WHEREAS, the NJ Turnpike Authority has proposed widening the Garden State Parkway from two lanes to three lanes from Milepost 30 through Milepost 80; and

WHEREAS, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection is currently reviewing a permit application submitted by the NJ Turnpike Authority as required under the Coastal Area Facilities Review Act; and

WHEREAS, the section of the Parkway through Ocean County experiences congestion on a regular basis, especially during the summer months; and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Parkway serves as a critical evacuation route for potential emergencies such as coastal storms, forest fires and the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station; and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Parkway experiences large volumes of regional trips to and from shore communities; and

WHEREAS, Atlantic City is entering a third phase of development which will result in a significant increase in commuting and recreational traffic on the Garden State Parkway; and

WHEREAS, the lack of movement at the State level to widen State Highway 9, which is parallel to the Garden State Parkway, only adds to the regional traffic congestion problem; and

WHEREAS, any delay in widening the Garden State Parkway will result in increased traffic congestion, degradation of air quality and a decrease in quality of life; and

WHEREAS, a delay in widening the Parkway will also leave the coastal area of New Jersey more vulnerable to disaster in the event a regional evacuation becomes necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Board of the County of Ocean that:

1. It fully supports the proposal by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority to widen the Garden State Parkway to three lanes in each direction from Milepost 30 to Milepost 80.

2. It urges the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to approve the Coastal Area Facilities Review Act permit application as submitted by the NJ Turnpike Authority.

3. Copies of this Resolution shall be made available to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Land Use Regulation Program, the NJ Turnpike Authority, the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Municipal Clerks of Ocean County.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Ocean County Planning Board on the Seventh Day of February, 2007.

[Signature]
Robin L. Fioro
Ocean County Planning Board Secretary
I. Beverly M. Carle, Township Clerk, of the Township of Berkeley, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the attached is a true copy of:

Resol. #07-97-Re: Supporting the Turnpike Authority in its Efforts to Widen the Garden State Parkway from Interchange 63 to Interchange 80

Passed by the Township Council of Township of Berkeley on the 27th day of February, 2007 as now filed in the Clerk's Office and compared with the original.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the Township of Berkeley, at Bayville, New Jersey this 28th day February, 2007.

Beverly M. Carle, RMC
Township Clerk
Berkeley Township
RESOLUTION

February 27, 2007

WHEREAS, the Garden State Parkway first opened in Ocean County during the mid-1950's when the County's year-round population was about 50,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Ocean County's population today is reaching beyond 600,000 making the maintaining of the safest, and most convenient network of roads a top priority; and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Parkway in recent years has undergone a number of improvements throughout Ocean County mostly having to do with upgrading interchanges; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders appreciates the continuing support of the Turnpike Authority in making certain improvements are done to this important roadway in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Ocean County is a Mecca for tourism, host to hundreds of thousands of people from the tri-state area using the GSP to arrive at tourism destinations between Ocean County and Cape May, including the popular stop of Atlantic City; and

WHEREAS, the current plan to widen the GSP by one lane in both the southbound and northbound directions will meet the current needs of Ocean County's motoring population and the increasing volume of commuters utilizing this roadway daily; and

WHEREAS, the planned widening will not result in additional growth along the highway but rather will accommodate the current population; and

WHEREAS, this planned widening will not only provide for a smoother flow of traffic but will enhance the roadway which serves as Ocean County's main evacuation route for hurricanes, forest fires and nuclear power plant events. The additional lanes on the parkway would serve the County well during emergencies and natural disasters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Jason J. Varano, along with the Township Council, and the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey hereby strongly supports the Turnpike Authority in its efforts to widen the Garden State Parkway interchange 63 to interchange 80.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Jon Corzine, the NJ Turnpike Authority, State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Pinelands Commission. Members of the 9th, 10th, and 30th Legislative Districts, Toms River, South Toms River, Beachwood, Berkeley, Stafford, Waretown, Lacey, Tuckerton Little Egg Harbor, and Barnegat Townships.

CERTIFICATION


Anne M. Wolff
Council President

/Signature/

Beverly M. Carle
Township Clerk