



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS
Land Where Flight Began

MEMORANDUM

April 11, 2022

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners
FROM: Ben A. Sproul, Mayor
REF: Mayor's Agenda

1. Resolutions and proclamations

A. Resolution Supporting the Construction of the Mid-Currituck Bridge and Its Continued Inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (Attached MA-1A)

The Town of Kill Devil Hills has been at the forefront in its support of the construction of a Mid-Currituck Bridge, which would provide a vital link for visitors to and residents of the Outer Banks. Our Town's commitment to this vision was voiced in a resolution of support 31 years ago this month; the need for a bridge has not changed, nor has our Town's continued support.

B. A Proclamation Declaring April 2022 as Fair Housing Month (Attached MA-1B)

As our Board meets on the fifty-fourth anniversary of this far-reaching landmark federal legislation, it is an appropriate time to reflect on our nation's journey to abolish discrimination in all forms. Representatives from the Outer Banks Association of Realtors plan to be present to share remarks regarding the importance of the Fair Housing Act.

I recommend approval of these items and a motion (s) would be in order for their adoption.



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Resolution Supporting Construction of the Mid-Currituck Bridge and Its Continued Inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Plan

WHEREAS, Currituck and Dare Counties and communities of the Outer Banks, including the Town of Kill Devil Hills, continue to grow as a vacation destination, resulting in an ever-increasing number of residents and visitors to the Outer Banks, particularly the northern Outer Banks; and

WHEREAS, the Outer Banks of North Carolina generates substantial revenue for the State of North Carolina, particularly through tourism, and serves as one of North Carolina's most visited areas, even during economic and pandemic-related downturns; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-Currituck Bridge project has been in the development process for over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, a completed Mid-Currituck Bridge would provide efficient beach access, reduce congestion, alleviate delays, promote economic development, and enhance public safety; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the purpose of the Mid-Currituck Bridge is to substantially improve traffic flow on the project area's thoroughfares, NC 12 and US 158, substantially reducing travel time for persons traveling between the mainland and the northernmost Outer Banks, and significantly enhancing the hurricane evacuation route options for residents and visitors who use US 158 during storm-related evacuations; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-Currituck Bridge will promote and enhance economic development, with increased access by goods and services suppliers, and a much-needed labor force while bolstering the overall tourism industry and increasing roadway safety; and

WHEREAS, viable alternatives to the Mid-Currituck Bridge project have been studied thoroughly and have been rejected in favor of the Mid-Currituck Bridge; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the integral role construction of the Mid-Currituck Bridge plays in the Outer Banks transportation system, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has demonstrated a commitment to construction of the bridge by placing the project in the State Transportation Improvement Plan, based on the agency's prioritization process and strong support by local municipalities and the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina ruled in December 2021, that NCDOT and the Federal Highway Administration have complied with all applicable federal laws and regulations in planning for the Mid-Currituck Bridge project; and

WHEREAS, the court's decision properly affirms the project's compliance with the federal National Environmental Policy Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills has continued to identify the need for and has supported the construction of the Mid-Currituck Bridge, expressing its backing for this vital transportation link through resolutions on April 24, 1991, July 22, 1992, April 26, 2000, and February 11, 2013; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Kill Devil Hills reaffirms its continued commitment to the completion of the Mid-Currituck Bridge project, advocating for advancement of this crucial infrastructure project and its continued inclusion as a funded project in the State Transportation Improvement Plan.

This 11th day of April, 2022.

SEAL

Benjamin A. Sproul
Mayor

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Town Clerk



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A Proclamation Declaring April 2022 as Fair Housing Month

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act, enacted on April 11, 1968, enshrined into federal law the goal of eliminating racial segregation and ending housing discrimination in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, and disability, and commits recipients of federal funding to affirmatively further fair housing in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills is committed to the mission and intent of Congress to provide fair and equal housing opportunities for all; and

WHEREAS, our social fabric, the economy, health, and environment are strengthened in diverse, inclusive communities; and

WHEREAS, more than fifty years after the passage of the Fair Housing Act, discrimination persists, and many communities remain segregated; and

WHEREAS, acts of housing discrimination and barriers to equal housing opportunity are repugnant to a common sense of decency and fairness; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that following his signing the Act into law, President Lyndon Johnson stated, "We have come some of the way, not near all of it. There is much yet to do,"

NOW, THEREFORE, on the fifty-fourth anniversary of this landmark legislation, it is an honor for the Board of Commissioners to hereby proclaim the month of April 2022, as

Fair Housing Month

in the Town of Kill Devil Hills, as an inclusive community committed to fair housing and to promoting appropriate activities by private and public entities to provide and advocate for equal housing opportunities for all residents and prospective residents in our community.

This 11th day of April, 2022.

SEAL

Benjamin A. Sproul
Mayor

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Town Clerk