



MARLBORO COUNTY
Economic Development
PARTNERSHIP

Post Office Box 653 • 214 East Market Street • Bennettsville, SC 29512 • 843-479-5626 • 843-479-2663 fax

February 20, 2007

Mr. Mitchell Metts, P. E.
Interstate 73 Project Manager
955 Park Street, Room 508
P. O. Box 191
Columbia, S. C. 29202-0191

RE: I-73 Preferred Route

Dear Mr. Metts,

The Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership voted unanimously to support the center route of the proposed I-73 through Marlboro County at its February 19, 2007 board meeting.

The center route based on its proximity to the City of Bennettsville, the hub of Marlboro County, would be the ideal location for an interchange and best serve the needs of Marlboro County.

Sincerely,


Hubert Meggs,
Chairman

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE WESTERN ROUTE
OF THE NORTHERN LEG OF INTERSTATE 73
THROUGH MARLBORO COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Interstate 73 has been identified as a High Priority Route from Michigan to South Carolina through 6 (six) separate states; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the corridor is to link the nation's regions and to support economic growth by improving the movement of goods between South Carolina ports and areas north to Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Cheraw, Inc. was created in March 2006 by the Mayor and members of the Cheraw Town Council to promote the economic well being of the Town of Cheraw through efforts to assist with new business and industrial recruitment and to support existing business and industry; and

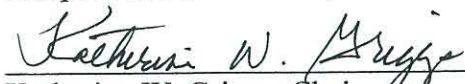
WHEREAS, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has been working on the necessary feasibility and environmental impact studies in an effort to locate the I-73 corridor through the State so that it has the least impact to wetlands, the fewest farms impacted, for the least cost and with the least impact to cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the SCDOT has since identified three (3) main alternative routes for the northern portion of the proposed I-73; and

WHEREAS, the **westernmost route** under consideration by the SCDOT would most positively benefit industry and business in the counties of Chesterfield, Darlington, and Marlboro and the Town of Cheraw,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Cheraw, Inc., economic development group endorses the proposed Western Route of the northern corridor of I-73 through Marlboro County and further encourages the SCDOT to strongly consider the economic benefits and the lesser impact to the environment and cultural resources in designating the future route.

Adopted this fifteenth day of February in the year two thousand and seven.



Katherine W. Griggs, Chairperson
on behalf of the members of Cheraw, Inc., Economic Development Group
206 Elizabeth Drive
Cheraw, SC 29520