

2018 Second Extraordinary Session
HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 48
BY REPRESENTATIVE GLOVER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to create a public input process to discuss the impact that completion of the Interstate 49 North priority project will have on the North Market Street Corridor.

WHEREAS, after decades of effort, the Interstate 49 North expansion, which is one of Louisiana's high priority projects, is advancing towards completion; and

WHEREAS, completion of the Interstate 49 North project will yield opportunities, but also present challenges for the Shreveport area and the North Market Corridor in particular; and

WHEREAS, the past has taught local residents many tough lessons, most importantly, that the advancement of infrastructure is not free and that the decisions made now will affect the local community far into the future; and

WHEREAS, the North Market Street corridor will experience an increase in traffic as a result of the project completion and creative solutions are necessary to alleviate the potential negative effects and enhance the positive impacts that the project will have on the North Market Street Corridor; and

WHEREAS, despite ongoing discussions of the Interstate 49 Inner City Connector, it may take decades to generate the funding required for the construction of the project; and

WHEREAS, there are a growing number of citizens who believe that constructing elevated interstate highways through urban cores of our cities were mistakes of the past and should not be repeated; and

WHEREAS, research is necessary and creative solutions must be presented that will mitigate traffic, improve infrastructure, generate economic benefits, and increase the

property value of those who reside in and around North Shreveport and the downtown Shreveport areas; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development should strategize with all relevant partners in the community on how to best leverage a solution that inures to the benefit of residents in the area; and

WHEREAS, this strategy should engage community stakeholders with relevant information on how to stimulate growth of the community and it should also contemplate efforts to minimize negative impacts on the local community; and

WHEREAS, foresight and strategic planning may result in a more economically viable and locally beneficial solution; and

WHEREAS, members of the local community that will be directly affected by the Interstate 49 North improvements deserve true community engagement and want to contribute to improving the area in a way that is meaningful and minimally intrusive to long standing residents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to create a public input process that includes dialogue with local public officials, local Shreveport residents, commercial and industrial district representatives, educational institutions, and relevant or interested stakeholders and results in potential strategies that will minimize the negative and maximize the positive impact on the North Market Corridor as a result of the Interstate 49 North project completion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES