RESOLUTION 2013-04

EXPRESSING THE IMMEDIATE NEED TO FUND THE REPAIR OF MICHIGAN'S ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS TO HELP MAKE MICHIGAN COMMUNITIES VIBRANT IN THE 21st CENTURY

WHEREAS, let it be known that Michigan is losing $3 million per day and more than $1 billion per year due to maintenance costs and increased wear and tear on our roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's roads are consistently ranked among the nation's worst; and

WHEREAS, one-third of all fatal and serious traffic crashes in Michigan can be linked, in part, to poor road conditions; and

WHEREAS, developing effective public transit options in Michigan is a necessary tool for attracting and retaining residents, workers, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, research shows that people across the nation are choosing communities that offer various modes of transportation, easy access to the places they live, work and play, and allow them to travel without having to rely on a car; and

WHEREAS, in particular, systems like streetcars and light rail have been credited with sparking new commercial and residential development; and

WHEREAS, we risk a future fiscal crisis if we do not increase our investment in transportation. Currently 32 percent of Michigan's roads are ranked as being in poor condition. By 2018 this number is expected to jump to more than 65 percent; and

WHEREAS, if properly funded the percentage of roadways in poor condition would greatly improve; and

WHEREAS, bringing a road from poor to good pavement condition costs six times more than it does to bring a road from fair to good condition; and

WHEREAS, investing $10 billion over the next ten years to fix Michigan's roads and bridges would create 12,000 jobs and prevent 100 crash-related deaths per year; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Hastings hereby urges Gov. Snyder and Michigan legislators to make the necessary investments to Michigan's transportation network to save taxpayer dollars, save lives, and improve our economy.

A motion to adopt the foregoing resolution being offered by Member Redman, with support by Member Bowers:

YEAS: Bowers, Jarvis, McNabb-Stange, Redman, Wood, and Campbell.
NAYS: Depue, Jasperse, and Tossava.
ABSENT: None.

MOTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a duly held and attended regular meeting the 25th day of February 2013, by the City Council of the City of Hastings, by a vote of six members voting in favor thereof and three members voting against.

[Signature]
Thomas E. Emery
City Clerk