TOMPKINS COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

125 East Court Street Ithaca, NY 14850 Phone: (607) 274-5551 Fax: (607) 274-5558 Email: tccog@tompkins-co.org

Douglas Austic, Chairperson

Herb Engman, Vice-Chair

ADOPTED MAY 24, 2007

RESOLUTION NO. 002-07 - SUPPORTING MEASURES TO KEEP LONG HAUL TRUCKS ON INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS IN UPSTATE NEW YORK, AS PROPOSED BY SEN. CHARLES SCHUMER

City of:

MEMBERSHIP

Ithaca

WHEREAS, THE TOMPKINS COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (hereinafter known as TCCOG), WHICH INCLUDES MEMBERS FROM ALL MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS IN TOMPKINS COUNTY recognizes that roads spanning all of these municipalities are crossed daily by a large number of long haul trucks using State routes and Federal aid highways, with an unusual concentration of trucks hauling municipal solid waste, and

County of: Tompkins

Towns of: Caroline

Danby

Dryden

Enfield

Groton Ithaca

Lansing

Newfield

Ulysses

Villages of:

Cayuga Heights

Dryden

Freeville

Groton

Lansing

Trumansburg

WHEREAS, TCCOG understands its benefits from and obligations to the State highway system, a system which is necessary for the support of local commerce, industry, institutions, Statewide tourism, and the local economy's participation in interstate commerce, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County's experience with long-haul trucks over the last decade has included fatal accidents; brakes lost on hills resulting in out-of-control trucks tipping over and spilling their contents (burying shrubbery in tons of sugar in one case and a car and driver in tons of garbage in a second case); tickets written for over weight vehicles, over-length vehicles, and un-inspected vehicles; vehicles with defective mufflers, lights, and brakes; vehicles impounded because they were unsafe to drive; drivers arrested for unsafe driving; and similar disturbing experiences, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County and all its municipalities pay a price in the form of rapidly deteriorating roads and bridges from overweight trucks; decreased safety from oversized or defective vehicles; deteriorating neighborhoods and housing, from excessive numbers of large, heavy, and noisy long-haul trucks (often passing directly through the heavily-used waterfront Cass Park area, on the "scenic byway" designated Route 89), many of which appear to be taking shortcuts (or long cuts) to avoid the regulation inherent with the interstate highway system, and

WHEREAS, the City of Ithaca's Board of Public Works and Common Council have already approved a similar resolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That TCCOG supports the efforts of New York State's Senator Charles E. Schumer to address these types of problems as outlined in his three-point plan summarized in an October 19, 2006, news release from his office; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to New York State Senators Schumer Clinton, Winner, Nozzolio and Seward, Assemblywoman Lifton, Congressmen

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Hinchey and Arcuri, Governor Spitzer, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Permits Director, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Bureau of Solid Waste, Reduction and Recycling, and New York

State Association of Counties.

SEQR ACTION: Type II-20

County of: *******

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