



RESOLUTION

Supporting Hillsborough's Immigrant Communities

WHEREAS, the Town of Hillsborough recognizes and appreciates the important role that immigrants play in the vibrancy of Hillsborough's community, diversity and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough's community continually upholds the values of diversity, equity and inclusion as key pillars to the success of our community and our larger democracy; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough prides itself as being a community that welcomes all individuals who live, work and play within the town; and

WHEREAS, an important culture of collaboration and cooperation exists between the Hillsborough Police Department and immigrant communities that upholds the safety and well-being of all residents; and

WHEREAS, access to municipal services and engagement for all our town's residents, regardless of one's immigration status, is essential for the operations of our town in promoting public safety, fostering economic vitality and uplifting the diversity of our community; and

WHEREAS, undocumented immigrants contribute greatly to North Carolina's community, including the payment of various forms of taxes, without receiving access to basic safety net programs; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly has passed House Bill 10 (Session Law 2024-55) to require cooperation of sheriff's offices with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), which will erode trust between our immigrant communities and undermine public safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Hillsborough Board of Commissioners that the Town of Hillsborough:

- Commits to continuing to foster a welcoming environment for all immigrants living, working and contributing to our town, regardless of immigration status.
- Continues to support ways for all residents to access municipal services, including law enforcement protection.
- Empowers the Hillsborough Police Department to continue to engage with our immigrant communities to build upon existing trust and cooperation.
- Directs the Hillsborough Police Department to continue supporting the benefits provided through the U visa petition (Form I-918) process for victims of certain crimes to remain in the United States during investigations.
- Supports passage of federal legislation to provide a pathway to citizenship for undocumented residents, including those who are protected by Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. These people are also called dreamers.

Approved this 10th day of March in the year 2025.

Mark Bell, Mayor
Town of Hillsborough