**RESOLUTION NO.: 742** 

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SEWALL'S POINT, FLORIDA, REGARDING MPO DESIGNATION THRESHOLDS AND CONTINUING OPERATIONS OF EXISTING MPO'S AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Florida's twenty-six metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) are engaged in a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning and programming process in all urban areas of the state with a population of 50,000 or more as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, as required by federal and state surface transportation law; and

WHEREAS, MPOs provide transportation planning in smaller urban areas, including the nine current Florida MPOs with a planning area population between 100,000 and 200,000; and

WHEREAS, improved transportation planning results in numerous benefits, such as improved economic development, enhanced quality of life, safer roadways, reduced congestion, and accommodation of future population growth; and

WHEREAS, the designation threshold for MPOs has been set at 50,000 in urban areas since the creation of MPOs in 1973; and

WHEREAS, the United States has experienced a significant population increase over the past 40 years resulting in the designation of several hundred new urban areas with a population over 50,000 and there is an ongoing national discussion of whether the 50,000 population threshold remains relevant in light of current and future population and economic trends; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress is considering legislation to succeed the Safe. Accountable. Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users, including a possible change to the population threshold for designating new MPOs and for the retention of existing MPOs that have a population below the new designation threshold; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Sewall's Point believes the urban area population threshold for the designation of new MPOs should be set no higher than 100,000.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, recognizing the important role existing MPOs play in urbanized areas, any legislative or regulatory change should grandfather all existing MPOs on a voluntary basis and provide for their continued operation.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Sewall's Point believes any changes to MPO composition or structure should occur through incentives and local approval. rather than forced through changes to federal or state law and regulations.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 13th day of Dec	rember, 20	11.
	<u>AYE</u>	NAY
JACQUI THURLOW-LIPPISCH, MAYOR PAUL SCHOPPE, VICE MAYOR THOMAS BAUSCH, Commissioner PAM BUSHA, Commissioner PAUL LUGER, Commissioner		=

TOWN OF SEWALL'S POINT, FLORIDA

Robert Kellogg, Town Manager

ATTEST:

Ann-Marie S. Basler, Town Clerk

(TOWN SEAL)

Glen J. Torcivia, Town Attorney

Florida Bar No. 343374

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency