

**CITY OF BUCKLEY, WASHINGTON**

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-05**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BUCKLEY, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, IN SUPPORT OF THE TOWN OF WILKESON'S DECLARATION OF THE FAIRFAX BRIDGE CLOSURE AS A PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE EMERGENCY AND REQUEST FOR STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Buckley recognizes the critical importance of the Fairfax Bridge in supporting regional connectivity, emergency services, economic vitality, and public safety throughout the Upper Carbon River Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, the closure of the Fairfax Bridge has resulted in significant public safety concerns, including increased emergency response times and hazardous detour routes that place rural residents and first responders at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, the bridge closure has caused economic hardship for businesses and residents in the Town of Wilkeson and the surrounding area, threatening the viability of small businesses that rely on local and tourist traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Buckley supports Wilkeson and its regional partners in their efforts to identify a short-term access solution, including the potential use of a private easement road for emergency and limited public access; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Buckley agrees that immediate state and federal investment is necessary to address this infrastructure emergency, restore access, and support the long-term recovery of the region;

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUCKLEY, WASHINGTON, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The City of Buckley formally expresses its support for the Town of Wilkeson's declaration of a public infrastructure emergency due to the closure of the Fairfax Bridge.

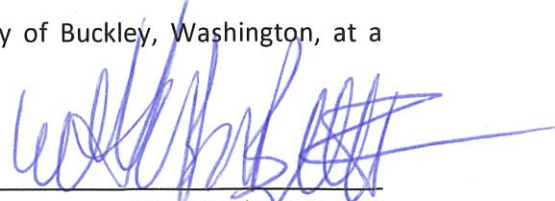
**Section 2.** The City of Buckley urges expedited state and federal support for interim access solutions, including assistance with the proposed easement road alternative and any other viable options identified in coordination with WSDOT.

**Section 3.** The City of Buckley calls upon the Washington State Legislature, the Washington State Department of Transportation, the Department of Commerce, and relevant federal agencies to provide funding and technical assistance to restore emergency access and mitigate economic harm to the affected communities.


**Section 4.** That copies of this Resolution to be transmitted to Governor Bob Ferguson, Representative Josh Penner, Senator Phil Fortunato, Pierce County Councilmember Dave Morell, the Secretary of the WSDOT, and the offices of U.S. Representative Kim Schrier.

**Section 5.** If any provision of this Resolution is determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Buckley, Washington, at a regular meeting this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July 2025.

  
Beau Burkett, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Treva Zumek, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Phil Olbrechts, City Attorney

Posted: July 9, 2025