



**A RESOLUTION TO MAINTAIN AND SUPPORT THE CURRENT INTEGRITY AND FUNDING
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION TRUST FUND (PARTF)**

WHEREAS, North Carolina is known for its unique and scenic natural resources and opportunities for recreation with a long tradition of its citizens and visitors enjoying parks, mountains, rivers, greenways, beaches and more. Generations of residents and visitors have delighted in these landscapes and park facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) was established with bi-partisan support on July 16, 1994 to fund improvements in the state's park system, to fund grants for local governments and to increase the public's access to the state's beaches and coastal waterways; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund has provided \$161 million via 722 grants to 370 local governments in 99 counties and has been matched with \$312 million of local and private dollars for the purchase of local park land, building and renovation of facilities and development of greenways and trails; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's population has grown to make it the 10th most populous state in the nation with projections for the significant growth to continue in the coming decades, and more state and local parks are needed to meet the increased demands; and

WHEREAS, Parks are identified as key contributors to North Carolina's tourism industry that generates nearly \$20 billion in annual economic impact; and

WHEREAS, Parks in North Carolina are experiencing record visitation levels including over 14.25 million to state parks in both 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, The Parks & Recreation Trust Fund has leveraged funds that allowed our State to acquire land for state parks and state natural areas and protected nearly 83,000 acres and made major additions to the Mountains-to-Sea State Trail; and

WHEREAS, The Parks & Recreation Trust Fund has funded capital improvement projects in the state parks such as visitor centers and exhibit halls which provide tremendous opportunities to educate students and all citizens about North Carolina's outstanding natural resources, and other capital projects including campgrounds, picnic areas, boating facilities, trails and swimming beaches; and local capital projects including construction of community centers, athletic fields and greenways; and

WHEREAS, The annual economic impact to local economies of all tourists visiting the state parks system was estimated at more than \$400 million in sales and income, as well as nearly 5,000 jobs according to a 2008 study.

WHEREAS, A portion of the Parks & Recreation Trust Fund is designated for the Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program to improve access to beaches and coastal waterways by funding public boat ramps and public beaches accesses; and

WHEREAS, access to parks, recreation facilities and open space provides cost-effective opportunities for citizens of all ages to participate in health and wellness activities thereby reducing costs associated with obesity, heart disease, diabetes and high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, research has documented that structured park and recreational opportunities in local communities can prevent crime and provide positive activities and directions for young people; and


WHEREAS, dedicated, recurring funding of the Parks & Recreation Trust Fund allows for structured and objective planning and efficient management of the system at both the state and local levels for today and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund is due to the dedicated funding source provided by a portion of the deed stamp tax, and is recognized nationally as a model for efficiency and accountability.

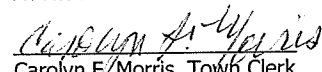
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Nags Head does call on the members of the General Assembly to maintain dedicated revenues generated by seventy-five cents of the deed stamp tax for The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund.

The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the members of the General Assembly representing the people of the County of Dare and the North Carolina Recreation and Park Association.

This the 17th day of April 2013.


Robert O. Oakes, Jr., Mayor
Town of Nags Head

ATTEST:


Carolyn F. Morris, Town Clerk

