

**TOWN OF GEDDES
Joseph L Ranieri
1000 Woods Road
Solvay, NY 13209**

Geddes Town Board Meeting – July 9, 2013

Members Present:

Supervisor Falcone
Councilor Albrigo
Councilor Czaplicki
Councilor Fassinger - Excused
Councilor Krupa - Excused
Councilor Murphy
Councilor Valenti

Resolution # 107

Authorize Supervisor to Send Letter of Support for I – 81 Corridor Project

Motion: Councilor Murphy Second: Councilor Valenti

Authorization for the Supervisor to send a letter of support for the I-81 Corridor project.

**MEMORIALIZING THE INTENT OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GEDDES,
COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, REGARDING THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING
ALIGNMENT OF INTERSTATE 81 THROUGH SYRACUSE**

WHEREAS, for the last 50 years, Interstate 81 has served as a vital backbone for the economy of Central New York, connecting commuters, businesses, tourists, visitors, and through-travelers alike; and

WHEREAS, among its important functions, Interstate 81 provides vital links with access to downtown Syracuse, all of our hospitals, Syracuse University, Destiny USA, present and future businesses and residents along 81 corridor, to business and residents within the Town of Geddes; and

WHEREAS, turning Interstate 81 to Route 481 leaves no alternative north-south Route for national defense, national disaster, and general maintenance and repairs; and

WHEREAS, although there are a variety of ways to deal with I-81's aging infrastructure, the existing "Interstate" function and designation must be preserved, because any solution which would remove I-81's vital function from its present alignment would irreparably harm the regional economy and corresponding employment dependent upon the highway network in addition to negatively impacting Geddes' neighborhoods and its residents quality of life; and

WHEREAS, redirecting I-81 traffic to Route 481, transfers what the City of Syracuse sees as a problem to Geddes; and

WHEREAS, Geddes forms a border of Syracuse and its neighborhoods already suffer the consequences of commuter traffic to and from the City of Syracuse; and

WHEREAS, increased traffic causes increased noise, dust, toxic emissions and atmospheric deposition of pollutants on land and water, business, homes, and schools; and

WHEREAS, redirecting Interstate 81 to Route 481 is not smart environmental policy because the distance traveled for through traffic and further stop and go intercity commuting traffic is increased. This is polluting, inefficient, requires the use of greater amounts of petroleum based

fuels, hurts the regional economy, and is detrimental to social welfare and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the future of I-81 presents one of the greatest planning decisions to face New York State in decades and the outcome will impact our region for the next 100 years; and

WHEREAS, it is the consensus of the Geddes Town Board that any decision reached by the NYS DOT should satisfy function first, and should be closely tailored to satisfy that function; and

WHEREAS, we support smart growth and the creation of a new and welcoming entrance to Syracuse, and the integration of the hospitals and university areas with the rest of downtown, we believe it must not be accomplished by compromising one of the most significant advantages of living, working, doing business and visiting Onondaga County;

WHEREAS, Geddes supports a balanced, comprehensive approach, a regional transportation plan is necessary to ensure smart choices are made, a plan that can provide environmental, social and economic benefits to all of Central New York, one that promotes alternative and mass transit options including alternate fuels, electric vehicles, and a light rail system; for our suburban communities are in dire need of a traffic diet as well; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Geddes Town Board memorializes its determination that the existing Interstate 81 alignment through Syracuse and Central New York must remain and its function and designation as an interstate highway must not be removed or impaired; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor of the Town of Geddes is hereby directed to cause a copy of this resolution to be transmitted to the New York State Department of Transportation, to the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council, and to the various legislative members representing Onondaga County at the state level.

A Roll Call Vote was taken. Supervisor Falcone, Councilors Valenti and Murphy voted yes. Councilors Albrigo and Czaplicki voted no.

Ayes - 3 Nays - 2 Carried

**STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ONONDAGA
TOWN OF GEDDES**

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Town of Geddes, Onondaga County, New York, does hereby certify: that the enclosed is a true copy of the original resolution passed at a meeting of the Geddes Town Board on July 9, 2013.

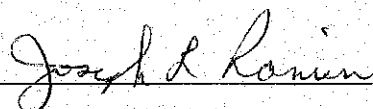
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and affixed the seal of said Town this 11th day of July, 2013.

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JOSEPH L RANIERI