

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BELLEAIR, PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING LEGISLATION THAT PRESERVES LOCAL CONTROL OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, PROVIDES FOR A MORE EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FORMULA BETWEEN MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES, AND PROVIDES FOR ADDITIONAL DEDICATED REVENUE OPTIONS FOR MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSIT PROJECTS; DIRECTING THE TOWN CLERK TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, THE PINELLAS COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.**

**WHEREAS**, First, safe and efficient transportation is fundamental to the vitality, economy and public safety of the Town of Belleair (the "Town") as well as to the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Second, the State of Florida has 112.8 million visitors each year and more than 1,000 new residents each day; and

**WHEREAS**, Third, transportation congestion is a growing problem throughout the state and in the Town of Belleair (the "Town"); and

**WHEREAS**, Fourth, the state's growing population and influx of visitors causes additional wear and tear on existing transportation infrastructure, which contributes to a growing, recurring need for regular repair and replacement; and

**WHEREAS**, Fifth, transportation infrastructure is underfunded, which has adversely impacted the ability of the Town to facilitate economic growth, meet businesses' distribution needs, encourage downtown revitalization, and accommodate future growth in population and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, Sixth, gas tax revenues at both the state and federal levels have not kept up with inflation, while transportation construction costs continue to escalate; and

**WHEREAS**, Seventh, the continued increase in the number of fuel-efficient vehicles has resulted in lower gas tax revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, Eighth, federal, state and county governments have a variety of tools available to address transportation funding needs, but municipalities have very limited revenue options for funding transportation needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Ninth, while the state has authority to charge tolls on certain roadways or increase vehicle registration fees to help fund transportation needs, and counties have the authority to impose additional gas taxes or other sales surtaxes through voter referenda to address transportation funding needs, municipalities do not have authority to exercise these options for addressing municipal transportation funding needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Tenth, legislative action is needed to assist municipalities with funding resources for municipal transportation needs, including, but not limited to, low interest loans or grants from the state for municipal transportation projects, or a dedicated and recurring funding mechanism for municipal transportation infrastructure and transit projects; and

**WHEREAS**, Eleventh, the Florida League of Cities has included municipal transportation infrastructure funding as one of its 2018 Legislative Priorities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1:** The foregoing recitals contained in the preamble to this Resolution are incorporated by reference herein.

**Section 2:** The Town Commission urges all members of the Florida Legislature to preserve local control of transportation planning, and further urges the Legislature to authorize dedicated revenue options and mechanisms for municipal transportation infrastructure and transit projects.

**Section 3:** The Town Clerk is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Florida League of Cities, the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation and any other interested parties.

**Section 4:** The appropriate Town officials are authorized to execute all necessary documents and to take any necessary action to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

**Section 5:** This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Commission of the Town of Belleair, Florida, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of **JANUARY, A.D., 2018.**

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**Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Town Clerk**