Danby Town Board Resolution for Consideration February 20, 2012

IN SUPPORT OF MAINTAINING DEDICATED FUNDING FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FUNDING IN THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION

Whereas, the provisions in the recently unveiled House bill H.R. 3864, the federal American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Financing Act, would eliminate dedicated federal fuels taxes for public transit and create long-term uncertainty for public transportation funding for the first time in three decades, and

Whereas, since 1983, nearly half of all public transportation funding has been provided from the federal motor fuels tax dedicated to the Highway Trust Fund, and

Whereas, this funding structure has successfully provided highway and transit programs with secure, dedicated revenues and has allowed Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. (TCAT, Inc.) and public transit systems across the country to create jobs, including those for the bus manufacturing industry in New York State, and

Whereas, under the proposed change, public transit funding would receive a one-time appropriation with no funding for public transportation after 2016 and would create uncertainty for TCAT, and

Whereas, as TCAT looks to expand capacity during record ridership of nearly 4 million annual trips, this change will have dire consequences for the thousands of people in Tompkins County who rely on public transit.

Now, Therefore, be it

Resolved that the Town of Danby, NY strongly opposes H.R. 3864 and asks members of Congress to reject it in their final vote.