

**A JOINT RESOLUTION REGARDING SAFETY IMPROVEMENT  
CONSIDERATION FOR AT-GRADE TRAIL CROSSINGS  
FOR THE AMERICAN TOBACCO TRAIL**

**WHEREAS**, the American Tobacco Trail is a 23-mile long regional, multi-modal commuter and recreational route that connects the people of Western Wake County, the Town of Cary and Eastern Chatham County to the City of Durham and the Research Triangle Park; and

**WHEREAS**, the design and construction of the American Tobacco Trail is a joint endeavor between the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Chatham County, Wake County, Durham County, City of Durham, and the Town of Cary; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has been instrumental in providing design plans and funding for the portion of the American Tobacco Trail located within Chatham County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Cary has overseen the construction of a 4.6 mile segment of the American Tobacco Trail located in Chatham County and agreed to maintain this segment of trail for a five-year period after completion of construction; and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County and the Town of Cary are developing a joint land use plan which includes the American Tobacco Trail and related facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Tobacco Trail will have a regional impact on multi-modal transportation for both commuters and recreational enthusiasts with high levels of use by a variety of age groups anticipated during the week and on weekends; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Tobacco Trail crosses several State-maintained roadways at-grade that currently have rural posted speed limits which do not take into consideration pedestrian, bicycle, and horseback riding facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Tobacco Trail will cross the following roadways in Chatham County at-grade: SR 1731 (O'Kelly Chapel Road), SR 1732 (Pittard Sears Road) and SR 1733 (New Hope Church Road).

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Cary and Chatham County have jointly identified many concerns related to the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, horses and their riders when crossing these roadways where high volume crossings are out of character; and,

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has adopted a complete streets policy of making every effort to ensure the roadways on the State network provide appropriate access and design consideration for all modes of transportation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Chatham the Town Council of the Town of Cary that both the Town of Cary and the County of Chatham respectfully request the North Carolina Department of Transportation to conduct in-depth safety evaluations of all at-grade trail crossings along the American Tobacco Trail and implement comprehensive safety countermeasures to ensure safe crossing maneuvers by all users of the American Tobacco Trail as well as safe and efficient mobility of roadway users along the State maintained roadways. All forms of safety countermeasures should be considered including: proper roadway alignment, speed limit reductions, traffic calming measures, signals, signs, pavement markings, or other appropriate measures.

Adopted this 1st day of March, 2010 by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.

Adopted this 10th day of March, 2010 by the Cary Town Council.


COUNTY OF CHATHAM

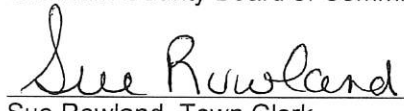
  
Sally Kost, Board Chair

TOWN OF CARY

  
Harold Weinbrecht, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

  
Sue Rowland, Town Clerk  
Town of Cary

