

**RESOLUTION BETWEEN THE MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THE HINDS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THE CITY OF JACKSON, THE CITY OF RIDGELAND, AND THE MADISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MCEDA) TO COMMENCE A REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP EFFORT DEDICATED TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE WEST COUNTY LINE TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR**

WHEREAS, Madison County has made significant strides by establishing and participating in regional partnerships with neighboring Hinds County and the municipalities of Jackson and Ridgeland to address drainage and flood control issues in and around Tougaloo College, which is located south of a common border between Madison and Hinds Counties; and

WHEREAS, building upon the success of existing inter-governmental partnerships with the cities of Jackson, Ridgeland, and with Hinds County, Madison County aspires to further enhance the aforementioned common area by investing in the improvement of the main transportation corridor that is shared by all the respective parties to this partnership endeavor- West County Line Road; and

WHEREAS, West County Line Road is anchored to the east by its intersection with Interstate-55, in proximity to Tougaloo College, and terminates on the west at U.S. Highway 49. Along the corridor from the college, West County Line Road functions as a narrow, two-lane collector road which provides access to multiple prominent assets which justify the significant expansion of this road, including Amazon Web Services (AWS') new campus-style Hyper Data Center, presently under construction in Madison County; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that the investment in the AWS data center will serve to prompt and to anchor significant economic growth in the area along West County Line Road; and

WHEREAS, the Madison County Board of Supervisors intends to facilitate and capitalize upon such economic growth by implementing a construction program to widen the entire West County Line Corridor by expanding the road system from two to four lanes, with complementing multi-use paths from Tougaloo College to US Highway 49; and

WHEREAS, even though Madison County intends to spearhead the project as principal sponsor of the West County Line Transportation Corridor Improvement Project, it understands that in order to ensure the success of the infrastructure project it requires the willing and active participation of the Hinds County Board of Supervisors, and the cities of Jackson and Ridgeland, who share portions of the corridor as it traverses across the roadway; and

WHEREAS, a resolution of common purpose among the governmental authorities is needed to form a regional partnership to accomplish the purpose of improving West County Line Road, which shall be later cemented through a formal intergovernmental cooperation agreement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that through mutual action among the governmental entities of Madison County, Hinds County, and the municipalities of Jackson and Ridgeland, and through the efforts of the Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA), that a regional partnership will be formed through an inter-governmental cooperation agreement, the purpose of which will be to accomplish the expansion, modernization and improvement of the entire West County Line Road Corridor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution will be presented to each governmental entity for its consideration and approval with all authorized signatures affixed thereto, thereby giving the assurance of each participating governmental entity to participate in the Inter-governmental Cooperation Agreement, which shall hereafter more formally establish the guidelines, duties and responsibilities of the respective parties hereto.

WITNESS the signatures of the participating parties to this Resolution to establish a regional partnership to improve, enhance and enlarge the West County Line Corridor:

For: Madison County Board of Supervisors:      For: Hinds County Board of Supervisors:

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Gerald Steen, President

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Robert Graham, President

By: Chancery Clerk

By: Chancery Clerk

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

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For: City of Jackson

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John Horhn, Mayor

For: City of Ridgeland

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Gene McGee, Mayor

City Clerk:

(SEAL)

City Clerk

(SEAL)

For: MCEDA:

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Joey Deason, Director