

WHEREAS, the City of Jasper, located in Northwestern Georgia, a member of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, is greatly concerned about the future of two federal programs, namely the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and the Economic Development Administration (EDA); and

WHEREAS, it has been brought to our attention that both of these programs may be severely cut and possibly eliminated in the federal FY 2011-2012 budget; and

WHEREAS, Northwestern Georgia has been significantly impacted by the current recession, is experiencing the highest unemployment rates in Georgia, and declining personal and family incomes; all of which have had serious consequences on local government budgets; and

WHEREAS, funding provided by both the Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Administration are for local government projects in which private sector investment and job creation must be documented before grants are approved; and,

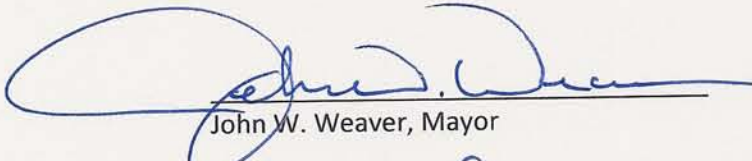
WHEREAS, the investment in local projects by Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Administration has resulted in direct benefit to the federal government through job creation and generated tax revenues; and

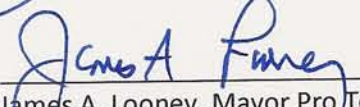
WHEREAS, funding provided by both the Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Administration enable the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission to provide professional staff capacity to: develop grant applications for rural communities that lack such capacity; provide water resource planning to stakeholders in the Coosa Watershed Region; to develop plans and projects for the expansion of broadband throughout the region; to supplement State and Local funding for comprehensive planning and land use management; and to provide technical assistance to the Regional Transportation Roundtable for the T-SPLOST referendum scheduled for 2012; and,

WHEREAS, all of the programs, projects and planning services undertaken by the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission in which ARC and EDA funds are proposed require review and approval by the 50 member governing Council of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, ensuring that all of these activities merit the use of federal as well as local matching funds; and

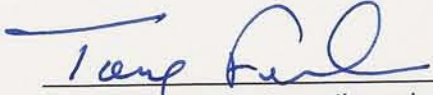
WHEREAS, the current federal appropriations for both the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Economic Development Administration are significantly less than the beginning years of these programs as a result of previous federal budget and deficit reduction efforts.

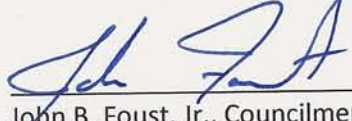
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City of Jasper, Georgia, on this 7th day of February, 2011; that Congressmen Tom Graves and Phil Gingrey, Senators Johnny Isakson and Saxby Chambliss, are hereby urged and encouraged to support continued funding for both the Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Administration at the FY 2010-2011 federal budget level.

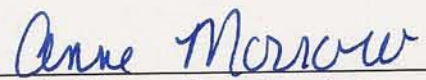

John W. Weaver, Mayor


James A. Looney, Mayor Pro Tem

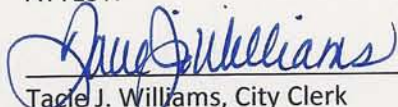

Allison A. Ballew, Councilmember


Tony D. Fountain, Councilmember


John B. Foust, Jr., Councilmember


Anne L. Morrow, Councilmember

ATTEST:


Tacie J. Williams, City Clerk