



### **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**WHEREAS**, the draw-bridge infrastructure of the bridge is obsolete and was closed for repairs in 2017 and 2019 resulting in lengthy detours for residents, visitors, and commerce to Dare County, Currituck County, Hyde County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 Tyrrell 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 NC 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 NC Department of Transportation is soliciting comments on transportation improvements for inclusion in the ten-year transportation plan for 2023-2032.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Nags Head 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.

This the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

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Benjamin Cahoon, Mayor  
Town of Nags Head

ATTES:

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Carolyn F. Morris, Town Clerk