

**RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

- WHEREAS,** Tribal Members have come before the Tribal Council this date and have advised the Tribal Council of the great need for signal lights at the junction of Highway 73 and BIA 44 (FATCO Road/Mile Post 337.55), as there have been several serious accidents at that junction since the Whiteriver Improvement Project widened the road to five lanes; and
- WHEREAS,** at the junction, the five lanes suddenly become reduced to only two lanes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Indian Health Service has compiled motor vehicle crash information which discloses that from January 1995 to September 6, 1996, there were eight motor vehicle accidents involving a total of 24 individuals, including drivers and passengers of all vehicles, and that seven of the 24 were seriously injured; and
- WHEREAS,** an ADOT study finding no traffic light was needed at the intersection was conducted in June 1995, before the widening of Route 273 to five lanes; and
- WHEREAS,** at least one of the accidents occurred at the BIA forestry turn off, which is a short distance south of the junction of Highway 73 and BIA 44; and
- WHEREAS,** there is also a great need for a southbound turning lane into BIA Fire Management; and
- WHEREAS,** in addition to tourists and other through traffic, more than 500 FATCO, airport, utility, and enterprise workers pass through the junction at peak times; and
- WHEREAS,** because of the number of motor vehicle accidents and serious injuries, the Tribal Council believes that there may be a design defect at the junction of Highway 73 and BIA 44.
- BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests that the Arizona Department of Transportation review the number of motor vehicle accidents which have occurred since January 1995 at the junction of Highway 73 and FATCO Road/Mile Post 337.55, and install traffic signal lights at that junction, and also construct a left turning lane at the BIA Fire Management station, a short distance south of the junction of Highway 73 and FATCO Road.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it hereby requests that the Arizona Department of Transportation, Highways Division, deliver a copy of its amended traffic signal need study at SR 73 and IR 44, FATCO Road, to the Indian Health Service, in care of Mr. Albert Lochleer, Office of Environmental Health, and to Tribal Chairman Ronnie Lupe, when it is completed.

The foregoing resolution was on September 4, 1996 duly adopted by a vote of ten for and zero against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (i), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).



Chairman of the Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council