RESOLUTION

EXHIBIT

7

RESOLUTION OF HOPKINS COUNTY IN SUPPORT OF COMPLETELY WIDENING TO FOUR LANES US HIGHWAY 271 AND US HIGHWAY 82 IN LAMAR AND RED RIVER COUNTIES.

WHEREAS, the complete widening to four lanes of US 271 and US 82 would provide Lamar and Red River Counties with increased safety, and great connectivity to some of the largest industrial and commercial hubs in the country and the world; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is currently developing the 2019 Unified Transportation Plan (UTP) which should be completed by December of 2018, and the UTP will decide which projects get funding; and

WHEREAS, the planning tools that rank projects are based on safety, congestion, connectivity, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the complete widening to four lanes of US 271 and US 82 in Lamar and Red River Counties will have a profound impact on safety, connectivity, and economic development in our region; and

WHEREAS, the complete widening to four lanes of US 271 and US 82 in Lamar and Red River Counties will have a significant impact on congestion and air quality in the Metroplex; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of the portions of US 271 and US 82 that are not completely widened to four lanes are located in Lamar and Red River Counties; and

WHEREAS, communication to our representatives and leaders about the importance of these projects between now and the end of the year is profoundly important to secure their funding; and

WHEREAS, the time to act is now. The 2019 UTP will likely be completed by December and future funding will likely be more difficult as Texas becomes a more urban State; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOPKINS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT:

Section 1 That we kindly request TxDOT to include the complete widening to four lanes of US Highway 271 and US Highway 82 in Lamar and Red River Counties in the 2019 Unified Transportation.

Section 2 That we ask all of our citizens to do likewise for the betterment of our community, region, and State.

Section 3 That this resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 2018

Robert Newsom, Hopkins County Judge

Mickey Barker, Commissioner, Pct. 1

Mike Odell, Commissioner, Pct. 2

Wade Bartley, Commissioner, Pct. 3

Danny Evans, Commissioner, Pct. 4

ATTEST: U