

OHIO TURNPIKE COMMISSION

Resolution Authorizing Further Engineering
Studies Relating to the Transfer of the Ohio Turnpike
after Remaining Bonded Debt is Liquidated

WHEREAS, the Commission is steadily liquidating the remaining debt incurred to finance the cost of Ohio Turnpike Project No. 1 and the Commission predicts that the transfer of the facility to the State Highway System as provided in Ohio Revised Code 5537.21 will be possible in two to three years;

WHEREAS, the Commission is a party to a tripartite agreement executed July 14, 1964, among the Commission, State of Ohio (by the Director of Highways) and the Federal Highway Administration, which agreement recognizes that portions of the Ohio Turnpike are and will be included as a part of the Interstate Highway System and which agreement provides that the turnpike will become toll free when the bonds of the Commission are liquidated and which agreement also makes the State of Ohio eligible for certain Federal aid interstate funding; and

WHEREAS, the Commission previously has had prepared for it by its consulting engineers a study (paid for from moneys in the Reserve Maintenance Fund) of improvements and modifications desirable on the turnpike to incorporate fully the road into the free Interstate Highway System and the Commission has advocated that, if the toll-free provisions of the tripartite agreement and Ohio Revised Code 5537.21 are implemented, the cost of such improvements and modifications should be financed with Ninety Percent (90%) federal interstate funds available under current federal laws on the free Interstate Highway System; and

WHEREAS, the Commission deems it necessary and as part of the function of the Commission to provide for a smooth and orderly transition of the Turnpike pursuant to the existing state and federal laws, the tripartite agreement and requirements currently in effect; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Commission and its consulting engineers the transfer of the road to the jurisdiction of the Ohio Department of Transportation and incorporation of it into the free Interstate Highway System, making the timely improvements and modifications to the road desirable for it to be conformed to current free interstate standards eligible for 90% federal aid funding, will require updating of the existing engineering study previously performed for the Commission and will also require additional engineering studies (including traffic, preliminary engineering and environmental impact studies) to be made; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to provide for the making of necessary engineering studies and to authorize the making of appropriate agreements to accomplish the same, to provide the funding therefor as engineering expenses relating to the functions of the Commission and to cooperate with the State of Ohio through the Department of Transportation and the United States through the Federal Highway Administration in developing such information and advice;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Commission with the concurrence of the consulting engineers hereby authorizes and establishes an account to be funded from moneys already available in the Reserve Maintenance Fund to finance the necessary studies,

as engineering and related expenses relating to the functions of the Commission, to accomplish an orderly transfer of the turnpike and to permit the timely availability of Federal funding for improvements thereafter and that the amount committed initially for these studies will be \$2,000,000.00; and

RESOLVED FURTHER that the Commission authorizes the executive director to cooperate with the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to define the scope of any necessary studies and to retain such engineering consultants and other consultants and advisors, as are necessary, to accomplish these studies; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the executive director shall make a report of his actions to the Commission from time to time and shall carry out the terms of any agreements executed in conformity with this resolution.

(Resolution No. **13** -1979 adopted July 10, 1979)