RESOLUTION 2018-172

AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROJECT AND THE APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES FUNDING FOR THE 5TH STREET RAIL TO TRAIL PROJECT

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is accepting applications through August 23, 2018 for the 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program, which is being funded with federal funds;

WHEREAS, the Township of Florence is the Local Public Agency (LPA) and intends to make an application to the NJDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside grants;

WHEREAS, funds under the program are to be used for "non-traditional" projects designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic and environmental aspects of the nation's intermodal system;

WHEREAS, projects must fall into one or more of the seven (7) eligible program categories that are described in a brochure developed by the NJDOT on the program;

WHEREAS, one (1) of the categories eligible for funding under the program includes conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized transportation users;

WHEREAS, the Township of Florence desires to create a rail to trail bicycle and pedestrian facility along 5th Street from West Front Street to Spruce Street;

WHEREAS, the Township of Florence is the owner of the public Right-of-Way of the project location on 5th Street;

WHEREAS, the grant application is identified as TA-2018-Florence Township-00062;

WHEREAS, the Township of Florence is the party responsible for maintenance of the project;

WHEREAS, continual ownership and maintenance of the improvements for the useful life of the project, once constructed, will be assumed by the Township of Florence with the exception of (1) local ordinances that places maintenance responsibility with each individual property owner, and (2) those improvements on State or County Highways that are not subject to a jurisdictional or interlocal maintenance agreement; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Florence that it hereby supports the submission of a grant application for the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program within the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation and authorizes the Mayor, Administrator and the Clerk to execute any and all documents necessary and related to the submission of said grant application or grant agreement.

I, NANCY L. ERLSTON, Clerk of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true copy of the resolution approved by Township Council at their July 11, 2018 meeting.

Nancy L. Eriston, RMC Township Clerk

Note: This Resolution authorizes the submission of an application to the NJDOT to convert an existing abandoned rail line on Fifth Street to a walkway/bikeway trail in the community.