

EASTERN SHORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-06

Resolution of Support for City of Fairhope's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program Application

WHEREAS, the Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is the organization designated by the Governor of the State of Alabama as being responsible, together with the State of Alabama, for implementing the applicable provisions of 23 USC 134 and 135 (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Section 11201, November 2021); 42 USC 2000d-1, 7401; 23 CFR 450 and 500; 40 CFR 51 and 93; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fairhope is growing at an unprecedented rate with a nearly 47 percent increase in residents from the 2020 census; and

WHEREAS, US-98 is the main commuter route to the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay, joining all cities along including Spanish Fort, Daphne, and Fairhope

WHEREAS, Fly Creek is a perennial stream that flows into Mobile Bay and provides vital habitat for many aquatic and terrestrial species; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is at the crossing of SR-42 (US-98) over Fly Creek in the City of Fairhope; and

WHEREAS, through the life of the existing culvert structure at this crossing, it appears that erosion and geomorphic failure have caused undermining at the downstream segments of the culvert; and

WHEREAS, the culvert continues to show signs of failure which, if allowed to remain, may cause US-98 to fail posing safety concern to the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Department of Transportation commissioned an Alternative Analysis, one of the alternatives posed was a single span concrete bridge and culvert removal; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fairhope, ALDOT, Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, and other interested partners have determined that barring the monetary barrier, culvert removal and bridge construction would be most beneficial for the aquatic habitat of Fly Creek; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Eastern Shore MPO supports and endorses the City of Fairhope's application for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant. The foregoing resolution was adopted and approved on the 29th day of January 2025, by the Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board.


Jack Burrell, Chairperson

ATTEST:

