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3 **A RESOLUTION REQUESTING STATE LEGISLATORS MAKE SUBSTANTIAL**
4 **CHANGES TO THE COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION**
5 **FORMULA**
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7 WHEREAS, taxpayers in the City of Fort Wayne ("City") pay gas taxes to the
8 State and those taxes are uniform throughout the State; and

9 WHEREAS, those taxes fund the State's Community Crossing Matching Grant
10 Program which has awarded \$739 million dollars in State funds to municipalities since
11 2016; and

12 WHEREAS, Fort Wayne comprises approximately 4% of the State population but
13 has only received approximately 0.4% of the program's funding (\$4.5 million dollars of
14 \$739 million dollars); and

15 WHEREAS, as part of the 2020-1 awards, \$126.5 million dollars was distributed
16 with Fort Wayne receiving the maximum award of \$1 million dollars and received
17 nothing as part of the 2020-2 awards, meaning Fort Wayne continued to receive
18 approximately 0.4% of total allocated funds; and

19 WHEREAS, any municipality is eligible for the same funding level of a maximum
20 of \$1 million dollars regardless of its size and smaller communities contribute a 25%
21 match while Fort Wayne contributes a 50% match; and

22 WHEREAS, because these criteria primarily benefit small municipalities and rural
23 areas where the majority of their road repair funds now is derived from this program
24 while Fort Wayne only receives approximately 4.5% of its road repair funds from this
25 program; and

26 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Fort Wayne and most larger municipalities
27 to have a more equitable distribution of these funds re-evaluated by the State
28 Legislature; and

29 WHEREAS, the Fort Wayne City Council appreciates the continued leadership
30 shown by the members of the Indiana General Assembly to work with municipal leaders
31 to maximize benefits for all residents.

32

33 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE**
34 **CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:**

SECTION 1. That the Common Council formally requests that State Legislators who represent Fort Wayne taxpayers introduce legislation, bill addenda, or policy changes that will provide more road funding to the City of Fort Wayne, specifically a retooling of the Community Crossings Matching Grant Program into a more equitable program.

SECTION 2. That if the program is discontinued, a program which replaces it should more equitably distribute the funds.

SECTION 3. That if the program continues substantially intact, a reasonable outcome for the next two years' State Budget is Second Class Cities such as Fort Wayne will be eligible for at least three times the funding from the program as Third Class Cities.

Russ Jehl, Council Member

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

Joseph G. Bonahoom, Attorney for City Council