

# Wilmington Area Planning Council

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## RESOLUTION

**BY THE WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL (WILMAPCO)  
SUPPORTING THE STATE OF DELAWARE  
IN PURSUING TIGER (TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT GENERATING  
ECONOMIC RECOVERY) DISCRETIONARY GRANT FUNDING TO CONSTRUCT  
HIGHWAY-SPEED E-ZPASS LANES AT THE NEWARK TOLL PLAZA**

**WHEREAS**, the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) has been designated the MPO for Cecil County, MD and New Castle County, DE by the Governors of Maryland and Delaware respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, I-95, the east coast's "Main Street" extends approximately 11 miles through New Castle County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newark Toll Plaza serves over 110,000 vehicles per day traveling on I-95 during peak usage periods, with over 95 percent of the Newark Toll Plaza users residing outside the State of Delaware, and

**WHEREAS**, E-ZPass usage at the Newark Toll Plaza has increased in recent years to over 50 percent of all plaza users, with the percentage expected to grow in future years; and

**WHEREAS**, the current arrangement of CASH lanes and low-speed E-ZPass lanes results in congestion that frequently blocks E-ZPass users' access to the toll plaza and creates long delays for all plaza users that have left an unfavorable impression of the State of Delaware with many of the Newark Toll Plaza's out-of-state users; and

**WHEREAS**, DelDOT has identified a solution that will create a highway-speed toll collection system for E-ZPass users and will improve toll collection lanes for CASH users, resulting in improved safety and reduced delays, travel times, user costs, and fuel consumption at the plaza; and

**WHEREAS**, DelDOT has completed the NEPA process for the proposed solution and is in the process of securing permits for the construction of the project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newark Toll Plaza Highway-Speed E-ZPass Lanes project is included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP); and

**WHEREAS**, DelDOT has completed a TIGER Grant Application for funding a portion of the Newark Toll Plaza Highway-Speed E-ZPass Lanes project;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wilmington Area Planning Council supports the State of Delaware in submitting this project to the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding under the TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

Date: September 10, 2009

  
Stephen Kingsberry, Chairperson  
Wilmington Area Planning Council

**WILMAPCO**

Partners with you in transportation planning