RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING BLUE RIDGE ROAD INTERCHANGE, PROJECT I-4409

WHEREAS, the access from Interstate Highway 40 to the Town of Black Mountain and its businesses is by way of a partial cloverleaf south of the center of town on N.C. Highway 9 at Exit 64 and an additional access east of town at Exit 66 in Ridgecrest; and

WHEREAS, the next exit west of the main exit on N.C. Highway 9 is five miles away in Swannanoa; and

WHEREAS, the numerous businesses in and around the downtown and the conference centers in Montreat, Christmount and Blue Ridge generate a heavy traffic flow downtown; and

WHEREAS, a large portion of such traffic must either travel through downtown Black Mountain on U.S. Highway 70 or enter Black Mountain by traveling north on N.C. Highway 9 into the center of town; and

WHEREAS, large trucks and tour buses traveling north on N.C. Highway 9 from Exit 64 are forced to make turns onto State Street (U.S. Highway 70) at an intersection that was not designed and built to accommodate turns by such large vehicles, which would be partially alleviated by an exit at Blue Ridge Road that would allow traffic that must reach downtown locations along U.S. Highway 70 to travel directly along that highway, reducing traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, all the new I-40 interchange proposed to be constructed at Blue Ridge Road will provide access into and out of the south side of town for all traffic and a direct route along U.S. Highway 70 to downtown businesses without a need to turn in the center of town, reducing traffic congestion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That this Resolution is effective upon its adoption.

Adopted this 4th day of August, 2020

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

By: _

Brownie Newman, Chairman

Lamar Joyner, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM: