



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

RESOLUTION: 2018-210

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA

WHEREAS, opened in 1931, the George Washington Bridge connects New Jersey and New York, and is the busiest bridge in the world. More than 51 million vehicles cross the bridge every day. In addition, 3,700 cyclists use the bridge every day both to commute to work and for recreation. The GWB is the only bike-able connector between North Jersey and NYC; and

WHEREAS, between 2017 and 2024, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is making a \$1.9 billion investment in 11 "state of good repair" projects on the bridge, including restoration of the 7 foot paths on the George Washington Bridge. These paths are already overcrowded, and usage has grown by more than 10% each year; and

WHEREAS, the Port Authority's current plan is to leave the bike lanes at a width of 7 feet rather than widen them to meet federal standards. Failure to meet these standards mean that the GWB could be degraded to a "walk-your-bikes" facility, hobbling the growth of cycling across the region for decades; and

WHEREAS, some studies show that biking and walking add more than \$400 million to New Jersey's economy, and Union County and others are fighting for their share of those resources. Moreover, the ability to commute or travel by bicycle take vehicles off of our already congested roadways; and

WHEREAS, the City of Elizabeth and 57 other North Jersey municipalities, as well as a wide spectrum of transportation advocates, have called on the Port Authority to widen bike lanes to comply with federal highway standards.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders calls on the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to recognize the growth of cycling and the importance of more sustainable transportation options, and plan for wider bike lanes that meet federal standards; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders asks that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Officers of the Port Authority and to Union County's representatives at both the Federal and State levels, as well as to Governor Phil Murphy. Signed and sealed February 15, 2018.

Approved as to Form:
 Certifying as to an Original Resolution:
 Certified as to a True Copy:

✓ Vote Record - Resolution RES-2018-210		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted	Bruce H. Bergen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as Amended	Angel G. Estrada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	Angela R. Garretson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Sergio Granados	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn	Christopher Hudak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Bette Jane Kowalski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Alexander Mirabella	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Linda Carter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Mohamed S. Jalloh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>