



## Resolution R20-009

Introduced By: David A. Hollis

Date: February 20, 2020

### **Supporting the Wilmington Rail Realignment Project for the Benefit of Environmental Sustainability, Improved Commuting Times, Public Safety, Quality of Life, Enhanced Freight Movement, and Economic Development**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilmington has worked with local, regional, state, federal and private partners in the conceptualization of the Wilmington Rail Realignment Project; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 17, 2017, Wilmington City Council accepted the Wilmington Rail Realignment and Right of Way Use Alternatives Feasibility Study which found no fatal flaws to the project, and supported continued development of the project; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2019, the Wilmington Rail Realignment Project was announced as a recipient of up to \$2 million in grant funds under the Federal Railroad Administration's Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements grant program; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Board of Transportation approved during their October 2019 meeting \$250,000 in matching funds, with an additional, \$250,000 in matching funding expected in the subsequent fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilmington is expected to commence work pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act in the first half of 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of the Wilmington Rail Realignment Project promotes environmental sustainability in nearby communities along the corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wilmington Rail Realignment project would provide new options for the movement of goods while also enhancing mobility and public safety for the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the improvements associated with the Wilmington Rail Realignment Project will stimulate regional investment and economic development opportunities.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Leland supports the furtherance of the Wilmington Rail Realignment Project to provide the region of southeast North Carolina with a solid foundation for transportation on which growth and future prosperity can be built.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town of Leland will explore the potential for future collaboration and partnership with the City of Wilmington on the Rail Realignment Project.

Adopted by Town Council on this 20th day of February 2020.

  
Brenda Bozeman, Mayor

  
Sabrena Reinhardt, Town Clerk

