

November 15, 2016

The Honorable Steve McMillan
State Representative
P. O. Box 337
Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

**RE: Adaptive Signalization for Signalized Intersections of State Highway 59 in
Foley, Alabama**

Representative McMillan:

It has come to our attention that you have been encouraging the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) to extend the Adaptive Signalization that they have completed in the Gulf Shores section of State Highway 59 northward through the signalized intersections of Foley. Baldwin County Commissioners were in attendance at the meeting recently held where the use of BP fine money was considered and ultimately three projects, Highway 31, Highway 181, and Canal Road, were identified as the three projects to be funded with the BP money. In the meeting, Mayor John Koniar of Foley spoke and agreed that these three roads were in dire need of improvement/expansion; however, he requested consideration of approximately \$1.4 million of the total \$55 million BP fine dollars be spent to address a critical need on State Highway 59. State Highway 59 is the primary north/south route throughout Baldwin County and is the primary corridor used by nearly all citizens of the County going to and from Pleasure Island as well as to head northward to Interstates 10 and 65. It is also the primary route used by our 6.5 million visitors that contribute so much to the economy of our County and State. In this meeting, ALDOT Director Cooper made the statement that the one state highway in Baldwin County that regularly exceeds its design capacity is State Highway 59. Yet funding for this work was not secured.

The City of Gulf Shores has indicated that after ALDOT completed an adaptive signalization project on the section of State Highway 59 in Gulf Shores, it has had a very positive effect in reducing the congestion on the corridor. Adaptive signalization has proven to improve throughput of traffic at a much more moderate cost than funding actual roadway expansions. This is why the Baldwin County Commission, along with the Eastern Shore MPO and ALDOT, are currently initiating a \$2.8 million project to implement adaptive signalization along the entire Eastern Shore corridor of Highway 98.

Therefore, please accept this letter as agreement and support of your efforts to secure State funding for adaptive signalization in the corridor of State Highway 59 from the southern point of County Road 10 through the northern point of the intersection of 59 and the Foley Beach Express.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (251) 972-8502 or Ron Cink, County Administrator/Budget Director, at (251) 580-2550.

Sincerely,

Honorable Frank Burt, Jr., Vice Chairman
Commissioner
District 1

Honorable T. Christopher Elliott, Chairman
Commissioner
District 2

Honorable Tucker Dorsey
Commissioner
District 3

Honorable Charles F. Gruber
Commissioner
District 4

cc: Wayne Trawick, Foley Council President
John E. Koniar, Mayor, City of Foley
Michael Thompson, Foley City Administrator
Cal Markert, P.E.
Matthew Brown, P.E.
David Conner, County Attorney