COUNTY OF CHATHAM

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ORGANIZED 1770

707 SQUARE MILES

RESOLUTION TO FACILITATE THE CREATION AND PROTECTION OF THE AMERICAN TOBACCO TRAIL IN CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners and the North Carolina Department of Transportation recognize the importance of the American Tobacco Trail to the economic and social well being of the residents of the region; and

WHEREAS, all parties interested in the American Tobacco Trail have been aggressively pursuing the development of such a trail; and

WHEREAS, a well designed trail will contribute economic, social, and recreational benefits to the citizens of Chatham County; and

WHEREAS, preservation of the American Tobacco Trail for posterity involves the expenditure of Federal, State, and local funds; and

WHEREAS, preservation of the former railroad bed for trail use and future transit use requires that the integrity of the American Tobacco Trail be maintained; and

WHEREAS, each additional at-grade crossing limits the ability of the trail to serve these useful purposes for current and future residents; and diminishes the trail's safety and integrity; and

WHEREAS, the provision of safe bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities will provide alternatives to dependence on automobile transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AGREE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. That at-grade street and driveway crossings of the American Tobacco Trail will be discouraged in adopted plans, zoning changes, site plan approvals, and building construction approvals.

- 2. That the governmental agencies will work cooperatively to reduce the existing number of at-grade crossings to the minimum number possible.
- 3. That the governmental agencies participating in this agreement shall provide for land development which is harmonious with the development of the American Tobacco Trail and which enhances the community benefits of this trail.
- 4. That before any new at-grade crossings are approved by any of the respective government agencies, an advertised public meeting will be conducted locally in Chatham County.
- 5. That this resolution shall apply to the area identified on the American Tobacco Trail Master Plan map and any subsequently adopted amendments and extensions made to that plan.

Adopted this, the 15th day of December, 1997.

Margaret Bryant Pollard, Chair

ATTEST

Sandra B. Lee, Clerk to the Board

Chatham County Board of Commissioners