



Nice Matters!

Town of Emerald Isle
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Board of Commissioners
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Town Manager
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RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROPOSED CARTERET COUNTY 1/4 CENT SALES AND USE TAX FOR NAVIGATION DREDGING

WHEREAS, there are significant needs for the dredging and ongoing maintenance of waterways within Carteret County, including within and near Emerald Isle, to enable commercial and recreational use of these waterways by both residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government has previously provided funding for dredging and maintenance of certain waterways, including Bogue Inlet connecting channel and the AIWW crossing, but in recent years fewer Federal funds have been available for these type projects; and

WHEREAS, Carteret County, Emerald Isle, and other area local governments have provided funding for dredging and maintenance of waterways in recent years (with assistance from the State), and have primarily relied on property taxes for the local share of these costs, and

WHEREAS, it is important to provide Carteret County and Emerald Isle taxpayers with alternatives to property taxes to address these needs, and it is helpful to establish a dedicated funding source for navigation dredging needs; and

WHEREAS, in 2007 the North Carolina General Assembly granted County Boards of Commissioners the authority to levy, subject to voter approval, an additional 1/4 cent County sales and use tax; and

WHEREAS, the levy of an additional 1/4 cent sales and use tax would provide a new County revenue source and would generate approximately \$2.5 million annually for the County; and

WHEREAS, the Carteret County Board of Commissioners has scheduled a public referendum on the additional 1/4 cent County sales and use tax for November 8, 2016; and

WHEREAS, if approved by the voters on November 8, the Carteret County Board of Commissioners intends to allocate the revenues generated by the additional 1/4 cent County sales and use tax for waterway dredging and maintenance, with an appointed Waterways Management Board charged with prioritizing navigation dredging needs and administering these funds; and

WHEREAS, if approved by the voters, Carteret County plans to distinguish and separate the revenues generated by this 1/4 cent County sales and use tax in a new Special Revenue Fund that will be established to receive and account for the sales tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, future Bogue Inlet channel realignment projects are planned by the Town, and these projects also provide significant navigation benefits for boaters in Bogue Inlet, and the revenues generated by this 1/4-cent County sales and use tax may be available to assist in funding these projects in the future, and

WHEREAS, there may be other waterways within and near Emerald Isle that would also benefit from future dredging, and the revenues generated by this 1/4-cent County sales and use tax may be available to fund these projects in the future,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Emerald Isle Board of Commissioners hereby supports the Carteret County Board of Commissioners' intent to levy an additional 1/4-cent sales and use tax for waterway dredging and maintenance within Carteret County.

Adopted this the ____ day of _____, 2016.

ATTEST:

Eddie Barber, Mayor

Rhonda Ferebee, Town Clerk, CMC