

1 **2021 Legislative Conference**
2 **Standing Committee on Transportation and Public Works**
3 **Resolution #1**

4 **Resolution Urging Full Restoration of Funding Cuts for Local Road, Bridge**
5 **and Culvert Programs and Timely Release of Future Funding Allocations**

6 **WHEREAS**, the enacted 2020-2021 State Budget appropriated a total of \$603
7 million for CHIPS, PAVE-NY and Extreme Winter Recovery (EWR) for critical local
8 transportation projects; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Governor Andrew Cuomo and the Director of the Division of the
10 Budget took actions that withheld \$120.6 million (20%) of this funding needed
11 by municipalities to maintain their roads, bridges, culverts and other essential
12 transportation infrastructure; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Executive Budget recognizes the need to reimburse municipalities for
14 local assistance “withholds” and proposes that, an improving state receipts picture, the
15 availability of federal Coronavirus Relief resources, and other developments will allow
16 for the partial restoration of these funds to be reconciled and repaid in the final quarter
17 of FY 2021; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the impacts of this substantial loss of state funding were compounded by
19 an inordinate delay in the release by the state of the official authorization notifications
20 to municipalities, 69 days after the state budget had been adopted, causing further
21 disruptions in the planning, letting and delivery of local highway and bridge projects for
22 many counties; and

23 **WHEREAS**, state assistance and sales tax receipts represent nearly half of the
24 revenues for County governments; and

25 **WHEREAS**, since January, local sales tax collections are down \$2.2 billion from what
26 was budgeted for 2020; and

27 **WHEREAS**, to ensure long-term economic revitalization and a safe, resilient,
28 and functional infrastructure, especially for essential workers to do their
29 jobs, the funds appropriated and allocated to counties and municipalities in the 2020-
30 2021 state budget for CHIPS, PAVE-NY and EWR must be fully restored and made
31 available in a timely manner by the state Department of Transportation and Division of
32 the Budget.

33 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of
34 Counties urges Governor Andrew Cuomo to commit to fully reimbursing the withholds
35 for CHIPS, PAVE-NY and EWR local transportation programs as quickly as possible
36 with the current budget and allocated funds from the federal government, and to the
37 timely release of funding allocations to the counties’ local transportation programs for
38 the 2021-2022 FY; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the counties
2 of New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to
4 Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York Legislature and all others deemed necessary
5 and proper.