

Resolution Concerning HB 259

Whereas, over the years the cost of housing in Dare County has risen to unprecedented levels resulting in a critical need for workforce housing for those living and working in Dare County; and

Whereas, for many years Dare County has been working to provide workforce housing and has been unsuccessful in those efforts; and

Whereas, the North Carolina General Assembly recognized the workforce housing needs of Dare County and pursuant to the provisions of S.L. 2022-74, appropriated funds to help address those needs; and

Whereas, workforce housing entities have attempted to construct work force housing in multiple locations within Dare County and have been unsuccessful in those efforts due to, among other things, the lack of cooperation from the local governments in those locations; and

Whereas, in response thereto, Dare County has established the Dare County Workforce Housing Task Force, made up of representatives of the local governments in Dare County and other stakeholders, to attempt to reach consensus among the local governments and stakeholders on solutions to the workforce housing crisis; and

Whereas, without a request from Dare County and in effort to assist Dare County in its efforts to provide workforce housing, the General Assembly adopted HB 259 which exempted workforce housing constructed pursuant to the provisions of SL 2022-74 from several provisions of Chapter 160D of the North Carolina General Statutes, thereby limiting the application of some local government zoning regulations to such housing efforts; and

Whereas, the need for work force housing in Dare County substantially exceeds the number of housing units that can be constructed using the funds appropriated by the General Assembly and the need for workforce housing will continue after those funds are expended; and

Whereas, for the long-term success of workforce housing in Dare County the local governments and the stakeholders of Dare County must come together to reach consensus on housing solutions; and

Whereas, HB 259 has been adamantly opposed by the towns located in Dare County to the extent they have filed legal action to set it aside; and

Whereas, the towns' adamant opposition to HB 259 has created an atmosphere that makes it difficult for Dare County to reach the consensus necessary among the towns, citizens and stakeholders to solve the workforce housing problem in the long term;

Now , Therefore, Be It Resolved that to help further the discussions of the Dare County Workforce Housing Task Force, to reduce the acrimony between the towns and Dare County and to help in the process of reaching consensus among the local governments, citizens and stakeholders to find long term solutions to the workforce housing problem, the Dare County

Board of Commissioners confirms their earlier verbal statements of their intention to solve the workforce housing problem in Dare County by working together with local governments, citizens and stake holders and not to use HB 259 to exempt any workforce housing solutions from the local government zoning authority as part of any proposed solutions.

Adopted by the Dare County Board of Commissioners, this the 2nd day of January, 2024



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Robert L. Woodard, Sr.", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Robert L, Woodard, Sr.
Chairman Dare County Board of Commissioners