

RESOLUTION NO. 39 - 2026

**A Resolution Supporting Completion of the Remaining 11-Mile Gap of the Future
Interstate 530 Corridor**

WHEREAS

- The City of Monticello is responsible for advancing economic growth, industrial expansion, workforce opportunity, and long-term competitiveness for the citizens of the City of Monticello and
- The I-530 Connector—commonly referred to as the future Interstate 530—was formally recognized by Congress in 1998 as an essential link between Pine Bluff, US Highway 278 and the future I-69 corridor, and was later identified by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 2007 as part of a national “Corridor of the Future”; and
- Right-of-way for the future Interstate 530 has been acquired and two lanes have been constructed from Pine Bluff to Star City, leaving an 11-mile gap between Arkansas Highway 11 and Arkansas Highway 35 in Drew County as the final unbuilt segment needed to complete the two-lane facility connecting to US Highway 278; and
- Updated economic analysis demonstrates that completing the I-530 Connector will generate an estimated \$233 million in annual economic impact within 15 years, create 2,951 permanent jobs, reduce regional truck transportation costs by 10%, and produce economic growth equal to twice the cost of construction; and
- Monticello and Southeast Arkansas are experiencing significant industrial expansion, demonstrating strong private-sector confidence and the urgent need for modern freight infrastructure; a
- Completing the 11-mile gap of the future Interstate 530 is the most cost-effective, immediately constructible, and economically impactful segment of the broader I-69 system, and can be delivered far more quickly than other major components of the corridor.

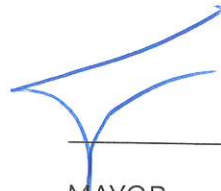
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

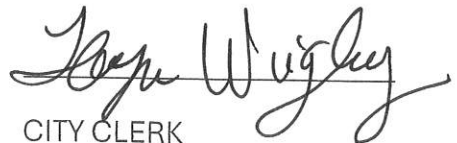
The City of Monticello hereby formally requests the Arkansas Department of Transportation and the Arkansas Highway Commission to include **Interstate 530 in the STIP for fiscal years 2029-2032**, prioritize, fund, and complete the remaining **11-mile gap of the future Interstate 530 between AR Highway 11 and U.S. Highway 278** in Drew County and to commit to the completion of the four-lane Interstate 530 between Jefferson and Drew counties.

This Resolution shall be transmitted to the Arkansas Department of Transportation, the Arkansas Highway Commission, the Governor of Arkansas, and the Arkansas Congressional Delegation as an expression of unified regional support for the immediate completion of the future Interstate 530 corridor.

Adopted this 26 day of August, 2026

ATTESTED BY:



MAYOR
CITY CLERK