

**FILE OF THE CITY CLERK**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 42 – 2020**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILOR DIAZ – SEPTEMBER 8, 2020**

**ADOPTED BY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 8, 2020**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, CALLING ON CONGRESS TO ADOPT LEGISLATION TO CREATE A NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK.**

**WHEREAS**, there is a widely acknowledged shortfall in infrastructure spending in the nation; and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave the country a D+ in its 2017 Report Card and estimates the nation must spend at least \$4.6 trillion to bring current infrastructure to a state of good repair; and at least \$2.1 trillion is unfunded, and the remainder is inadequately funded, including funding for broadband, water projects, new schools and affordable housing, passenger rail and high-speed rail; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on peoples' lives and the economy has been devastating, with at least 35 million people are unemployed and large numbers of businesses face bankruptcy or closing, thereby throwing the economy into recession or worse; and

**WHEREAS**, a new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) could directly aid in fostering an economic recovery and build the infrastructure projects which have neglected; and legislation to create such a bank (HR 6422) has been introduced into Congress in which the new NIB is modeled on four previous institutions created by Presidents George Washington, John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, which helped spur massive economic growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the new National Infrastructure Bank would be able to invest \$4 trillion for urgently needed projects; and would be capitalized by repurposing existing Treasury debt and create no new debt, 25 million new jobs, pay Davis-Bacon wages, and help hire those made jobless by the coronavirus pandemic, and also require Project Labor Agreements and Buy American provisions for all projects; and


**WHEREAS**, the National Infrastructure Bank is expected to increase growth from 1.8 percent per year to 5 percent per year, require no new taxes, but increase tax revenues coming into state, local and federal governments, thereby fostering the kind of growth not seen since the Kennedy Space Program; and

**WHEREAS**, many organizations have endorsed the new National Infrastructure Bank, including bipartisan resolutions in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where HR 636 more than forty co-sponsors, and in the Pennsylvania Senate; additionally, the Allegheny County Council, the Northampton County Council, and the Allentown City Council have passed resolutions of endorsement, as have the National Association of Counties, the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers, the National Congress of Black Women, the National Federation of Federal Employees, the Pennsylvania State Democratic Convention, and many others have endorsed this new institution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of the City of Lancaster urges Congress to approve HR 6422 to create the new National Infrastructure Bank; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to members of Lancaster County's Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Pennsylvania, and to the President of the United States.

ATTEST:

  
Bernard W. Harris Jr., City Clerk

  
Danene Sorace, Mayor