RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE MAYOR TO COMPLETE ALL NECESSARY PROCEDURES TO UTILIZE ALL FOUR LANES OF TRAFFIC CAPACITY ON THE MONTAÑO BRIDGE AND CORRIDOR.

WHEREAS, the Montaño Bridge was designed and constructed with a capacity for four lanes of traffic, but the City initially chose to utilize only two lanes; and

WHEREAS, the Montaño corridor allows people in the North Valley to access existing and future jobs on the West Side, and allows people on both sides of the river to access non-job destinations such as shopping, professional services, visiting and recreating; and

WHEREAS, traffic congestion is accelerating in Albuquerque, a trend that is expected to continue with the growth of jobs on the Northwest Mesa and Rio Rancho; and

WHEREAS, the costs associated with modifying the Montaño Bridge and corridor to four traffic lanes are minimal and of little consequence when assessing the benefits of enhancing the traffic flow; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and socially and economically prudent to expand the use of the Montaño Bridge and corridor to its capacity of four traffic lanes as soon as practically possible; and

WHEREAS, construction during the reconfiguration of the Coors/I-40 intersection will create substantial westside traffic congestion that would be mitigated in part by using four lanes on the Montaño Bridge.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:
Section 1. That the Mayor is hereby requested to complete all required procedures and satisfy all requirements to utilize the four lanes of traffic capacity on the Montaño Bridge and corridor from Coors to Second Street.

Section 2. That it is the intent of this Resolution to repeal the Council’s previous policy, including but not limited to F/S R-104 Enactment No. 111-2000, and R-200 Enactment No. 17-1989 Section 1, regarding the procedure for converting from two lanes of traffic on the Montaño Bridge to four lanes, and resolve that it is the policy of the City to utilize four lanes of traffic on Montaño from Coors to Second Street as soon as possible.

Section 3. In conjunction with Section 2 and not as a condition precedent to Section 2, the Administration shall:

A. Complete the corridor plan for North 4th Street, including public visioning, land use objectives, streetscape program, roadway design including pedestrian friendly, transit and other multi-modal transportation, economic development, preservation and community identity.

B. Complete the Near North Valley Sector Plan so that the desired design and function of the North 4th Street Corridor is compatible with the community’s vision for the future of adjoining neighborhoods.

C. Evaluate the intersection of 4th Street and Montaño in terms of intersection problems and needs, evaluation criteria and methodology, identification and analysis of preliminary alternatives, and financial analysis. The alternatives should be evaluated in terms of their consistency with the North 4th Street corridor plan, the relevant portions of the Near North Valley Sector Plan, and other related adopted plans. The results of the evaluation shall be implemented as soon as possible.

Section 4. The Administration shall report to the Council the progress in achieving Section 3 tasks every four months until the tasks are complete.

Section 5. The utilization of up to four driving lanes on all or a portion of Montaño from Coors to Second Street shall not occur until the earlier of:

A. The study authorized by Council Bill R-05-216 is completed; or

B. September 25, 2005.