



**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE
ALLEGHENY COUNTY. PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION NO. 05 OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, SOUTH FAYETTE
TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,
OPPOSING THE PROPOSED TOLLING OF INTERSTATE 79 AT THE
BRIDGEVILLE INTERCHANGE SITUATED WITHIN SOUTH FAYETTE
TOWNSHIP.**

WHEREAS, Interstate 79 is the primary roadway that connects our community to majority of western Pennsylvania and is credited for making South Fayette Township the ideal place to live due to its connectivity to other major highways and the greater metropolitan area, and;

WHEREAS, having direct and unfettered access to I-79 has enabled redevelopment and significant investment in our region that has created new jobs, attracted new citizens to our community and sustained a high quality of life for those living and working here, and;

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) has planned for improvements to the I-79 Bridgeville interchange within South Fayette, including projects now under construction to improve congestion and mobility along Route 50, and has partnered with the Township to improve the intersection of Route 50 and Washington Pike, a project that South Fayette Township and private land developers have financed.

WHEREAS, in February 2021, PENNDOT blindsided our citizenry, a community it has been partnering with to improve this interchange, when it proposed that to pay for the remaining work needed to improve the I-79 Interchange by imposing tolls on our citizens and the motorists who use this section of I-79 each day, and;

WHEREAS, if these tolls are permitted to be imposed, many of the 87,000 motorists who use this roadway each day will find themselves using alternative routes such as our local roadways, mainly already heavily congested Route 50 to divert from paying the I-79 tolls, and;

WHEREAS, the increased traffic and number of motorists who will now be traveling through South Fayette using our local roadways will negatively affect the health, growth and sustainability of our community including: exacerbated traffic congestion, adding to unsafe conditions for pedestrians, degradation of our local roadways that already lack funding to be maintained, reduce property values, result in a lack of future development and investment, and

will impose many negative environmental impacts resulting from increased idling of vehicles sitting in traffic.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Fayette Commissioners and the Township Manager hereby resolves the following:

1. As a united Board of Commissioners and Township Manager, on behalf of the 15,000 citizens and its business community, formally state the opposition of our community to the tolling of I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange, and;
2. Declare that imposing tolls on I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange will have negative consequences to the environment, causing undue harm to our local roads, and cause unmanageable traffic congestion that will result in a lack of business, lack of redevelopment and a reduced quality of life, and;
3. Call upon our state and federal elected officials to find alternative funding to pay for the improvements needed to the Bridgeville I-79 Interchange, and;
4. Demand that our state and federal officials do everything within their power to prevent PENNDOT from the ability to impose tolls on motorists traveling I-79, and;
5. Request PENNDOT to formally study the proposed diversion traffic routes, prioritizing Route 50, to fund and make all improvement necessary to mitigate and reduce traffic congestion coming into and through South Fayette Township.

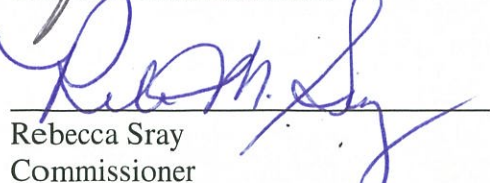
FURTHER DIRECTS that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation, PENNDOT District Executive, Governor Tom Wolf, State Senator Devlin Robinson, State Representative Jason Ortity, Senator Robert Casey, Senator Pat Toomey, and Congressman Mike Doyle.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED INTO LAW this 10th day of March 2021.

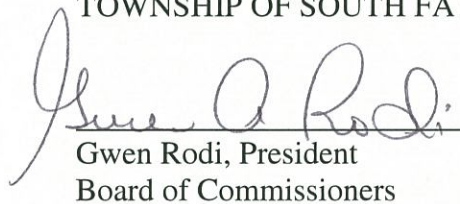
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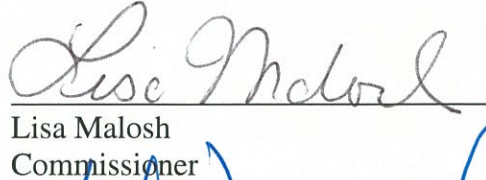

John M. Barrett
Township Manager

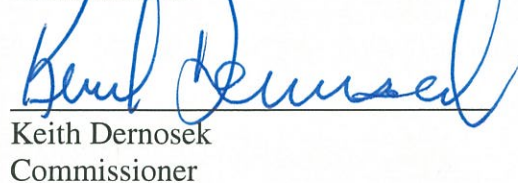

Joe Horowitz, Vice-President
Board of Commissioners


Rebecca Sray
Commissioner

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE:


Gwen Rodi, President
Board of Commissioners


Lisa Malosh
Commissioner


Keith Dernosek
Commissioner