



State of Mississippi

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MIKE TAGERT

DICK HALL, CHAIRMAN

WAYNE BROWN

RESOLUTION DIRECTING IMPLEMENTATION OF MULTIPURPOSE TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDIES

WHEREAS, The Federal Highway Administration has made the development of livable communities, including fully integrated biking and walking networks, a priority of the current administration; and,

WHEREAS, This Commission recognizes the important role that MDOT plays in creating and fostering communities where all Mississippi residents have safe and convenient access to recreation and transportation; and,

WHEREAS, This Commission desires that the MDOT staff consider the development of multipurpose trails in its planning process for projects in or near communities or areas with high demand for recreational facilities; and,

WHEREAS, This Commission desires that the MDOT staff consider the development of wide paved shoulders in its planning process for projects in rural areas; and,

WHEREAS, a study to determine the engineering feasibility of developing a multipurpose trail during the environmental and planning phase of new and/or reconstructed highway is the most cost efficient way to implement such a project; and,

WHEREAS, a feasibility study of a multipurpose trail or wide paved shoulders during construction of new highways and the reconstruction of existing highways will also promote economic development and more livable communities; and,

WHEREAS, multipurpose trails will provide recreational, educational and economic benefits for hikers and bicyclists, and can function as an alternate mode of transportation for commuters, provide tremendous scenic qualities and serve as a tourist attraction for individuals of all ages, needs and abilities; and

WHEREAS, wide paved shoulders will provide safe space for persons operating farm equipment, using other slow-moving vehicles, riding bicycles, or walking and allow motorists to pass such users more safely;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Mississippi Transportation Commission, does hereby direct the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department Transportation to implement and execute a policy of considering the development of multipurpose trails and/or wide paved shoulders during the environmental and planning phase of all new highways and the re-construction of existing highways in or near communities and those areas with high demand for recreational facilities.

ADOPTED this the 22nd day of March, 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bell", is located at the bottom right of the page.

Mike Dajut

Wayne Brown