

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018- 15**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CITY'S APPLICATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FLORIDA JOB GROWTH GRANT FUND FOR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE; DIRECTING STAFF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund within Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to promote economic opportunity by improving public infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Economic Opportunity and Enterprise Florida, Inc. have responsibility of identifying projects to make funding recommendations to the Governor; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has an infrastructure project that is designed and can be completed in phases for the improvement of Aviation Boulevard from U.S. Highway 1 to 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue which is a key east–west transportation corridor for the City and the County to the airport as well as the hospital; and

**WHEREAS**, Aviation Boulevard is a 2-lane non-divided urban minor arterial roadway that connects to County, State, and Federal roadways which has not been widened to accommodate increased traffic caused by an increase in economic activity around the airport and the hospital; and

**WHEREAS**, Piper Aircraft, Inc., a manufacturer of small airplanes located at the airport on Aviation Boulevard, has seen an increase of its workforce by approximately 25 percent during the year 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Elite Airlines, LLC has been serving the airport for 2 years with increased employment and passenger traffic to the airport and had an increase in passenger traffic from 2016 to 2017 of 44%; and

**WHEREAS**, Walking Tree Brewery, LLC, a successful craft brewery, began operations at the airport in 2016 bringing employment and increased customer traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, Oculina Banc, Corp, Inc. opened a branch near the airport in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is in negotiations for a maintenance hangar lease for an airline which would bring approximately 50 to 150 jobs to the airport; and

**WHEREAS**, a hotel is currently under construction along Aviation Boulevard which will increase both employment and guest traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic impact of the businesses in the airport district was found to be over \$468 million in 2015 by the Florida Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Aviation Boulevard, as currently configured, is close to reaching a level of service that could hinder the continued economic development gains made at the airport and along the business district adjacent to the airport; and

WHEREAS, widening Aviation Boulevard would benefit the continued improvement of the business environment which brings new business as well as allows existing businesses to expand; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes the widening of Aviation Boulevard would benefit the City, County and region and would improve the economic development environment around the airport; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA, THAT:**

**Section. 1 Adoption of Recitals.**

The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby adopted and incorporated herein as forming the legislative findings, purpose, and intent of this Resolution.

**Section 2. Support and Direction for Grant Application.**

The City Council of the City of Vero Beach hereby supports and directs staff to apply for the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Florida Job Growth Grant Fund for Public Infrastructure.

**Section 3. Effective Date.**

This resolution shall become effective upon adoption by the City Council.

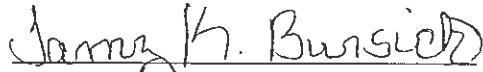
\*\*\*\*\*

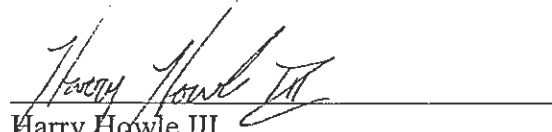
This Resolution was heard at a public hearing on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 2018, after which hearing it was moved for adoption by Councilmember Moss, seconded by Councilmember Young, and adopted by the following vote of the City Council:

Mayor Harry Howle III	<u>yes</u>
Vice Mayor Lange Sykes	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Laura Moss	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Anthony W. Young	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Val Zudans	<u>yes</u>

ATTEST:

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

  
Tammy K. Bursick  
City Clerk

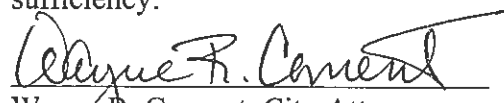
  
Harry Howle III  
Mayor

[SEAL]

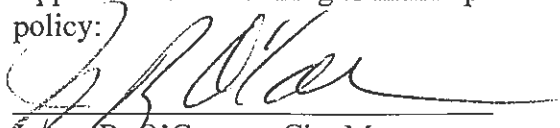
**ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW**

(For Internal Use Only—Sec. 2-77 COVB Code)

Approved as to form and legal  
sufficiency:

  
Wayne R. Coment, City Attorney

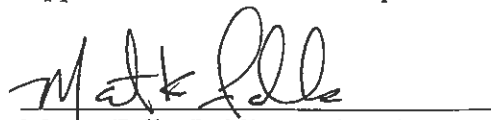
Approved as conforming to municipal  
policy:

  
James R. O'Connor, City Manager

Approved as to technical requirements:

  
Ericson W. Menger, Airport Director

Approved as to technical requirements:

  
Monte Falls, Public Works Director