



**RESOLUTION
REQUESTING SUMMER TRAFFIC CONTROL FROM THE NC HIGHWAY PATROL**

WHEREAS, an important part of the tourism dollars that are generated for the State of North Carolina derive from visitation to the Outer Banks that occurs on weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day; and

WHEREAS, weekend visitation during the summer season creates congestion and traffic problems that cause gridlock conditions at the intersection of Highway 158 and NC 12 in front of the Aycock Brown Welcome Center in Kitty Hawk; and

WHEREAS, the conditions that exist during summer weekends pose a serious threat to public safety not only at the Welcome Center intersection, but extend for miles in each direction, which results in backups and gridlock that stretch out through much of Currituck County on Highway 158 and to Corolla on NC 12; and

WHEREAS, the weekend gridlock that occurs at the Highway 158 and NC 12 intersection not only causes extreme backups and delays for motorists in both Dare and Currituck counties, it impedes emergency access for ambulances and other public safety vehicles; and

WHEREAS, during the summer of 2016, law enforcement agencies collaborated to assist with traffic control at the intersection of Highway 158 and NC 12 which included the North Carolina Highway Patrol on two weekends. This joint effort resulted in dramatically improved conditions and reduced the gridlock that has endangered the visitor experience and jeopardized public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Nags Head Board of Commissioners believes that the presence of law enforcement at the intersection of Highway 158 and NC 12 during summer weekends has proven to be successful and should be continued; and

WHEREAS, Dare County and its municipalities are not able to continually provide the total law enforcement resources that are required to provide weekend traffic control during summer weekends at the Welcome Center intersection without seriously jeopardizing our ability to respond to other emergencies that occur in our communities during the peak visitation season.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the North Carolina Highway Patrol provide traffic control assistance during summer weekends at the intersection of Highway 158 and NC 12 and uses its professional and highly trained personnel to assist the many motorists traveling to the Outer Banks of North Carolina as a matter of public safety and to help preserve the tourism revenue stream that is in the best economic interest of North Carolina.

This the 2nd day of November 2016.


Robert C. Edwards, Mayor



Attest:


Carolyn F. Morris, Town Clerk