RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE PROPOSED INTERBASIN TRANSFER CERTIFICATE MODIFICATION FOR THE TOWNS OF APEX, CARY AND MORRISVILLE, AND WAKE COUNTY (FOR RTP SOUTH) ALTERNATIVE 2A – INCREASE IBT TO MEET 2045 DEMANDS

WHEREAS, The Public Works Commission of the City of Fayetteville, feels the Interbasin Transfer (IBT) Certificate request submitted by the towns of Apex, Cary and Morrisville, and Wake County (for RTP South) is unnecessary and poses increased risks to the water supply of Cumberland County and other counties downstream; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear River is a tremendous resource to our community, providing our major source of water supply as well as affording many recreational opportunities for our citizens, and it is our responsibility to maintain the highest level of certainty for our future water supply; and

WHEREAS, based on modeling results, it has been determined that the minimum flows from the Cape Fear River at Lillington and Fayetteville will be reduced significantly in the future, even with no increase in IBT, making it critical that treated wastewater be returned to the Cape Fear River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission has indicated concern that increased withdrawals from Jordan Lake could negatively impact fish populations in the Cape Fear River and therefore negatively impact the river's ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, current requests for water supply from Jordan Lake do not allow for any water to be held in reserve; which could limit the ability of the lake to meet all of its intended uses, including water supply and flow downstream; and

WHEREAS, the additional transfer will cause more than 50% percent of the water supply to be diverted away from the Jordan Lake drainage basin; which is not in compliance with NC Department of Environmental Resources (DENR) rules and could jeopardize replenishment of the lake; and

WHEREAS, a water use decision of this magnitude seems premature given that the Cape Fear River Water Supply Plan, being prepared by DENR to determine whether or not all water supply needs can be met throughout the entire Cape Fear River Basin, has not been finalized; and

WHEREAS, this transfer request is based on a 30-year planning period, which is excessive and would compromise our ability to meet changes due to regulations, statutes, customer demands, climate changes, and regional needs; and a shorter planning period of 15 years would be more prudent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Public Works Commission of the City of Fayetteville recommends utilization of alternative 3A, as described in the Environmental Assessment for the proposed IBT. This option avoids interbasin transfer by sending additional untreated wastewater to the Western Wake Regional Water Reclamation Facility. The Western Wake Partnership has the infrastructure in place to allow the return of treated wastewater to the Cape Fear River. If wastewater is returned, an additional IBT would not be needed and existing conditions in the Cape Fear River would be preserved.

Adopted on this 2014 of JANUARY, 2015, at Fayetteville, North Carolina.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Michael G. Lallier, Chairman

ATTEST:

Wade Fowler, Secretary