastructure is a core responsibility of State and local government; and

WHEREAS, Utah's population is expected to grow by 1 million residents by 2040; and

WHEREAS, Utah's residents demand new comprehensive transportation options such as bike lanes, multi-use paths, off-road trails and transit in addition to traditional roads; and

WHEREAS, research from the Utah Department of Transportation indicates that road maintenance efforts save cities from road rehabilitation that costs six times as much as maintenance, and saves cities from road reconstruction that costs ten times as much as maintenance, and

WHEREAS, investing in transportation results in tremendous economic development returns for both municipalities and the state; and

WHEREAS, improving comprehensive transportation in Utah will reduce private vehicle usage which will in turn lead to improved air quality; and

WHEREAS, poor air quality discourages economic development, business recruitment and tourism visits, and contributes to asthma and other health ailments; and

WHEREAS, nearly 1 in 10 Utah adults suffer from asthma and struggle to breathe during poor air quality days; and

WHEREAS, nearly 57% of Utah adults are overweight, approximately 200,000 Utahns have diabetes, and diabetes and obesity related health care costs in Utah exceed $1 billion; and

WHEREAS, investing in safe and connected trails, bike lanes, sidewalks, and multi-use paths will encourage Utahns to be more active, spend more time with their families via active transportation, and result in improved personal and community health; and

WHEREAS, the current motor fuel tax of 24.5 cents and 1% local option sales tax are insufficient to satisfy current and future transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, Utah has led the nation in creating an Unified Transportation Plan to address these comprehensive transportation and quality of life issues and the City now asks the State and local governments to work together to find comprehensive funding solutions that will address transportation, economic development, air quality, and health needs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF IVINS CITY, STATE OF UTAH, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Comprehensive Transportation Funding. The City Council supports proposals which meet comprehensive local transportation needs, promote the Unified Transportation Plan, and provide for future growth. The City supports studying a transportation funding option which would allow for the statewide implementation of a quarter cent ($0.0025) local options sales tax to be used for transportation. The City also supports studying motor fuel taxes, "B and C" road funding, and other transportation funding options. Motor fuel taxes are not equitably borne by road users with the advent of higher MPG vehicles, electric and hybrid vehicles, and other fuel-saving technologies. Additionally, since the motor fuel tax has not been adjusted since 1997 and is not indexed, the current purchasing power is inadequate. The City requests the Utah Legislature to carefully examine all funding options.

SECTION 2. Comprehensive Transportation Options. The City supports the expansion of the uses for which transportation funding can be spent to reflect the individual needs and discretion of local governments. Transportation, air quality, and public health can be enhanced when active transportation and transit are eligible for transportation funding. Examples of items that could be eligible may include trails, bike lanes, sidewalks, safety equipment, traffic calming, signage, and lighting. Investment in active transportation options will encourage residents to travel via walking, biking, and transit, result in a healthier population, reduced car emissions, decreased health care costs, and improved quality of life. The City supports additional funding mechanisms that will result in expanded active transportation infrastructure. The City also supports continued investment in public transit as outlined in Utah's Unified Transportation Plan. Transit can help relieve traffic, promote walkable communities, and improve air quality.

SECTION 3. Coordinating Efforts. The City encourages City staff to work with State elected officials, the Utah Transportation Coalition, and the Utah League of Cities and Towns.

SECTION 4. Distribution of this Resolution. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor, the President of the Utah State Senate, the Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives, the municipality's State Senators and State House Representatives, and the Executive Director of the Utah League of Cities and Towns.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE IVINS CITY COUNCIL, STATE OF UTAH, ON THIS _____ DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2015 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
George E. Elwell, Jr.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cheyne McDonald	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lesley Mendenhall	_____	_____	_____	_____
Steven Roberts	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ron Densley	_____	_____	_____	_____

_____
Chris Hart, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Kari Jimenez, Ivins City Recorder