



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

MEMORANDUM

April 30, 2025

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners

FROM: Mayor John Windley

REF: Mayor's Agenda

1. **Resolutions and Proclamations (Attached MA-1A, MA-1B, and MA-1C)**
 - A. **Resolution in Opposition to *Senate Bill 257 Ferry Tolls Sections 43.15.(a) and 43.15.(b)* and to all Ferry Tolls in North Carolina**
 - B. **Proclamation Designating May 15, 2025, as Peace Officers Memorial Day and May 11 – 17, 2025 as Police Week**
 - C. **Proclamation Designating May 4 – 10, 2025, as Hurricane Preparedness Week**

The above resolution and proclamations express our opposition to ferry tolls, and our appreciation to the men and women in our law enforcement community, as well as recognizing those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. Additionally, Hurricane Preparedness Week reminds us of the importance of preparation for storm events.

I recommend approval of these items and a motion or motions would be in order for their adoption.



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

Resolution in Opposition to *Senate Bill 257* *Ferry Tolls Sections 43.15.(a) and 43.15.(b)* and to all Ferry Tolls in North Carolina

WHEREAS, the residents of Kill Devil Hills, and Northeastern North Carolina pay taxes that directly support all highways in the State; and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower stated "In the case of the Federal Government, moreover, expenditures on a highway program are a return to the highway user of the taxes which he pays in connection with his use of the highways"; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation Ferry Systems' Hatteras to Ocracoke route is considered a highway and provides the only means of transportation from one island to the other; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the North Carolina Department of Transportation is "connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability, and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina"; and

WHEREAS, the Hatteras to Ocracoke ferries currently transport not only residents, but essential individuals including emergency personnel, health care workers, educators, students, and vendors of all sorts, including food, fuel, paper goods, along with thousands of visitors to and from the island; and

WHEREAS, tourism is the number one economic driving force on the Outer Banks and providing a safe and free route of transportation allows anyone wanting to visit an approachable method to get to the area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed *Senate Bill 257 Ferry Tolls* will negatively affect the economy of eastern North Carolina as the cost proposed to ride on the ferry will deter visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills supports keeping all essential highways that provide access to a location free of tolls, allowing residents and visitors to freely commute all across North Carolina. Additionally, the Town of Kill Devil Hills opposes raising fees for existing ferry tolls already in place; Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Kill Devil Hills opposes *Senate Bill 257 Ferry Tolls Sections 43.15.(a) and 43.15.(b)* and requests that it be removed from the proposed budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners supports fully funding the staff and operations of the NCDOT Ferry System like any other highway division and encourages the General Assembly to provide its long-term funding.

This 30th day of April, 2025.

SEAL

John Windley
Mayor

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Town Clerk



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

Proclamation Designating May 15, 2025, as Peace Officers Memorial Day and May 11 – 17, 2025 as Police Week

WHEREAS, the Congress and President of the United States have designated May 15 as *Peace Officers Memorial Day*, and the week in which it falls as *Police Week*; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Kill Devil Hills Police Department play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the citizens of Kill Devil Hills; and

WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens know and understand the challenges, duties, and responsibilities of their police department, and that members of our police department recognize their duty to serve the people through vigilant service, resulting in the protection of the general public and safeguarding of life, liberty, and property; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department of Kill Devil Hills has grown to be a modern and scientific law enforcement agency which unceasingly provides a vital public service;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Kill Devil Hills, does hereby proclaim the week of May 11 - 17, 2025, as

Police Week

and May 15, 2025, as

Peace Officers Memorial Day

and calls upon the public to observe *Police Week* with appropriate ceremonies in which everyone may join in commemorating police officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in doing so, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

The Board of Commissioners further calls upon all citizens of Kill Devil Hills to observe Wednesday, May 15, 2025, as *Peace Officers Memorial Day* in honor of those peace officers who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty.

This 30th day of April, 2025.

SEAL

John Windley
Mayor

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Town Clerk



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

Proclamation Designating May 4 – 10, 2025, as Hurricane Preparedness Week

WHEREAS, hurricanes and tropical storms can be large, catastrophic events with high winds and tornadoes, as well as flooding from heavy rain and storm surge; and

WHEREAS, these storm events can devastate our families, properties, businesses, economy, and our community for days, months, weeks, and sometimes years; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season experienced 18 named tropical storms or hurricanes, with more than 435 people killed and damage of over \$129 billion; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service (NWS) recommends that everyone should anticipate and prepare for storm threats from storm surge, flooding, and hurricane-force winds; and

WHEREAS, every individual should develop an emergency plan that includes all family members and pets, with evacuation routes and a communication plan; and

WHEREAS, every business should also develop an emergency plan that includes business operations timelines, employee safety, and securing of all facilities and vehicles; and

WHEREAS, being prepared for a storm includes the preparation of your property, including the following:

- Knowing your flood zones where your property is located,
- Maintaining flood insurance and regularly reviewing your policy coverage,
- Keeping ditches, swales, and outfalls near your property free of debris and obstructions,
- Always checking with your Planning Department when building or repairing to comply with state and local building regulations; and

WHEREAS, supply kit preparation should include a collection of non-perishable food and water to last each person one week, first-aid supplies and prescription medicines, weather radio and batteries, sleeping bag or blankets, important contact information (insurance policies, essential telephone numbers of utilities and services, etc.), changes of clothes, hygiene items, at least \$200 in cash, any needed pet supplies (including food, water, and medications), and a filled up gas tank; and

WHEREAS, during an impending storm event, individuals should

- Follow official news, alerts, and instructions and advice of local government agencies, and evacuate promptly if told to do so,
- Know your evacuation route and follow it, but never drive on a flooded roadway, remembering to “turn around, don’t drown,” and

WHEREAS, being prepared could mean the difference between being a storm victim or storm survivor, and can provide the vital bridge until additional assistance arrives and foster a faster return to normality and regular operations;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Kill Devil Hills, does hereby proclaim the week of May 4 – 10, 2025, as

Hurricane Preparedness Week

in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, and urges our citizens, businesses, visitors, and property owners to educate themselves and become even better prepared for storm events by using resources like www.readync.gov and www.NOAA.gov to protect against storm events and help make KDH a weather-resilient community.

This 30th day of April, 2025.

SEAL

John Windley
Mayor

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Town Clerk