

1 **2006 Fall Conference**
2 **Standing Committee on Transportation**
3 **Resolution #01**

4
5 **RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE**
6 **OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO INCREASE LOCAL FUNDING**
7 **FOR HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES**
8

9 **WHEREAS**, local governments are responsible for an increasing proportion of
10 the statewide highway and bridge system; eighty five percent of the State's 110,000 miles
11 of roadways, and fifty percent of the State's 18,000 bridges; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, a safe and efficient highway infrastructure is necessary for trade,
14 economic development and revitalization, our schools, businesses, health and hospital
15 facilities, emergency responders, as well as the general traveling public; and
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17 **WHEREAS**, the State's Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPs)
18 funds are vital to county highway departments in order to maintain and upgrade
19 important components of the local transportation system, and purchase necessary
20 highway equipment and materials; and
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22 **WHEREAS**, the Marchiselli Funding Program is the State component of a
23 successful Federal, State, and Local partnership, delivering transportation improvements
24 to federally-aidable local highway projects; and
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26 **WHEREAS**, the level of CHIPs funding in the five year capital plan falls well
27 short of the proportional funding commitment provided to the State-owned system; and
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29 **WHEREAS**, Marchiselli Funding has not increased in the past 5 years and has
30 remained flat at \$40 million under the five year capital plan, while the identified needs
31 require a \$10 million increase in the state share to pay for unfunded projects and to
32 leverage more federal dollars; and
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34 **WHEREAS**, the demands on the municipally-owned 9,000 bridges, too many of
35 which are in poor and unsafe condition, necessitates the establishment of a new \$250
36 million bridge and culvert program; and
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38 **WHEREAS**, while the local system remains woefully under-funded, costs of
39 maintenance, fuel, equipment and materials continues to increase and the local
40 infrastructure continues to deteriorate, making it necessary to initiate automatic increases
41 in CHIPs funding tied to the Producer Price Index (PPI):
42

43 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State
44 Association of Counties (NYSAC) in conjunction with the New York State County
45 Highway Superintendents Association, Inc., urges the Governor and the Legislature of
46 the State of New York to give priority to local roads and bridges by increasing the state

1 commitment to CHIPs and Marchiselli funding to meet the demonstrated need, and
2 indexing CHIPs so that local governments can budget and properly plan to address the
3 deficiencies in the local transportation system; and

4
5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of
6 Counties urges the Governor and the Legislature of the State of New York to establish a
7 new Bridge and Culvert program to insure the safety of the local transportation system,
8 so important to the state's economy and the millions of citizens who rely on local roads
9 every day to get them to and from their places of employment; and

10
11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the copies of this resolution be forwarded
12 to the Governor, the full membership of New York State Legislature and all others
13 deemed necessary and proper.