

**Resolution No. 341-2019**

**Council Members:** Kelley, Polensek, Brancatelli, Griffin and Mayor Jackson

**An emergency resolution supporting Governor DeWine's proposed 18 cent gas tax increase to fund road construction projects.**

**WHEREAS**, Governor DeWine has proposed an 18-cent per gallon gas tax increase in the state transportation budget to pay for road construction projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the state has not raised the gas tax in 14 years: the tax has been 28 cents a gallon since 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, the current 28 cents per gallon tax is insufficient for state and local governments to maintain current roads or finish major new construction projects – by 2023, the state will have zero money for road improvements or road safety projects; and

**WHEREAS**, last week, Ohio House republicans approved a 10.7 cents per gallon gas tax increase, which the Governor has decried as a “minimalist approach” to addressing the state’s infrastructure needs that will jeopardize the safety of Ohioans; and

**WHEREAS**, imminently, the state will begin paying \$390 million per year to service highway bonds that have paid for road and highway projects over the previous several years; and

**WHEREAS**, a gas tax increase of 18 cents a gallon would raise \$2.5 billion in additional revenue over the next two years, compared to about \$1.1 billion in the House proposal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor’s 18 cent gas tax increase would allow local governments more choice about how to spend local funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the governor’s proposed 18 cent gas tax increase will ensure that major infrastructure projects are not delayed and further will ensure that our roads and infrastructure remain in satisfactory condition for the safety of Ohioans; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:**

**Section 1.** That this Council supports Governor DeWine’s proposed 18 cent gas tax increase to fund road construction projects.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of Council is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Mike DeWine and all members of the Ohio legislature.

**Section 3.** That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

**Adopted April 1, 2019.**

**Effective April 2, 2019.**