

## **RESOLUTION NO. 17-19**

### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE JOHN JORDAN “BUCK O’NEIL” MEMORIAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT.**

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. 169 John Jordan “Buck O’Neil” Memorial Bridge was constructed in the mid 1950’s and is a critical regional connection; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, the Kansas City region, through the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), the City of Kansas City, Missouri (KMCO), and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) entered into a partnership to create a long-term plan for the bridge, and

**WHEREAS**, the bridge’s age and condition makes any major maintenance both costly and unsustainable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission has released a draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program that has proposed approximately \$49 million in state fiscal year 2019 to perform a 35-year rehabilitation of the bridge that will require an estimated two-year closure; and

**WHEREAS**, a sustained closure of this bridge would result in negative traffic and economic impacts to the region including:

- 45,000 daily commutes including those to and from the City of Gladstone and other neighboring communities
- Regional fire, police, and ambulance services
- Access to the Charles Wheeler Downtown Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, the bridge’s existing capacity and alignment no longer meet the long-term needs of the region.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE AS FOLLOWS:**

**THAT**, the City recognizes the important role of the bridge as a regional connection and expresses concern for the potential traffic and economic impacts of an extended closure; and

**THAT**, the City acknowledges the condition of the bridge and commends MoDOT’s continued commitment to safe travel; and

**THAT**, the City expresses concern about making a significant investment in the bridge that will not serve the long-term needs of the region; and

**THAT**, the Council of the City of Gladstone respectfully requests that the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission work with regional partners to identify funding for a solution that meets the long-term needs of the region.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution be immediately transmitted to the Governor of the State of Missouri, the Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray Counties delegation to the Missouri General Assembly, and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI THIS 22ND DAY OF MAY 2017.**



R. D. Mallams  
R. D. Mallams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ruth E. Bocchino  
Ruth E. Bocchino, City Clerk



*Department of Public Works  
Memorandum*

**DATE:** May 17, 2017  
**TO:** Scott Wingerson, City Manager  
**FROM:** Timothy A. Nebergall, Director of Public Works <sup>TAN</sup>  
**RE:** John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil Memorial Bridge Replacement  
Resolution of Support

The Missouri Department of Transportation has identified approximately \$49-million in state fiscal year 2019 to rehabilitate the John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil Memorial Bridge (formerly the Broadway Bridge). The project as proposed would require an extended closure of the bridge for approximately two years during construction and is intended to extend the life of the bridge for approximately 35-years.

The City of Kansas City and surrounding communities, including the City of Gladstone, have expressed their concern about the traffic and economic impacts of an extended bridge closure. Furthermore, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is in the midst of a study called "Beyond the Loop" to evaluate the best long-term solution for the bridge including replacement.

Kansas City has requested that its regional partners pass a resolution of support requesting that MoDOT work with regional partners to identify funding for the best long-term solution. A resolution of support has been placed on tonight's Council agenda for your consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.