Introduced May 10, 2016, by Councilman Borchert, seconded by Councilman Newcomb, (by request of Administration)

## **RESOLUTION R16-14**

A resolution requesting the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development ("DOTD") not sell, auction or otherwise transfer the property located at 1450 Lindberg Drive, Slidell, Louisiana, 70458, rather they maintain same as a commuter lot servicing Louisiana Are Commuter Transportation ("LACT/goSTAT, L.L.C.") and as additional parking for the Community Christian Church (CCC) on Sundays, and other occasions.

WHEREAS, DOTD owns the lot located at 1450 Lindberg Drive, Slidell, Louisiana, 70458 ("Lot"); and

WHEREAS, CCC has advised that it depends on the availability of the commuter parking lot for safe off street parking. That during the construction phase of the parking lot, the State of Louisiana asked for and was granted permission to route part of the parking lot drainage through Church property. Permission was granted with an understanding that the Church would have access to the parking lot. Walkways and gates were provided to that end, at the State's expense. CCC declares that this arrangement has worked well for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, CCC further advised that the Church serves as a major point of distribution to the community with access through the commuter parking lot, declaring that the Red Cross, St. Tammany Parish, and other service organizations utilize and headquarter their operations on the commuter parking lot during emergencies; and

WHEREAS, based upon information and belief, LACT/goSTAT, L.L.C. also utilizes said Lot to serve commuters from Slidell and other parts of St. Tammany Parish to and from other communities; and

WHEREAS, since the posting by DOTD announcing that the Lot is scheduled

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for auction on May 18, 2016, the Slidell City Council office has received a number of requests from citizens and CCC raising and identifying hardships that will result should DOTD sell, auction or otherwise eliminate the Lot from service to the citizens of St. Tammany Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Slidell City Council, recognizing that the City does neither own, maintain nor operate the Lot nor any activities occurring in or on the Lot or to or from the Lot to any other location whatsoever, also recognizes and respects the concerns of citizens raised in this matter and as such, requests DOTD maintain the Lot as a commuter lot for the benefit of the citizens of St. Tammany Parish and consistent with its reported agreement with CCC; and

WHEREAS, City further requests and strongly urges DOTD to withdraw their plans to auction, sell or otherwise eliminate the Lot as a commuter lot, or at a minimum, delay any such action until DOTD has considered the concerns of the citizens.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council that it does hereby request DOTD maintain the Lot as a commuter lot for the benefit of the citizens of St. Tammany Parish and consistent with its reported agreement with CCC.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council that it strongly urges DOTD to withdraw their plans to auction, sell or otherwise eliminate the Lot as a commuter lot or at a minimum, delay any such action until DOTD has considered the concerns of the citizens.

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ADOPTED this 10th day of May, 2016.

Bill Borchert

President of the Council Councilman, District G

Thomas P. Reeves
Council Administrator