RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA, SUPPORTING CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BRIDGE OVER THE ALLIGATOR RIVER CONNECTING DARE COUNTY TO TYRRELL COUNTY AND ITS FUNDING THROUGH THE US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S BRIDGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Resolution #22-14

WHEREAS, the Lindsey C. Warren Bridge which crosses the Alligator River was constructed in 1960 and serves as the main transportation link along Highway 64 from areas west of Dare County; and

WHEREAS, the draw-bridge infrastructure of the bridge is obsolete and was closed for repairs in 2017 and 2019 resulting in lengthy detours for residents, visitors, and commerce to Dare County, Currituck County, Hyde County and Tyrrell County; and

WHEREAS, the Alligator River is part of the Intercoastal Waterway and is used by numerous commercial shipping vessels and recreational boats on an annual basis, often creating delay and back-ups; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of Outer Banks of North Carolina, including Dare County and its towns, Currituck County and the Town of Duck, 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 Outer Banks of North Carolina generates substantial revenue for the State of North Carolina, particularly through tourism, and also serves a role as an ambassador area for the State by introducing hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over the United States and the world to the many wonders of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Lindsey C. Warren Bridge is an essential component of the hurricane evacuation route for residents of Dare County, Currituck County, and Hyde County and thousands of Outer Banks visitors each year and the continuous functionality of the Warren Bridge is imperative to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the need for a new bridge and/or a replacement bridge across the Alligator River has been identified by the NC Department of Transportation and has thus far been programmed for Planning and Environmental Studies in the 2020 – 2029 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); and

WHEREAS, the construction of a replacement bridge has not been programmed or funded in the current STIP and the methodology for STIP funding does not allow a new or replacement Alligator River Bridge to compete effectively against other transportation improvements in more urban areas of the State, thus contributing to the continued delay in construction of a new or replacement bridge:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA, THIS 7th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022, strongly supports the North Carolina Department of Transportation's request for grant funding under the US Department

of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program in recognition of the vital role this bridge plays in the transportation and commerce needs of Dare County and Eastern North Carolina.

Adopted this 7th Day of September 2022.

Mayor

NA

Town Clerk