

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners

FROM: Bryan Gruesbeck, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution to Support a Reexamination of Speed Limits on 15/501

DATE: April 28, 2014

Background: Citizens and motorists have complained about unsafe speeds on 15/501 near the intersections of Northwood High School Road and Russett Run Road. The addition of Bojangles, an increased student population at Northwood High School and general development in the vicinity will likely increase the number of vehicles in and around the intersections.

In May 2013, I asked NCDOT for a Speed Study (see attached) which essentially stated that accidents in this area were due to improper lane changes and unauthorized U turns. They did not elect to reduce speeds at that time.

Commissioner Fiocco recently reported that the Chatham County Transportation Committee raised questions regarding the wisdom of the 55mph speed limit in the vicinity of the intersection of Northwood High School Road and 15/501. NCDOT staff present at the meeting indicated that they could again bring these concerns forward at an NCDOT Division 8 meeting on May 1, 2014 and suggested that a resolution from the Board would be helpful.

If you should approve the attached resolution, I will forward it to the appropriate NCDOT staff and follow-up as necessary.

Action Requested: Review and approve the attached resolution.