

RESOLUTION FOR THE WEST ASHEVILLE/RIVERLINK BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the original bridge linking West Asheville and downtown Asheville was built in 1911; and

WHEREAS, the bridge, which connected Haywood Road and Clingman Avenue, carried pedestrians, horse and mule drawn wagons and gasoline-powered vehicles over the French Broad River and was known as the West Asheville/Haywood Road Bridge; and

WHEREAS, traffic using the bridge began to diminish after the opening of the multi-lane Smoky Park Highway Bridge in 1952; and

WHEREAS, the old bridge was demolished and a new bridge built in 1972; and.

WHEREAS, the French Broad River development project known as Riverlink is important to the Buncombe County tax base; and

WHEREAS, 1996 is the Year of the Mountains and the 20th anniversary celebration of the French Broad River Week; and

WHEREAS, Riverlink will host a bridge party on this bridge Saturday, June 8, 1996 to demonstrate the French Broad River's economic development potential and the bridge's role in providing vital links to various sections of the City of Asheville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation named the West Asheville/Haywood Road Bridge the *West Asheville/Riverlink Bridge* to recognize the historic and economic importance of the bridge to the City of Asheville.

That the North Carolina Department of Transportation erect appropriate signs at a suitable time.

Adopted, this the twelfth day of April 1996 by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.

Secretary of Transportation