State of Texas

County of Comal

Resolution 2007-14

Endorsing Motor Fuels Tax Indexing in Texas

WHEREAS, it is readily apparent, on a daily basis, that there is increasing congestion on roadways in Texas; and

WHEREAS, it is clear that traffic stagnation increases poor air quality for all Texans, reduces our coveted quality of life and impedes the expedient delivery of goods and services; and

WHEREAS, projections indicate that the Texas Department of Transportation will continue to fall further behind in the construction and repair of Texas roadways given current TxDOT funding limitations; and

WHEREAS, rampant population growth and increased commercial transportation estimates are forcing TxDOT to look to alternative sources of funding such as toll roads, higher toll rates, and "pass through financing" programs; and

WHEREAS, the spiraling costs for petroleum and related products exacerbate: an already critical challenge for sustaining roadway construction; and

WHEREAS, the motor fuels tax is one of the few state revenue sources that does not grow with the economy; and

WHEREAS, indexing the motor fuels tax to track growth in the economy would provide a more balanced source of revenue with which to fund roadway capacity needs; and

WHEREAS, the state tax rate on motor fuels has remained unchanged since 1991 while costs of roadway maintenance and construction have grown substantially over the same period; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners' Court of Comal County, duly convened and acting in its capacity as the governing body of Comal County, does hereby urge the 80th Texas Legislature to adjust the motor fuels tax through use of a "highway cost index" to enable its revenue to grow with the economy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker of the House, the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Ways and Means.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 19th day of April 2007.

Danny Scheel, County Judge

Jack Dawson, Commissioner Pct 1

Gregory Parker, Commissioner Pct 3

Jay Millikin, Commissioner Pct 2

Jan Kennady, Commissioner Pct

Attest:

oy Streater, County Clerk