

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GREATER TALLAHASSEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SUPPORTING THE EXTENTION OF LEON COUNTY'S LOCAL OPTION PENNY SALES TAX

Whereas, the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) serves as the largest business support organization in Florida's Capital Community and has done so for over 90 continuous years; consisting of approximately 1,500 business members employing over 50,000 of our citizens – all of whom are committed to establishing a competitive and sustainable business climate resulting in top quality jobs, economic vitality and quality of life; and

Whereas, the Sales Tax Advisory Committee (Committee) that was empanelled two years ago to provide our local governments with a proposed action plan for the extension of the existing Local Option Penny Sales Tax, including funding recommendations, has recently issued their final report to the community that also clearly supports economic development initiatives toward present and future regional economic achievement; and

Whereas, Leon County, the City of Tallahassee and their joint Intergovernmental Agency have accepted the Committee's holistic report and have, in turn, approved of a plan to extend the existing Local Option Penny Sales Tax to further support needed and targeted community infrastructure improvements; a matter which has been placed on the November 2014 general election ballot for final consideration and approval by Leon County voters; and

Whereas, the Chamber approves of such community-wide strategic planning, and of the accountable, transparent, and efficient public investments that sustainably grow our community, insuring top business growth, preserving and expanding our quality of life; and

Whereas, the Chamber affirms that the current Local Option Penny Sales Tax has been in place in Leon County since 1989 and, as currently authorized through December 2019, is estimated to generate a total of approximately \$950M in revenues during this time for award winning, top quality, and vital infrastructure projects within our community with corresponding positive benefits to our citizens, and

Whereas, the Chamber accepts the projected estimates for the Local Option Penny Sales Tax Extension indicating this initiative shall generate an estimated \$756M in total revenues for new targeted infrastructure projects from the end of 2019 through 2039 translating into an estimated \$1.2 Billion positive economic impact, generating an estimated 8,338 direct and indirect new jobs in our community while also meeting our key infrastructure, environmental, and economic development needs efficiently with consistent, effective public oversight, and

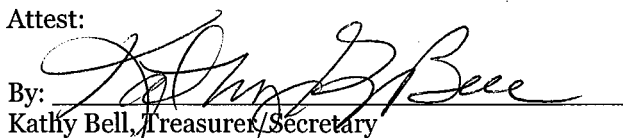
Whereas, the approved implementation plan for the Sales Tax Extension includes a 12% allocation for economic development purposes via a thorough and well-detailed management structure insuring performance, oversight and accountability.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, due to the positive economic impact upon the region, the Board of Directors of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce supports the extension of the Local Option Penny Sales Tax, subject to approval of the voters in Leon County this November, and to leverage, support, and guide the broad expansion of economic development, infrastructure improvements, and general shared benefit across our region for decades to come.

DONE, ADOPTED, AND PASSED by the Board of Directors of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, this 7th day of August 2014.

GREATER TALLAHASSEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

By: 
E. Edward Murray, Chair

Attest:
By: 
Kathy Bell, Treasurer/Secretary