



**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHERN SHORES,  
NORTH CAROLINA PROVIDING NOTICE OF TRAFFIC CONTROL ON CERTAIN  
STREETS AND SPECIFIC DAYS DURING THE SUMMER OF 2020  
(Resolution #2023.05.02)**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Southern Shores (the "Town") may regulate and enact ordinances to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens under North Carolina General Statutes §160A-174; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has general authority and control over and has the power to regulate the use of all public streets, sidewalks, alleys, bridges and other ways of passage within its corporate limits and may enact ordinances regulating the same under North Carolina General Statutes §160A-296 within the bounds of the North Carolina and United States Constitutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the popularity of the Outer Banks, including Dare County and its towns, Currituck County and the Town of Southern Shores, continues to grow, resulting in an ever increasing number of residents and visitors to the Outer Banks, particularly the northern Outer Banks; and

**WHEREAS**, the volume of traffic traveling through the Town increases greatly on Saturdays and Sundays during the summer vacation season beginning approximately on Memorial Day and ending approximately on Labor Day (the "Summer Season") and the traffic traveling through Town increases each Summer Season; and

**WHEREAS**, a significant amount of the increased traffic travels from North Carolina Highway 158 ("NC158") along the southern border of the Town northward along residential streets, including South Dogwood Trail and Juniper Trail, to North Carolina Highway 12 ("NC12") to reach the northern border of the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town's residential streets are all classified as local streets under the North Carolina Department of Transportation ("NCDOT") and Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") Highway Functional Classification. As such, they are not intended for use in long distance travel, except at the origin or destination end of the trip, due to their provision of direct access to abutting land and design to discourage through traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, the residential streets used for travel through the Town between the northern and southern borders of the Town were not constructed in such a manner so as to be able to safely and efficiently support the increased traffic volume due to their

narrow widths, low speed limits and the use of such streets by the citizens and visitors of the Town and their children for recreational purposes such as walking and bicycling; and

**WHEREAS**, the residential streets used for travel through the Town between the northern and southern borders of the Town were not constructed to handle the increasing amount of traffic and that such traffic will cause early deterioration of the roadways and increased maintenance costs to the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the volume of traffic causes extreme congestion and delays for travel upon the residential roads within the Town such that homeowners are often unable to leave their driveways and police, fire and emergency response ability is often limited. Similarly, public works and other services of the Town are limited by the congestion; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to congestion and delays, the increased traffic on residential streets often results in violations of set speed limits, running of stop signs and other traffic violations which create dangerous conditions for those drivers and their passengers as well as other users of the roadways including, but not limited to, pedestrians, cyclists and other vehicle drivers and passengers; and

**WHEREAS**, a substantial amount of the increased traffic upon residential streets within the Town is driven by mapping and traffic direction applications which use GPS, mapping data and real time traffic data to direct travelers upon the residential streets in an attempt to increase traffic flow for the application's individual users. In doing so, the increased traffic creates the public safety, navigational and infrastructure issues stated above and typically does not result in substantial benefits to the individual application user's travel time; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the future Mid-Currituck Bridge is to substantially improve traffic flow and reduce travel times to the northern Outer Banks for persons traveling from the Currituck County mainland; to reduce the amount of traffic coming through the Towns of Southern Shores and Duck to reach the northern Outer Banks; and to substantially reduce the hurricane and disaster evacuation time for citizens of and visitors to the northern Outer Banks; and

**WHEREAS**, the future of the Mid-Currituck Bridge remains uncertain and under the current best case scenarios will not begin to alleviate the substantial traffic through the Town for multiple future Summer Seasons; and

**WHEREAS**, NC12 and NC158 are the only roadways not classified as local roads within the Town and as such NC12 remains the most suitable means of motor vehicle travel through the Town from NC158 to the northern border of the Town and vice versa; and

**WHEREAS**, regulation and limitation of the traffic traveling between the northern border of the Town and NC158 by No Thru Traffic will increase the safety of the citizens and visitors of the Town and decrease the deterioration of the residential streets commonly used for travel through the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the interest of the public's health, safety, morals and general welfare that the Town of Southern Shores execute upon a plan to provide for No Thru Traffic during the Summer Season and provide notice of the change in traffic pattern to third parties and appropriate authorities.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town has approved implementation of No Thru Traffic at the intersections of all Town Streets and NC158 and NC12 from the Friday before Memorial Day and Labor Day.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, all users of Town streets, neighboring jurisdictions and mapping and traffic application providers are hereby provided notice of the above referenced No Thru Traffic so that they may act accordingly.

Adopted this 2nd day of May, 2023.

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A. Elizabeth Morey, Mayor

Attest:

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Sheila Kane, Town Clerk

