RESOLUTION NO. _______

A RESOLUTION TO SEEK ANALYSIS BY THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF ISSUES FOR THE PROPOSED 30 CROSSING PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, good transportation systems support local economies by increasing freedom, opportunity, and choice for residents and businesses alike;

WHEREAS, favoring one mode of travel at the expense of all others tends to make communities less competitive, less resilient, and more dependent on larger future government subsidies, while degrading quality of life and limiting citizens’ choice;

WHEREAS, expanding road capacity as a response to congestion tends to increase congestion and shift it elsewhere in the system;

WHEREAS, rapidly approaching advancements in autonomous vehicle technology carry the potential to drastically disrupt today’s commuter patterns in the very near future;

WHEREAS, many communities across the country have found that thoughtfully replacing urban freeways with more responsive infrastructure is far more advantageous than freeway expansion;

WHEREAS, the decisions regarding safety improvements of the Interstate 30 bridge and corridor will have a great impact on future generations

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. The Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department should perform thorough analyses of additional possible Connecting Arkansas Program improvements within the 30 Crossing Project corridor, including, but not limited to:

(a) Consideration of Metroplan’s Imagine Central Arkansas Plan.

(b) Capital expenditures on public transportation options within the corridor such as bus rapid transit, light rail and streetcars

(c) Additional options currently in use and being considered by other cities.

Section 2. The analyses mentioned above should consider impacts on economic competitiveness, air quality, health, reducing the Central Arkansas economy’s nearly exclusive reliance on cars, mobility for people who do not drive cars, the benefits of more people having the choice to replace car trips with other modes of travel, the development potential resulting from reducing the area of the right-of-way and reducing the amount of land currently devoted to car storage, the potential for improved safety resulting from slower
traffic speeds, aesthetics, increases in the average number of occupants per vehicle in the corridor, and the benefits accruing to businesses as a result of the work force having greater choice in travel mode when commuting.

Section 3. The Mayor and City Clerk are requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the Commission and Executive Director of the Arkansas State Highway & Transportation Commission.

Section 4. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the resolution.

Section 5. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, and parts of the same that are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

PASSED: November 17, 2015

ATTEST:                  APPROVED:

Susan Langley, City Clerk    Mark Stodola, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM    SPONSORS:

Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney    Kathy Webb, Ward 3

Ken Richardson, Ward 2