



## RESOLUTION

### Adopting the Principles of Universal Design for Public Spaces

**WHEREAS**, Universal Design is a philosophy that advocates for the creation and composition of environments that can be accessed, understood, and used by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized features; and

**WHEREAS**, Universal Design creates inclusive solutions and promotes accessibility and usability, allowing people with all levels of ability to live independently; and

**WHEREAS**, this approach seeks to proactively remove barriers that could limit participation in social, economic, and cultural life; and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of universal design principles—including equitable use, flexibility, simplicity, and safety—enhances accessibility for all individuals regardless of their age, size, ability or disability, and the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, designing for accessibility from the outset reduces the need for costly, reactive retrofitting of public spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, incorporating universal design principles improves the quality of life, fosters independence, and supports inclusion in community life;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Hillsborough Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the principles of Universal Design as a standard for all future planning, and construction of public spaces.

Approved this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year 2026.

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Mark Bell, Mayor  
Town of Hillsborough