

**AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 2008-040**  
**(NOACA's Urgent Infrastructure Recommendations for a**  
**National Economic Stimulus Package)**

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**  
**OF THE**  
**NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the five Ohio counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina; and

**WHEREAS**, as the MPO, NOACA is responsible for Northeast Ohio's major transportation infrastructure investments under federal law; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Congress is now working to craft a stimulus bill that is expected to provide significant funding for the nation's infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, Northeast Ohio has a long list of urgently needed infrastructure projects in need of funding, especially the Innerbelt Bridge, a major interstate link in such poor condition that trucks and buses have been banned from using the structure; and

**WHEREAS**, *Exhibit 1 contains federal-aid projects using NOACA controlled funds that have been approved by the Governing Board, having gone through significant committee, intergovernmental and public review; and*

**WHEREAS**, *Exhibit II is a list of projects that, while not necessarily NOACA projects, are deemed by local project sponsors to be important infrastructure investments; and*

**WHEREAS**, Congress is now considering how best to distribute these funds to states and metropolitan areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Board of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of thirty-eight principal elected and other officials of general purpose local government throughout and within the Counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina, that:

**SECTION 1:** The NOACA Governing Board makes the following recommendations to President Bush, President-Elect Obama, the U.S. Congress, and Ohio Governor Ted Strickland:

1. Congress should pass a stimulus bill with a strong infrastructure component that includes highways, bridges, transit operations, transit vehicles, aviation, port, and water pollution abatement control infrastructure.
2. Congress should set aside additional funding for urgent bridge safety projects. The Innerbelt Bridge project should be awarded sufficient funds for completion as soon as possible, over and above any other stimulus or formula transportation funds allotted to Ohio.

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3. Ohio should aggressively pursue federal stimulus funding, ensuring that all projects which might reasonably be considered "ready-to-go" are counted in their reports to Congress.
4. Congress should distribute highway and bridge funding to the states in a manner proportional to existing program formulas.
5. Congress should consider creating some flexibility in the timeframe for encumbering these funds.
6. Stimulus funds should be awarded to metropolitan planning organizations based on planning decisions reached as the result of consensus among local, regional, and state officials. Congress should distribute transportation and environmental funding to the states in a manner consistent with current planning requirements, and target additional infrastructure funding to states with highest unemployment.

**SECTION 2:** *The Executive Director is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of this Resolution along with Exhibits I and II to President Bush, President-Elect Obama, Members of Congress, and Governor Strickland, plus all appropriate state officials. The Executive Director has the authority to modify Exhibit II based on new information from project sponsors and local communities.*

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the Governing Board of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2008.

Secretary: Betty Blair

Date Signed: 12-12-08