RESOLUTION OF THE WINSTON-SALEM CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING SENATE BILL 257 2025 APPROPRIATIONS ACT, SECTION 43.5 - POWELL BILL FUNDS

WHEREAS, provisions of Senate Bill 257 related to the Powell Bill were not requested by the City of Winston-Salem; and

WHEREAS, the Powell Bill currently provides revenue for the city for various reasons, including but not limited to resurfacing of public roads in our community, general street maintenance and traffic control;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 257 Section 43.5 (SB 257") seeks to restrict receipt of funds under the Powell Bill to cities with a population of less than 150,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem has a population of over 250,000, which would eliminate our eligibility for receipt of Powell Bill funding under the proposed bill; and

WHEREAS, loss of funding under SB257 would be a loss of at least \$8.7 million dollars annually in Powell Bill funding; and

WHEREAS, this loss would impact over thirty (30) miles of contracted resurfacing, and would remove support for various City projects; and

WHEREAS, loss of Powell Bill funding could result in a proposed tax increase which would affect the citizens of the City of Winston-Salem;

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem opposes SB 257 for the reasons stated above and the additional reasons set forth in an attached memorandum dated May 7, 2025, from the City of Winston-Salem's Budget Director.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Winston-Salem City Council hereby oppose SB 257, 2025 Appropriations Act, Powell Bill provisions, and ask the General Assembly to maintain Powell Bill funding available to the City of Winston-Salem. This the 7th day of May 2025.