



**TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS**  
*Land Where Flight Began*

MEMORANDUM

March 9, 2020

TO: KDH Board of Commissioners  
FROM: Ben Sproul  
REF: Mayor's Agenda

**1. Resolution**

**A. Resolution in Support of Alligator River Bridge Improvements (Attached MA-1A)**

Under the N.C. Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) for 2023-2032, there are no plans to fund a new or replacement structure for the Lindsey C. Warren Bridge, which spans the Alligator River and has served as a vital link for residents and visitors to and from the Outer Banks. Built in 1960, the drawbridge has experienced multiple closures in recent years for repairs, resulting in lengthy delays to our citizens.

NCDOT's current transportation project methodology favors projects in higher population urban areas; however, NCDOT is soliciting comments for its 2023-2032 STIP, and I encourage Kill Devil Hills to join other local governments in support of a replacement for the Lindsey C. Warren Bridge.

I recommend approval of this resolution and a motion would be in order for its adoption.



## TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

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### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ALLIGATOR RIVER BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS

**WHEREAS**, the Lindsey C. Warren Bridge, which crosses the Alligator River was constructed in 1960 and serves as the main transportation link along Highway 64 from areas west of Dare County; and

**WHEREAS**, the drawbridge infrastructure of the bridge is obsolete and was closed for repairs in 2017 and 2019 resulting in lengthy detours for residents, visitors, and commerce to Dare County, Currituck County, Hyde County, and Tyrell County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alligator River is part of the Intercoastal Waterway and is used by numerous commercial shipping vessels and recreational boats on an annual basis, often creating delays and back-ups, and

**WHEREAS**, the Lindsey C. Warren Bridge is an essential component of the hurricane evacuation route for residents of Dare County, Currituck County, and Hyde County and thousands of Outer Banks visitors each year and the continuous functionality of the Warren Bridge is imperative to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for a new bridge and/or a replacement bridge across the Alligator River has been identified by the N.C. Department of Transportation but has not been funded as part of the State's Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) despite the age, obscurity, and continued operational issues of the bridge; and

**WHEREAS**, the methodology for STIP funding does not allow a new or replacement Alligator River Bridge to compete effectively against other transportation improvements in more urban areas of the State, thus contributing to the continued delay in construction of a new or replacement bridge; and

**WHEREAS**, the N.C. Department of Transportation is soliciting comments on transportation improvements for inclusion in the ten-year transportation plan for 2023-2032;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners requests a new or replacement bridge for the Alligator River be included in the 2023-2032 State Transportation Improvement Plan in recognition of the vital role this bridge plays in the transportation and commerce needs of Dare County and Eastern North Carolina.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that other funding sources for such improvements should be identified by the State of North Carolina if STIP methodology used for funding is not suitable and practicable for this project.

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

SEAL

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Ben Sproul, Mayor

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James Michael O'Dell, Deputy Town Clerk