RESOLUTION NO. (N.C.S.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE SALINAS CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PILOT PROJECT DISCRETIONARY GRANT

WHEREAS, recent community-driven plans (Downtown Vibrancy Plan, 2015 and Chinatown Revitalization Plan, 2019), city studies (Vision Zero Action Plan, 2021), and regional plans (Regional Transportation Plan, 2022) identify infrastructure and safety barriers that divide low-income communities from employment, retail destinations, medical providers, and rail and bus transit facilities; and

WHEREAS, Caltrans, the City of Salinas, and the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) are collaborating on a 2022 Reconnecting Communities Grant application requesting funding to conduct a feasibility study of key bicycle and pedestrian barriers identified in the aforementioned plans along US 101 at Alvin Drive, State Route 183 and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) adjacent to Chinatown; and

WHEREAS, the proposed study will identify and evaluate the feasibility of new and improved connectivity over and across the State Highway System (Route 183 and US101), Main Street, and an active rail line (UPRR), where pedestrians and cyclists currently have no viable alternative to cross; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is consistent with and supports the implementation of the Downtown Vibrancy Plan, Chinatown Revitalization Plan, Vision Zero Actin Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan policies and actions; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines section 15378). If the proposed scope or actions progress to a "project" level, further CEQA analysis will be required to address potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Salinas City Council authorizes the Salinas Mayor to submit a letter of support for the Caltrans' Reconnecting Communities Grant and approving the City's commitment to fund a portion of the required local match contribution, of up to \$100,000. The recommended funding source of the City's portion of the local match is CIP 9070 (Chinatown Revitalization Plan) and Traffic Fee Ordinance funds (2306-Development Fees-Arterials)

PASSED AND APPROVED this 20th day of September 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

Kimbley Craig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia M. Barajas, City Clerk