



**Town of Nags Head Resolution
In Support of Dare County Request
That the NC General Assembly Allow Dare County
to Levy a Quarter Cent Sales Tax Without A Referendum**

WHEREAS, a crisis situation exists for Dare County inlets that warrants immediate action; AND

WHEREAS, inlet shoaling conditions have progressively worsened over the last five months for both Hatteras and Oregon Inlets and have reached a level whereby the navigable channel at Oregon Inlet is nearly closed for commercial fishermen, boat builders, and many others who depend on the inlet to the Atlantic Ocean as their highway to work; AND

WHEREAS, without immediate intervention, irreparable financial harm will occur and further jeopardize the 4,348 jobs associated with Oregon Inlet alone and the \$548 million annual benefit that it generates; AND

WHEREAS, not only do Dare County inlets serve as an economic cornerstone, they also provide direct channels to the Atlantic Ocean for the United States Coast Guard to use when responding to rescue missions; AND

WHEREAS, the worsening inlet conditions pose a serious risk to public safety, which threatens lives and property, and in just the past week two vessels sustained damage trying to navigate the inlet; AND

WHEREAS, the Dare County Board of Commissioners has vigorously sought funding sources to provide ongoing dredging as an urgent matter of public safety and economic importance and has determined that swift, immediate action is needed in order to preserve the jobs and economic benefits that are associated with Hatteras Inlet and Oregon Inlet; AND

WHEREAS, the Dare County Board of Commissioners, needing an immediate funding source for ongoing management of Dare County's inlets and waterways, has asked the North Carolina General Assembly to expand the local option sales tax and authorize a quarter cent sales tax without a referendum as an urgent and timely matter of public safety and economic importance – which has been authorized as House Bill 388 and is entitled *Dare County Local Option Sales Tax*.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Nags Head does hereby strongly support the request of Dare County for a local option sales tax for the management of Dare County's Oregon Inlet and Hatteras Inlet - and supports Dare County's request that it remain in effect until the new Bonner Bridge is built and the existing Bonner Bridge has been successfully removed.

This the 1st day of April 2015.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert C. Edwards".

Robert C. Edwards, Mayor
Town of Nags Head

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle H. Gray".
Michelle H. Gray, Dep. Town Clerk