

Resolution requesting that the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation prepare the Coulee Connections Transportation Study in order to develop new ideas to address transportation needs in the La Crosse area.

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, during the past 40 years there have been numerous studies looking into transportation issues in the La Crosse area including at least three area-wide studies concentrating on north-south travel in La Crosse; and

WHEREAS, the most recent study was completed in 1998 and recommended preferred alternative 5B-1, which was the construction of a new roadway through the La Crosse River Marsh and various City neighborhoods known as the "North-South Corridor" and which led to a City-wide referendum opposing the new road; and

WHEREAS, community dynamics and trends since 1998 highlight the importance of conducting an updated examination of transportation issues and needs in the La Crosse area; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has earmarked approximately \$135 million to fund transportation improvements and has informed local officials that said funds will be reprogrammed if the La Crosse area does not request the updated transportation study known as the Coulee Connections Transportation Study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse that it hereby requests that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation conduct an updated study of transportation issues and needs from I-90 to U.S. Highway 14-61, otherwise known as the Coulee Connections Transportation Study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of La Crosse strongly recommends that the Coulee Connections Study focus recommendations and alternatives on repairing and improving existing roadways, enhancing transit services, and constructing new and expanded bicycle and pedestrian facilities instead of constructing new roadways through City neighborhoods and the La Crosse River Marsh, because of its importance to flood control, water quality, open space, natural resources, and wildlife habitat.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of La Crosse hereby recommends that the earmarked funding for La Crosse area transportation needs be repurposed into repairing and improving existing roadways, enhancing transit service, and constructing new and expanded bicycle and pedestrian facilities.