

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MISSISSIPPI DECLARING THAT THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IN MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPALITIES IS GENERALLY IN NEED OF MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT AS A RESULT OF A DECLINE IN REVENUE AVAILABLE TO MUNICIPALITIES AND INCREASED FEDERAL UNFUNDED MANDATES; ENCOURAGING THE MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPALITIES NEED ASSISTANCE IN MAINTAINING QUALITY PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE; AND REQUESTING THAT THE MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE TAKE ACTION IN ANY SPECIAL SESSION TO BE CALLED IN THE COMING WEEKS TO ASSIST MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPALITIES IN IMPROVING AND MAINTAINING THEIR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE BY DIVERTING A PORTION OF THE USE TAX/INTERNET SALES TAX THEREBY BENEFITING THEIR CITIZENS, THE STATE ECONOMY AND THE ENTIRE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.**

**WHEREAS**, municipal governments in Mississippi are responsible for over 23,000 lane miles of streets and bridges; and

**WHEREAS**, municipal governments in Mississippi provide water and sewer services to over 50% of the citizens in Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, quality public infrastructure in the State's municipalities is critical to the economic vitality of our municipalities and to a better quality of life for the citizens therein and the citizens of Mississippi at large; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens of Mississippi expect and deserve safe streets and properly functioning water and sewer systems in their municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of providing and maintaining these services, while at the same time meeting Federal unfunded mandates, continues to increase, outpacing current municipal revenue streams; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result, municipalities are falling behind in the maintenance and improvement of their public infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, investment in safer, modern and more efficient public infrastructure will pay dividends to the State now and for years to come if it is supported by appropriate and sufficient revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, legislative funding for public infrastructure in all Mississippi municipalities is in the best interest of the citizens of Mississippi for purposes of assisting municipal governments in efficiently and effectively providing public infrastructure services to its citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MISSISSIPPI,** do hereby encourage the Mississippi Legislature to assist Mississippi municipalities in an effort to "Balance the Scales with Internet Sales" and treat internet sales tax as they do traditional sales tax and divert at least 18.5% back to the cities based on the point of delivery of the products sold. At the very least, the Legislature should set aside a portion of all Use Tax to be diverted to cities on a per capita basis to be used for water, sewer, and street infrastructure thereby benefiting their citizens, the State economy and the entire State of Mississippi.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that copies of this Resolution be furnished to all members of the Mississippi Legislature.

The above and foregoing Resolution, after having first introduced by motion of Depreo, and seconded by Morgan, was subsequently reduced to writing and adopted by roll call vote, to-wit:

Councilman L'Ecuyer	<u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Depreo	<u>Aye</u>
Councilman Moran	<u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Morgan	<u>Aye</u>
Councilman Koenenn	<u>Aye</u>
Mayor Schafer, IV	<u>Aye</u>

WHEREUPON, the motion was declared carried and the Resolution was passed, adopted and approved this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

SIGNED: [Signature]  
Mayor Thomas E. Schafer, IV

Attest: [Signature]  
Jeannie Klein, City Clerk

