

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUSTAIN ECONOMIC INVESTMENT, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND A  
PREFERRED QUALITY OF LIFE IN UNION COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, there are organized and focused efforts made by local governments in Union County to support economic investment that enables business growth and sustain a preferred quality of life throughout Union County; and

**WHEREAS**, such efforts include support of the Monroe-Union County Economic Development Commission (the "EDC") and support of the Union County Chamber (the "Chamber"); and

**WHEREAS**, the economic and business development efforts in Union County, including those of the EDC and the Chamber, have produced exemplary engagement with the business community in all municipalities in Union County and unincorporated Union County, and have resulted in record levels of business growth and support throughout Union County that positively impact the livelihood and quality of life of all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, this exemplary engagement and record levels of business growth in Union County are evidenced by over \$342,000,000 of new capital investment announced for industrial projects and 967 new jobs created within the last fiscal year and over 113,000 building permit inspections performed by Union County within the last eighteen months; and

**WHEREAS**, due to a continued focus on support of economic investment in Union County and the continued presence of strong, diverse existing and developing industries, Union County has been able to weather the economic storms experienced by much of the rest of the United States over the past two decades, including recent supply chain issues; and

**WHEREAS**, much of this economic growth has been supported and spurred by Union County's and the City of Monroe's significant investments in industrial park development, speculative buildings, natural gas and water resources, including in the Catawba and Yadkin River basins, which will provide safe, clean, and reliable drinking water to the residents and businesses of Union County for the next fifty years and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized that continued and additional investment in wastewater treatment is needed to support additional economic development opportunity and growth of a skilled workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, there have been significant and unprecedented investments in public safety throughout Union County, as evidenced by increased investment in fire services throughout Monroe and Union County, construction and outfitting of new facilities totaling over \$18,000,000 for Union County Emergency Services, over \$13,500,000 for the City of Monroe Police Department, and over \$27,000,000 for the Union County Sheriff's Office, which includes approximately \$1,000,000 to support a new sophisticated crime lab, one of only a few of its type in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, these investments in public safety throughout Union County have resulted in Union County and its municipalities having excellent public safety services that have resulted in lower property insurance rates for residents, low crime rates, increased security, and necessary emergency services essential to raising families, conducting business, and attracting new economic investment; and

**WHEREAS**, Union County is home to industries that train and employ Union County residents in advanced agri-business and high-tech manufacturing technology due to a solid business foundation, a highly educated and skilled labor force, exemplary public safety, top-ranked schools, an award-winning community college, and the utility and transportation infrastructure necessary to support and maintain a robust business environment; and

**WHEREAS**, cooperative and productive relationships between municipalities and Union County government result in mutual respect, trust, and collaboration among elected officials and staff in unprecedented ways due to the collective leadership demonstrated over the last several years; and

**WHEREAS**, Union County and all of the municipalities located therein have undertaken significant planning efforts, supported by substantial public funding, for the future growth and development of communities across Union County to enhance a shared vision and expectation for how quality of life will be maintained and grown into the future, with continued particular attention to the investment in water and wastewater infrastructure that is a critical component of Union County's economy and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, without strong economic growth and the associated expansion of utility, transportation, and educational infrastructure needed to foster this growth, the current record inflationary costs and other continuing escalations in labor and supplies will be borne by the existing residents of Union County without those increases being shared and buffered by the attraction of new businesses and residents; and

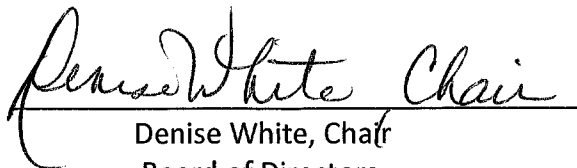
**WHEREAS**, the Chamber has adopted a legislative agenda urging the state and federal government to partner with our local communities to invest in infrastructure and support business,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Union County Chamber that it supports the growth of Union County's economy, including efforts to support educational opportunities and increase economic development investment, and strongly encourages Union County and all the municipalities to expand investment in water, wastewater, and high-speed internet infrastructure in order to support the continued business growth and prosperity of Union County.

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.



Pat Kahle, IOM  
President/CEO



Chair

Denise White, Chair  
Board of Directors