

Montgomery MPO Resolution

Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Resolution of Regional Support for I-65 Gateway Improvements and Improved Regional Direct Access to Maxwell Air Force Base and Downtown Montgomery for Direct Access to the State Capitol of Alabama

WHEREAS, the **Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)** is the organization designated by the Governor of the State of Alabama as being responsible, together with the State of Alabama, for implementing the applicable provisions of amended of 23 USC 134, 135 (as amended by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Acts, Section 11201, November 2021); 42 USC 2000d-1, 7401; 23 CFR 450 and 500; 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93; and

WHEREAS, Maxwell Air Force Base as a military installation has 12,000 employees and has a \$1.2 billion economic impact on the Montgomery MPO Region and greater area; and

WHEREAS, I-65 at the Clay-Herron Interchange is in need of improved direct regional access to Maxwell Air Force Base and the State Capital of Alabama in Downtown Montgomery; and

WHEREAS, a Downtown/Maxwell Blvd. Access Study and Infrastructure Concepts Action Plan was completed in February 2023 that outlines concepts to improve access; and

WHEREAS, short-term for tier improvements focus on surface street operational elements, corridor aesthetics, and Maxwell Base gate access times. The order of magnitude cost estimate for these elements are an estimated **\$6 million dollars (Construction Only)**; the mid-term tier improvement involves extending Herron Street to the west and bridging over the railroad track corridor at an estimated cost of **\$22 million dollars (Construction and ROW only)**; The Long-Term tier improvement involves constructing new interstate ramps connecting directly with Maxwell Blvd. for traffic originating and returning north of the Alabama River via Interstate 65 in a half-diamond interchange is an estimated cost of **\$42 million dollars (Construction Only)** for a **grand total of \$68 million in needed funding**; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery MPO has amended its year 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to include all of the aforementioned projects into it's 2045 LRTP at it's February 2023 regular meeting; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that the Montgomery MPO expresses its full support of the needed regional access improvements for I-65 at Clay-Herron Street, Maxwell Blvd and Downtown Montgomery area for improved direct access to Maxwell Air Force Based and the State Capital of Alabama in Downtown Montgomery.

ADOPTED THIS THE 16th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2023.

Charles Jinright, MPO Chairman

ATTEST:

Robert Smith, MPO Secretary