



CHEROKEE COUNTY

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Murphy, North Carolina 28906

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Commissioners

Barbara Palmer Vicknair

Ernest Jones

Dana Jones

County Manager

Ernest Jones

County Attorney

R. Scott Lindsay

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Congress has appropriated \$1.3 Million for a study to determine the need and feasibility of constructing an interstate highway (hereinafter referred to as I-3) from Savannah, Georgia to Knoxville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, I-3, if constructed would possibly traverse through or near Cherokee County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, neither the State of North Carolina nor any County in Western North Carolina was consulted before hand on legislation introduced in the US Congress by the Georgia Congressional delegation regarding the placement of an interstate highway through the Southern Appalachian mountains; and

WHEREAS, the beauty of our region is the main asset that draws tourism, which feeds our economy, Therefore, the construction of a federal interstate highway through the existing rugged terrain of Western North Carolina would have a devastating environmental, economic, cultural, and aesthetic impact on these mountains, including the Nantahala National Forest and Great Smoky Mountain National Park; and

WHEREAS, the interstate highway has little support from Cherokee County citizens and their elected representatives at the local, state, and federal levels, who prefer such monies be allocated for the repair of existing highway infrastructure, including unsafe bridges; and

WHEREAS, in support and solidarity with our neighboring counties in North East Georgia, who have expressed their clear opposition to the interstate highway;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners that it is respectfully opposed to a federally-funded interstate corridor called I-3 (or any other name for such a corridor) being routed through or near Cherokee County, North Carolina.

Attest:

Debra Cook

Chairman:

D. A. J.