

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY: Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) hosted a public meeting to gather input to those affected by the cul-de-sac option for Empire Avenue; and

WHEREAS, as a part of this public process, MDOT contacted affected residents directly in addition to the public posting regarding proposed changes to Empire Avenue and held a public meeting on January 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, during the meeting it was determined that the majority of the public and emergency first responders were in support of the changes; and

WHEREAS, MDOT will be making substantial improvements to county roads (Benton Center, Britain, and Hillandale) as a result of these changes to ensure safe, efficient travel to local road users; and

WHEREAS, Benton Charter Township supports these substantial road improvements in lieu of constructing the Empire Avenue bridge over US-31; and

WHEREAS, the Berrien County Road Department supports these substantial road improvements in lieu of constructing the Empire Avenue bridge over US-31; and

WHEREAS, these county road improvements will help the Berrien County Road Department achieve the previously established goal of getting 75% of the primary road system in Berrien County in fair or good condition by 2029.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners are in support of the Michigan Department of Transportation's plan for Benton Charter Township road improvements related to the US-31 bypass project including but not limited to the cul-de-sac option for Empire Avenue in lieu of constructing a bridge over US-31 on Empire Avenue.

**Respectfully submitted,
BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Jim Curran, Chairperson

Michael J. Majerek, Vice-Chairperson

Chris Heugel

Don Meeks

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM	
Administrator <u>W</u>	Date <u>1/22/20</u>
Comments Attached _____	
Corporate Counsel _____	Date _____
Comments Attached _____	