



Council Agenda
October 13, 2026 ~ 5:30pm

Moment of Silence/Invocation

Opening of Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes: None

Approval/Amendments to Agenda

I. Consent Agenda: *(The Consent Agenda is where routine items are approved as a group without Council discussion. If any Council member would like a separate vote or discussion on any Consent Agenda item, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to New Business.)*

- A. Authorize – George H. and Laura E. Brown Library to Apply for an Inspire Grant for Small Museums **(page 4)**
- B. Accept – Funds and Sign the Contract for Aging Services Provided through the Older Americans Act and State Appropriated Funds from the NC Division of Aging **(page 5)**
- C. Approve – Appropriation and Subsequent Expenditures of Controlled Substance Tax Funds for Eligible Washington Police Department Law-Enforcement Equipment/Related Purposes and Adopt the Budget Ordinance Amendment **(page 12)**
- D. Adopt – Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Approve the Application for Grant Assistance from the NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) Phase 4 of a Living Shoreline and Flood Protection at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) **(page 14)**

II. Comments from the Public:

- * Each speaker must sign-in on the sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the Council Chambers.
- * During the Comments from the Public portion of the agenda, the City Manager will call on individuals signed in to address Council.
- * When called to speak, each speaker will identify him/herself by giving his/her **name and address**.
- * Each speaker will be limited to speaking one time on any topic. When you are finished speaking please step away from the podium and be seated.
- * Each speaker will be limited to **three (3) minutes** and each group's representative will be limited to a **maximum of five (5) total minutes**. Each group is encouraged to designate a single spokesperson for their group.

III. Public Hearing 6:00pm - Zoning: None

IV. Public Hearing 6:00pm- Other: None

- V. Scheduled Public Appearances: None
- VI. Correspondence and Special Reports:
 - A. Memo – PO's > \$50,000 **(page 17)**
 - B. Memo – Budget Transfers **(page 18)**
- VII. Reports from Boards, Commissions and Committees:
- VIII. Appointments:
 - A. Appointment – Planning Board *{Councilmember Tyre - liaison}* **(page 23)**
- IX. Old Business: None
- X. New Business:
 - A. Approve – Temporary Easement of Airport Property for the 15th Street Project **(page 25)**
 - B. Discussion – Blighted Properties/Code Enforcement *{Councilmember Tyre}*
 - C. Adopt – A Resolution Banning Sharia Law and Affirming the Supremacy of the Constitutions of the United States and North Carolina and Supporting Existing Protections Against the Application of Foreign Law That Violates Fundamental Constitutional Rights *{Councilmember Davis}* **(page 32)**
 - D. Adopt – Rescinding Mayor Brabo's Pride Month Automatically Renewing Proclamation Policy *{Councilmember Davis}* **(page 34)**
 - E. Adopt – A Resolution Requesting That Mayor Ellen Brabo Voluntarily Step Aside From Official Duties During the Pendency of Her Personal Lawsuit and Designating an Acting Mayor to Serve in the Interim *{Councilmember Davis}* **(page 36)**
 - F. Adopt – Resolution Requesting A Full Accounting of All Costs and Expenditures Incurred In Connection with the Civil Litigation Filed by Mayor Ellen Brabo, Including City Funds and State-Provided Funding *{Councilmember Davis}* **(page 38)**
 - G. Adopt – Resolution Addressing the City Attorney's Selective Responsiveness to Public Records Requests, Establishing a Compliance Policy, and Directing Corrective Action *{Councilmember Davis}* **(page 41)**
 - H. Adopt – Resolution Supporting the Transition to Four-Year Staggered Terms for City Council Members to Improve Continuity of Government, Achieve Cost Savings and Strengthen Democratic Participation *{Councilmember Davis}* **(page 43)**

October 13, 2026 ~ 5:30pm

- I. Adopt – Resolution Directing Full Disclosure of Utility Revenue Increases and Rate Payer Impact From the Rorie/Perreault Electric, Water, and Sewer Rate Increases - Utility Rate Increase Analysis Resolution {*Councilmember Davis*} **(page 47)**
- J. Adopt – Resolution Appointing a Member to Fill Vacancy on City Council {*Councilmember Davis*} **(page 54)**
- K. Adopt – Resolution Rescinding the Motion Made by Max Perreault Renaming of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day and Restoring the Original Columbus Day Designation For the Original City of Washington {*Councilmember Davis*} **(page 56)**
- L. Adopt – Resolution Directing the Reversal of the Bed and Breakfast Ordinance Amendment, Restoring the Prior Regulatory Framework, and Affirming the City's Pro-Business Commitment to Hospitality and Tourism {*Councilmember Davis*} **(page 59)**
- XI. Any other items from City Manager:
- XII. Any other business from the Mayor or other Members of Council:
- XIII. Closed Session:
- XIV. Adjourn:



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Kimberly Davenport, Library Director
Date: 10/13/2026
Subject: Inspire Grants for Small Museums
Applicant Presentation: NA
Staff Presentation: NA

RECOMMENDATION:

I move that the City Council authorize the George H. and Laura E. Brown Library to apply for an Inspire Grants for Small Museums. The grant will not exceed \$ 25,000.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS: Inspire Grants for Small Museums (Inspire) is a special initiative of the Museums for America grant program designed to support small museums of all disciplines, including small rural or small remote institutions and small museums that have not previously received federal funding. The program funds project-based efforts to serve the public through educational programs and exhibits, community partnerships, and collections stewardship activities. The application will focus on digitization and long-term preservation efforts.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

☐ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ☒ Requires additional appropriation ☒ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of City Council
From: Kristi Roberson, Parks & Recreation Director
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Accept the Funds and Sign the Contract for Aging Services Provided through the Older Americans Act and State Appropriated Funds from the NC Division of Aging
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

I move that the City Council accept the funds and sign the contract for Aging Services provided through the Older Americans Act and State Appropriated Funds from the NC Division of Aging in the amount of \$11,000.00 (General Purpose Funding).

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Grace Martin Harwell Senior Center has been awarded funding for Senior Center General Purpose Funding in the amount of \$11,000.00 with a match of \$3,667. Operations and Health Promotion/Disease Prevention services is awarded through Beaufort County DSS. The estimated revenue, appropriations, as well as the cash and in kind matches were budgeted in the FY 26-27 original budget. The estimated numbers now need to be adjusted to the funds actually awarded.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

☒ Currently Budgeted (Account 010-6123-____) ☐ Requires additional appropriation ☐ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Contract

*CONTRACT FOR AGING SERVICES
PROVIDED THROUGH THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT AND
STATE APPROPRIATED FUNDS FROM
THE NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF AGING*

July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

This Agreement, entered into as of this 1st day of July 2026, by and between Grace Martin Harwell Senior Center (hereinafter referred to as the "provider") and the Mid-East Commission Area Agency on Aging (hereinafter referred to as the "MEC").

Witnesseth That:

WHEREAS, the MEC and the provider agree to the terms and conditions for provision of aging services in connection with activities financed in part by Older Americans Act grant funds, provided to the MEC from the United States Department of Health and Human Services through the North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and state appropriations made available to the MEC through the North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services, as set forth in a) this document, b) the Division of Aging and Adult Services Service Standards Manual, Volumes I through IV, and, c) the Division of Aging and Adult Services Community Service Providers Monitoring Guidelines.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of these premises, and mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter contained, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Availability of Funds. The terms set forth in this Agreement for payment are contingent upon the receipt of funding by the MEC.
2. Grant Administration. The grant administrator for MEC shall be Annette Eubanks, Area Agency on Aging Director. The grant administrator for the provider shall be Deb Bauer, Director. It is understood and agreed that the grant administrator for the provider shall represent the provider in the performance of this Agreement. The provider shall notify the MEC in writing if the administrator changes during the grant period. Specific responsibilities of the grant administrator for the provider are provided in paragraph six (6) of this Agreement.
3. Scope of Services: The provider shall do, perform, and carry out in a satisfactory and proper manner, as determined by the MEC, the agreements and assurances required in the request for proposal.

<u>Services</u>	<u>Federal/State Dollars</u>	<u>Local Match</u>
General Purpose (176)	\$ 11,000	\$3,667

The provider shall submit an annual report to the MEC no later than July 14, 2027.
Services authorized through this agreement shall be undertaken and pursued in such

sequence as to assure their expeditious completion. All services required hereunder shall be completed by June 30, 2027. No state funds can be dispersed after the close of the fiscal year. Projected June expenditures must be reported with May services reported in June.

4. Assignability and Contracting. The provider shall not assign all or any portion of its interest in this Agreement. Any purchase of services with grant funding shall be carried out in accordance with the procurement and contracting policy of the provider or, where applicable, the MEC, which does not conflict with procurement and contracting requirements contained in 45 CFR 92.36. Federal funds shall not be awarded to any subrecipients who have been suspended or debarred by the Federal government. In addition, Federal funds may not be used to purchase goods or services from a vendor that has been suspended or debarred from Federal grant programs.
5. Compensation and Payments to the Provider. The provider shall be compensated for the work and services actually performed under this Agreement by payments to be made by the MEC. Total reimbursement to the provider under this Agreement may not exceed the grand total of available funding.
 - (a) Reimbursement of Service Costs. Reimbursements of service costs are carried out as provided in Section 3 of the N.C. Division of Aging and Adult Services Home and Community Care Block Grant Procedures Manual for Community Service Providers, revised February 17, 1997.
6. Reallocation of Funds and Budget Revisions. Any reallocation of funding between providers shall be voluntary on the part of the provider and shall be effective only for the period of the Agreement. The reallocation of funds between providers will not affect the allocation of future funding to the provider. If during the performance period of the Agreement, the MEC determines that a portion of the funds will not be expended; the grant administrator for the provider shall be notified in writing by the MEC and given the opportunity to make funds available for reallocation to other providers in the Planning and Service Area or elsewhere in the state.

Providers may request budget revisions during the period of the agreement, with final budget revisions due to the MEC no later than May 1, 2027.

Unless community services providers have been given the capacity to enter data into the Aging Resources Management System (ARMS), Area Agencies on Aging are responsible for entering amended service data into the Division of Aging Management Information System, as specified in the N.C. Division of Aging Home and Community Care Block Grant Procedures Manual for Community Service Providers, revised February 17, 1997.

7. Monitoring. This Agreement will be monitored to assure that services are being provided in compliance with the N.C. Division of Aging Service Standards Manual, dated July 1, 1992, and the N.C. Division of Aging Home and Community Care Block Grant

Procedures Manual for Community Service Providers, revised February 17, 1997. Further, compliance with updated monitoring requirements, as specified in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 and NC General Statute 143-6. shall be carried out. Monitoring shall also include compliance with conflict-of-interest requirements. Monitoring requirements are discussed in DOA Administrative Letter No. 03-14 (11/5/03). Private non-profit service providers will be monitored to ensure compliance with conflict-of-interest policies, as stated in DOA Administrative Letter No. 03-14.

The monitoring of services provided under this Agreement shall be carried out by the MEC in accordance with its Assessment Plan and/or by the DAAS regional Adult Program Representatives in accordance with the parameters of the interagency agreement established between the Division of Aging and the Division of Social Services, as provided in DOA Administrative Letter No. 98-13.

Providers will receive a written report of monitoring findings in accordance with procedures established in Section 308 of the AAA Policies and Procedures Manual (July, 1994) and DOA Administrative Letter No. 98-13. Any areas of non-compliance will be addressed in a written corrective action plan with the provider.

8. Disputes and Appeals. Any dispute concerning a question of fact arising under this Agreement shall be identified to the designated grant administrator for the MEC. In accordance with Lead Regional Organization (LRO) policy, a written decision shall be promptly furnished to the designated grants administrator for the provider.

The decision of the LRO is final unless within twenty (20) days of receipt of such decision the provider furnishes a written request for appeal to the Director of the North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services, with a copy sent to the MEC. The request for appeal shall state the exact nature of the complaint. The Division of Aging and Adult Services will inform the provider of its appeal procedures and will inform the MEC that an appeal has been filed. Procedures thereafter will be determined by the appeals process of the Division of Aging and Adult Services. The state agency address is as follows:

Director
North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services
2101 Mail Service Center
693 Palmer Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2101

9. Termination for Cause. If through any cause, the provider shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this Agreement, or the provider has or shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, representations or stipulations of this Agreement, the MEC shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by giving the provider written notice of such termination to the provider and specifying the effective date thereof. The date of notice shall be at least five (5) working days before MEC effective date of such termination. In such event, all documents and other materials collected or produced under this Agreement shall at the option of the MEC, become its

property. The provider shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any work satisfactorily performed under this Agreement.

10. **Audit.** The Community Service Provider agrees to have an annual independent audit in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, North Carolina Local Government Commission requirements, Division of Aging and Adult Services Program Audit Guide for Aging Services and Federal Office of Budget and Management (OMB) Circular A-133.

Community service providers must provide a copy of their year end financial statements, and any required audit, to the MEC on Aging. Community service providers, as specified in paragraph one (1) are subject to audit and fiscal reporting requirements as stated in NC General Statute 143-6 and OMB Circular a-133, where applicable. Home and Community Care Block Grant providers are not required to submit Activities and Accomplishments Reports. For-profit corporations are not subject to the requirements of OMB Circular A-133, but are subject to NC General Statute 143-6 and Yellow Book audit requirements, where applicable. **Federal funds** may not be used to pay for a **Single or Yellow Book audit** unless it a federal requirement. **State funds** will not be used to pay for a **Single or Yellow Book** audit if the provider receives less than \$500,000 in state funds. The Department of Health and Human Services will provide confirmation of federal and state expenditures at the close of the state fiscal year. Information on audit and fiscal reporting requirements can be found at <http://www.ncgrants.gov>.

The following provides a summary of reporting requirements under NCGS 143-6 and OMB Circular A-133 based upon funding received and expended during the service provider's fiscal year.

11. **Audit/Assessment Resolutions and Disallowed Cost.** It is further understood that the community service providers are responsible to the MEC for clarifying any audit exceptions that may arise from any MEC assessment, county or community service provider single or financial audit, or audits conducted by the State or Federal Governments. In the event that the MEC or the Department of Health and Human Services disallows any expenditure made by the community service provider for any reason, the Community Service Provider shall promptly repay such funds to the MEC once any final appeal is exhausted in accordance with paragraph nine (9). The only exceptions are if the MEC is designated as a community service provider through the County Funding Plan or, if as a part of a procurement process, the MEC on Aging enters into a contractual agreement for service provision with a provider which is in addition to the required County Funding Plan formats. In these exceptions, the MEC is responsible for any disallowed costs. The County or MEC can recoup any required payback from the community service provider in the event that payback is due to a community service provider's failure to meet OMB Circular A-122 requirements, requirements of A-110, requirements of 45CFR, Part 1321, and 45CFR, Part 92, or state eligibility requirements as specified in policy.
12. **Indemnity.** The provider agrees to indemnify and save harmless the MEC, its agents, and employees from and against any and all loss, cost, damages, expenses, and liability

arising out of performance under this Agreement to the extent of errors or omissions of the provider.

13. Equal Employment Opportunity and Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance. The provider shall comply with all federal and state laws relating to equal employment opportunity and accommodation for disability.
14. Data to be Furnished to the Provider. All information which is existing, readily available to the MEC without cost and reasonably necessary, as determined by the MEC's staff, for the performance of this Agreement by the provider shall be furnished to the provider without charge by the MEC. The MEC, its agents and employees, shall fully cooperate with the provider in the performance of the provider's duties under this Agreement.
15. Rights in Documents, Materials and Data Produced. The provider agrees that at the discretion of the MEC, all reports and other data prepared by or for it under the terms of this Agreement shall be delivered to, become and remain the property of the MEC upon termination or completion of the work. Both the MEC and the provider shall have the right to use same without restriction or limitation and without compensation to the other. For the purposes of this Agreement, "data" includes writings, sound recordings, or other graphic representations, and works of similar nature. No reports or other documents produced in whole or in part under this Agreement shall be the subject of an application for copyright by or on behalf of the provider.
16. Interest of the Provider. The provider covenants that neither the provider nor its agents or employees presently has an interest, nor shall acquire an interest, direct or indirect, which conflicts in any manner or degree with the performance of its service hereunder, or which would prevent, or tend to prevent, the satisfactory performance of the service hereunder in an impartial and unbiased manner.
17. Interest of Members of the MEC, Lead Regional Organization, and Others. No officer, member, or employee of the MEC, and no public official of any local government which is affected in any way by the Project, who exercises any function or responsibilities in the review or approval of the Project or any component part thereof, shall participate in any decisions or provisions of service relating to this Agreement which affects his personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership or association in which he is, directly or indirectly, interested; nor shall any such persons have any interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement or the proceeds arising therefrom.
18. Officials not to Benefit. No member of or delegate to the Congress of the United States of America, resident Commissioner or employee of the United States Government, shall be entitled to any share or part of this Agreement or any benefits to arise here from.
19. Prohibition Against Use of Funds to Influence Legislation. No part of any funds under this Agreement shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any employee or agent

acting on behalf of the provider to engage in any activity designed to influence legislation or appropriations pending before Congress.

20. Applicable Law. This Agreement is executed and is to be performed in the State of North Carolina, and all questions of interpretation and construction shall be construed by the laws of such State.
21. Disaster Assistance: In the event that elderly individuals are endangered by the occurrence of a tornado, fire, flood, severe temperature extremes, or other disaster related situation, the provider shall cooperate with requests for assistance from the MEC.
22. Attendance at MEC Meetings: The provider shall attend any committee; special meeting; or staff development training being held by the MEC to include the Regional Advisory Committee.

In witness whereof, the MEC and the provider have executed this Agreement as of the day first written above.

Grace Martin Harwell Senior Center

Attest:

By: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Mid-East Commission

Attest:

By: _____

Annette Eubanks
Area Agency on Aging Director

Patricia Harris
Interim Executive Director

Provision for payment of the monies to fall due under this Agreement within the current fiscal year have been made by appropriation duly authorized as required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

BY: _____

Sherri Bunch, Finance Officer, Mid-East Commission



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of City Council
From: R.M. Flowers, Administrative Police Chief
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Use of Control Substance Funds
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

I move that the City Council approve the appropriation of \$71,585 and subsequent expenditures of available Controlled Substance Tax funds for eligible Washington Police Department law-enforcement equipment and related purposes and authorize the appropriate budget amendment.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Washington receives Controlled Substance Tax proceeds pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-113.113. These funds are distributed to qualifying state and local law enforcement agencies based on investigations that result in assessments under North Carolina's Unauthorized Substances Tax and can only be used on law enforcement equipment.

The Washington Police Department has identified law enforcement equipment needs that can be supported with available Controlled Substance Tax funds. Proposed purchases may include firearms, ammunition, body armor, cameras, and other equipment necessary to support law enforcement operations.

There is currently \$145,240.86 in Controlled Substance Funds in our fund balance accounts.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

☐ Currently Budgeted (Account _____)
☐ Requires additional appropriation
☐ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Budget Ordinance Amendment

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUDGET ORDINANCE
OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, N.C.
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027**

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina:

Section 1. That the following accounts of the General Fund revenue budget be increased or decreased by the respective amounts indicated:

010-3991-9910	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$	71,585
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Section 2. That the following accounts of the General Fund appropriations budget be increased or decreased by the respective amounts for police department equipment expenses:

010-4310-5701	Controlled Substances Funding	\$	71,585
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Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.

Adopted this the 13th day of October, 2026.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Hope Woolard, Public Works Director
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Approve the Application for Grant Assistance
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

I move that City Council adopt the resolution to apply for grant assistance from the NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) for the construction (Phase 4) of a Living Shoreline and Flood Protection at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City was awarded a grant in 2024 (Phase 3) in the amount of \$500,000 from NC RCCP to assist in the engineering and design work to construct a living shoreline and levee at the WWTP. This phase was completed in July.

A levee/floodwall was explored during the engineering/design phase for flood protection of the WWTP but was determined to not be feasible. The flood protection elements of the project will include the elevation of the tertiary treatment tank walls and a movable "Tiger Dam" flood wall to go around the motor control room (with associated grading and foundation). The shoreline erosion protection element of the project will be a living shoreline.

There is no local match required.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

___ Currently Budgeted (Account: ___) ___ Requires additional appropriation ___ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Resolution

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WASHINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, TO APPLY FOR THE NC RESILIENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM PHASE 4 GRANT

WHEREAS, from 2021 through 2022, the City of Washington participated in Phases 1 and 2 of the Resilient Coastal Communities Program, and conducted a series of public workshops and meetings as part of a comprehensive public participation program under the leadership of the Washington Community Action Team; and

WHEREAS, the Community Action Team and the Washington City Council approved the City of Washington Resilience Strategy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington completed engineering/design of the “Living Shoreline and Flood Protection at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)” project (previously titled “Living Shoreline and Levee at the WWTP”) using Resilient Coastal Communities Program Phase 3 funds; and

WHEREAS, the project is shovel ready with construction ready designs in hand; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington will apply for the NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program Phase 4 grant to fund construction of said project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council for Washington, North Carolina has approved the NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program Phase 4 grant application for the “Living Shoreline and Flood Protection at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)” project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Works Director of the City of Washington is hereby authorized to submit the NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program Phase 4 grant application.

Adopted the 13th day of October 2026.

Signature:

Ellen Brabo, Mayor
Washington, North Carolina

Attest
Cynthia Bennett, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION BY RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting City Clerk of the City of Washington does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of North Carolina, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Washington City Council duly held on the 13th day of October, 2026; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of October, 2026.

Cynthia Bennett, City Clerk

(Seal)

Mayor
Ellen C. Brabo

Acting City Manager
Tammy Swindell



Washington City Council
Mayor Pro tem - VACANT
Joe Davis
Antwan Horton
Max Perreault
Anthony Tyre

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Tammy Swindell, C.F.O.
Date: October 1, 2026
Subject: PO's > \$50,000

The following budgeted purchase orders that are in excess of \$50,000 have been issued for the month:

<u>PO</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>
070483	\$125,149.86	CLINTON AUTO LLC	POLICE DEPT VEHICLE PURCHASE
070518	\$71,985.68	BATTERIES OF NC LLC	POLICE DURANGO PURSUIT
070536	\$160,622.50	S.T. WOOTEN CORPORATION	CITY PAVING 2026-2027

Mayor
Ellen C. Brabo

Acting City Manager
Tammy Swindell



Washington City Council
Mayor Pro tem - VACANT
Joe Davis
Antwan Horton
Max Perreault
Anthony Tyre

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Tammy Swindell, C.F.O.
Date: October 1, 2026
Subject: Budget Transfers

The Budget Officer reallocated appropriations among various departmental totals of expenditures within authorized funds.

NC GS 159-15 states that this shall be reported to the Council at its next regular meeting and be entered in the minutes.

010-6125-5400	-\$5,340.00
010-4650-6128	\$5,340.00
010-4260-5400	-\$500.00
010-4510-5400	\$500.00
010-4310-4500	-\$10,275.00
010-4311-4500	\$10,275.00
010-4310-0200	-\$1,000.00
010-4310-0600	-\$1,050.00
010-4311-0600	-\$1,050.00
010-4310-4500	\$3,100.00

Council

Request for Transfer of Funds

Date: 9/4/2026

TO: City Manager or Finance Director

FROM: Finance

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

RECEIVED

SEP 08 2026

I hereby request the transfer of funds as set forth below from one account to another, all within the same appropriation fund account, as permitted and authorized by the General Statutes of North Carolina.

	Department	Account Number	Project Account	Account Name	Amount
FROM:	Civic Center	010-6125-5400	None	Insurance	5340.00
TO:	Economic Development	010-4650-6128	None	Insurance	5340.00

For the purpose of: transfer for insurance was more than budgeted at time City took CC back over

James B. Haur
Supervisor

Shundell
Department Head

ACTION OF CITY MANAGER OR FINANCE DIRECTOR

Approved: ☒

Disapproved: ☐

* Request for Transfer of Funds from Department to Department, require City Manager's approval.

** Request for Intradepartmental Transfer of Funds require Finance Director approval.

James Shundell
City Manager or Finance Director

9/8/26
Date

Council

Request for Transfer of Funds

Date: 9/4/2026

TO: City Manager or Finance Director

RECEIVED

FROM: Finance

SEP 08 2026

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

I hereby request the transfer of funds as set forth below from one account to another, all within the same appropriation fund account, as permitted and authorized by the General Statutes of North Carolina.

	Department	Account Number	Project Account	Account Name	Amount
FROM:	Equipment Services	010-4260-5400	None	Insurance	500.00
TO:	Streets	010-4510-5400	None	Insurance	500.00

For the purpose of: Increased cost of insurance due to adding new equipment

Jeanne Blawie
Supervisor

Shundell
Department Head

ACTION OF CITY MANAGER OR FINANCE DIRECTOR

Approved: ☒

Disapproved: ☐

* Request for Transfer of Funds from Department to Department, require City Manager's approval.

** Request for Intradepartmental Transfer of Funds require Finance Director approval.

Dan S. Shundell
City Manager or Finance Director

9/8/26
Date

RECEIVED
SEP 15 2026

Request for Transfer of Funds

Date: 9/15/26

TO: City Manager or Finance Director

FROM: R.M. Flowers

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

I hereby request the transfer of funds as set forth below from one account to another, all within the same appropriation fund account, as permitted and authorized by the General Statutes of North Carolina.

	Department	Account Number	Project Account	Account Name	Amount
FROM:	Police Admin.	010-4310-4500		Contract Services	\$10,275
TO:	Police E-911 Comm.	010-4311-4500		Contract Services	\$10,275

For the purpose of: Transferring to the correct account for tracking purposes.

Supervisor



Department Head

ACTION OF CITY MANAGER OR FINANCE DIRECTOR

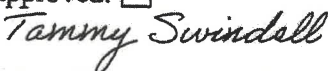
Approved: ☒

Disapproved: ☐

* Request for Transfer of Funds from Department to Department require City Manager's approval.

** Request for Intradepartmental Transfer of Funds require Finance Director approval.

×



City Manager or Finance Director

9-15-26

Date

Request for Transfer of Funds

Date: 9/24/26

TO: City Manager or Finance Director
FROM: R.M. Flowers
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

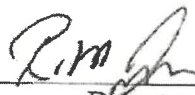
RECEIVED
SEP 24 2026

I hereby request the transfer of funds as set forth below from one account to another, all within the same appropriation fund account, as permitted and authorized by the General Statutes of North Carolina.

	Department	Account Number	Project Account	Account Name	Amount
FROM:	Police Admin.	010-4310-0200		Salaries	\$1,000
	Police Admin.	010-4310-0600		Group Insurance	\$1,050
	Police E-911	010-4311-0600		Group Insurance	\$1,050
TO:	Police Admin.	010-4310-4500		Contract Services	\$3,100

For the purpose of: Upgrading incident reporting system.

Supervisor



Department Head

ACTION OF CITY MANAGER OR FINANCE DIRECTOR

Approved: ☒

Disapproved: ☐

* Request for Transfer of Funds from Department to Department require City Manager's approval.

** Request for Intradepartmental Transfer of Funds require Finance Director approval.



City Manager or Finance Director

9-24-26

Date



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Cynthia S. Bennett, City Clerk
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Appointment to Planning Board
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

I move that the City Council appoint _____ to the Planning Board to fill a vacant position.
Term to expire June 30, 2029. {Anthony Tyre - Council Liaison}

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

___ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ___ Requires additional appropriation ☒ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Board Applications

Requested Board Housing Authority or Planning

**CANDIDATES REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND/OR AUTHORITY OF
THE CITY OF WASHINGTON**

NAME Julia Concha

ADDRESS 1105 N Market St Washington NC 27889

PHONE (WORK) _____ (HOME) 410-877-4428

E-MAIL ADDRESS Julia.concha2@gmail.com

DO YOU LIVE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF WASHINGTON? YES (☒) NO (☐)

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A RESIDENT OF BEAUFORT COUNTY? 5 YEARS

YEARS OF EDUCATION Masters

HAVE YOU SERVED ON A BOARD/COMMISSION OF THE CITY? YES (☐) NO (☒)

IF YES, PLEASE INDICATE _____

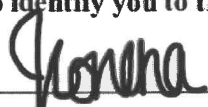
DO YOU ANTICIPATE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY SERVING AS A MEMBER OF A
BOARD/COMMISSION? No IF YES, EXPLAIN _____

STATE REASONS WHY YOU FEEL QUALIFIED FOR THIS APPOINTMENT (s) (OPTIONAL): *Use back of
sheet if additional space is needed.*

NOTE: This information will be used by the City Council in making appointments to Boards and Commissions
AND, in the event you are appointed, it may be used as a news release to identify you to the community.

9/24/2026

Date


Signature

NOTE: Application will remain on file for six (6) months. Expiration Date: _____ October 13, 2026
Page 24 of 61



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo and Members of City Council
From: Josh Waters, Airport Manager
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Temporary Easement of Airport Property for 15th Street Project
Staff Presentation:

RECOMMENDATION:

I move that City Council approve a temporary easement of airport property as shown in the map for the 15th Street Project after legal review and approval by the City Attorney.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The airport was approached by Cathrine Hossack, from the NCDOT, concerning the use of a section of airport property for an easement. This easement would allow a temporary road to be placed on airport property giving citizens access to their homes as a section of 15th Street will have to close at times during the project. The airport's Airport Project Manager, from the NCDOA, and the airport's engineer have both stated that this will cause no issues for the airport in its daily operations.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

☐ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ☐ Requires additional appropriation
☒ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Map
Acknowledgement of Terms
Temporary Easement





STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

DATE:
WBS ELEMENT: 46386.2.2
FA PROJECT: N/A
TIP/PARCEL: U-5860 004A
COUNTY: Beaufort
DESCRIPTION: SR 1306 (15th Street) - Widening from US 17 Business (Carolina Avenue) to US-264

Property Owner Acknowledgement of the Terms for the Voluntary Donation Of Property to the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

The undersigned property owner and/or the undersigned property owner's legal representatives freely acknowledge their desire and willingness to voluntarily allow the use of privately-owned real property to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the benefit of the above sited public transportation project without receipt of just compensation. It is further agreed and acknowledged by the undersigned property owner and/or the property owner's legal representative that the property owner and/or legal representative has been advised that he/she is entitled to have an appraisal made on his/her property to determine just compensation and the owner releases the Department from this obligation and waives any compensation in exchange for the donation of property as right of way in full settlement of his/her claim. The purpose of this document is to ensure compliance under Title 23 of the United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Subchapter H (Right-of-Way and Environment), Part 710 (Right-of-Way and Real Estate), Subpart E (Property Acquisition Alternatives), Subsection .505 (Real Property Donations).

TCE (Temporary Construction Easement)

Point of beginning being N 69°20'03" E, 929.38 feet from monument "U5860-2" having North Carolina State Plane coordinates (NAD83) of Northing 665419.38, Easting 2576300.48; thence from the Point of beginning to a point on a bearing of S 66°17'43" E 426.99 feet thence to a point on a bearing of S 27°17'09" W 93.67 feet; thence to a point on a bearing of N 66°33'06" W 432.02 feet; thence to a point on a bearing of N 30°12'24" E 96.04 feet; returning to the point and place of beginning. Having an area of approximately 0.931 acres.

(SEAL)
Ellen Brabo, Mayor of City of Washington

(SEAL)
Cynthia Bennett, Clerk of the City of Washington

ACCEPTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BY: _____

(Official Seal)	North Carolina, _____ County
	I, _____, a Notary Public for _____ County, North Carolina, certify that
	Cynthia Bennett _____ personally came before me this day and acknowledged that she is the CLERK of the CITY OF <u>Washington</u> , and that by authority duly given, the foregoing instrument was signed in its name by its MAYOR of the CITY OF Washington, sealed with its corporate seal, and attested by Cynthia Bennett _____ as its CITY CLERK.
	Witness my hand and official seal this the _____ day of _____, 20 <u>26</u> .
	_____ Notary Public
	My commission expires:

Revenue Stamps \$ _____

TEMPORARY EASEMENT

THIS INSTRUMENT DRAWN BY Yvonne M. Radford CHECKED BY Mark T. Smith

RETURN TO: The Right of Way Group
Mark T. Smith
225 Green Street Suite 910
Fayetteville, NC 28301

NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Beaufort
TAX PARCEL 5686-06-3216

TIP/PARCEL NUMBER: U-5860 004A
WBS ELEMENT: 46386.2.2
ROUTE: SR 1306 (15th Street)

THIS EASEMENT, made and entered into this the _____ day of _____ 20 _____
by and between City of Washington
102 E. 2nd Street
Washington, NC 27889

hereinafter referred to as GRANTORS, and the Department of Transportation, an agency of the State of North Carolina, 1546 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27611, hereinafter referred to as the Department;

WITNESSETH

THAT the GRANTORS, for themselves, their heirs, successors, executors, and assigns, for and in consideration of the sum of \$ 1.00 agreed to be paid by the DEPARTMENT to the GRANTORS, do hereby give, grant and convey unto the DEPARTMENT, its successors, and assigns, a temporary easement for highway purposes, subject to the terms and provisions hereinafter set forth, over a portion of real property described in deed(s) recorded in Book 1441, Page 803 in the office of the Register of Deeds of Beaufort County, said easement being described as follows:

Point of beginning being N 69°20'03" E, 929.38 feet from monument "U5860-2" having North Carolina State Plane coordinates (NAD83) of Northing 665419.38, Easting 2576300.48; thence from the Point of beginning to a point on a bearing of S 66°17'43" E 426.99 feet thence to a point on a bearing of S 27°17'09" W 93.67 feet; thence to a point on a bearing of N 66°33'06" W 432.02 feet; thence to a point on a bearing of N 30°12'24" E 96.04 feet; returning to the point and place of beginning.

COUNTY: Beaufort WBS ELEMENT: 46386.2.2 TIP/PARCEL NO.: U-5860 004A

Said easement widths, station numbers, survey lines and additional easement areas being delineated on that set of plans for State Highway Project 46386.2.2 on file in the office of the Department of Transportation in Raleigh, North Carolina, and also on a copy of said project plans which will be recorded, pursuant to N.C.G.S 136-19.4, in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Beaufort County, to which plans reference is hereby made for greater certainty of description of the easement areas herein conveyed and for no other purpose.

This EASEMENT is subject to the following terms and provisions only:

It is understood and agreed that the DEPARTMENT shall have the right to construct and maintain the cut and/or fill slopes in the above-described area(s) until such time that the property owners alter the adjacent lands in such a manner that the lateral support of the cut and/or fill slopes are no longer needed. Any additional construction areas lying beyond the right of way limits and beyond any permanent easement areas will terminate upon completion of the project. The underlying fee owner shall have the right to continue to use the Temporary Easement area(s) in any manner and for any purpose, provided that such use does not unreasonably interfere with the rights granted to the DEPARTMENT in this document. For example, it shall not be unreasonable for the fee owner to safely use the Temporary Easement area(s) to access the easement area or the remainder of the property, or for parking.

There are no conditions to this EASEMENT not expressed herein.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said temporary easement for highway purposes, subject to the terms and provisions hereinabove set forth, unto the DEPARTMENT, its successors and assigns, and the GRANTORS, for themselves, their heirs, successors, executors and assigns, hereby warrant and covenant that they are the sole owners of the property; that they solely have the right to grant the said temporary easement; and that they will warrant and defend title to the same against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever;

The Grantors acknowledge that the project plans for Project # 46386.2.2 have been made available to them. The Grantors further acknowledge that the consideration stated herein is full and just compensation pursuant to Article 9, Chapter 136 of the North Carolina General Statutes for the acquisition of the said interests and areas by the Department of Transportation and for any and all damages to the value of their remaining property; for any and all claims for interest and costs; for any and all damages caused by the acquisition for the construction of Department of Transportation Project # 46386.2.2, Beaufort County, and for the past and future use of said areas by the Department of Transportation, its successors and assigns for all purposes for which the said Department is authorized by law to subject the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, GRANTOR, pursuant to a resolution dated _____, has caused this instrument to be signed in its corporate name by its MAYOR, its corporate seal hereto affixed, and attested by its CITY CLERK, by order of the WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL, this the day and year first above written.

This instrument does not transfer the herein described interests unless and until this document is accepted by an authorized agent of the Department of Transportation.

BY: _____
Ellen Brabo, Mayor of City of Washington

BY: _____
Cynthia Bennett, Clerk of the City of Washington

COUNTY: Beaufort WBS ELEMENT: 46386.2.2 TIP/PARCEL NO.: U-5860 004A

ACCEPTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BY: _____

(Official Seal)	North Carolina, _____ County
	I, _____, a Notary Public for _____ County, North Carolina, certify that
	_____ personally came before me this day and acknowledged that he/she is the CLERK of the CITY OF <u>Washington</u> , and that by authority duly given, the foregoing instrument was signed in its name by its MAYOR of the CITY OF Washington, sealed with its corporate seal, and attested by _____ as its CITY CLERK.
	Witness my hand and official seal this the _____ day of _____, 20 <u>26</u> .
	_____ Notary Public
	My commission expires:



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Resolution Banning Sharia Law
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

To Adopt: *"I move to adopt the Banning Sharia Law and Foreign Law Prohibition Resolution as presented."*

To Amend & Adopt: *"I move to amend the Banning Sharia Law and Foreign Law Prohibition Resolution by [state amendment] and adopt as amended."*

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account ____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**A RESOLUTION BANNING SHARIA LAW AND AFFIRMING THE SUPREMACY OF THE
CONSTITUTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH CAROLINA AND SUPPORTING
EXISTING PROTECTIONS AGAINST THE APPLICATION OF FOREIGN
LAW THAT VIOLATES FUNDAMENTAL CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of North Carolina constitute the supreme law of this State and of the City of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly enacted Article 7A of Chapter 1 of the General Statutes (G.S. 1-87.12 through 1-87.20), declaring it the public policy of the State to protect its citizens from the application of foreign law that would result in the violation of a fundamental constitutional right of a natural person; and

WHEREAS, that statute prohibits any court, administrative agency, arbitrator, mediator, or other entity acting under the authority of State law from applying foreign law, or recognizing a foreign judgment, in proceedings involving absolute divorce, divorce from bed and board, child custody, child support, alimony, or equitable distribution if doing so would violate a fundamental constitutional right; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington, as a municipal corporation organized under Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes, is bound by and supports these protections and the public policy of the State as expressed in the foregoing statute; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to affirm these principles for the guidance of City officials, employees, and contractors in the performance of their duties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

1. The City of Washington affirms that the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of North Carolina are the supreme law applicable within the City.
2. The City of Washington endorses and supports the public policy of the State of North Carolina set forth in G.S. 1-87.12 through 1-87.20, which protects citizens from the application of foreign law that would violate fundamental constitutional rights.
3. No officer, employee, agent, or contractor of the City of Washington shall apply, enforce, or give effect to any foreign law, legal code, or judgment in the performance of City business if doing so would violate a fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Carolina.
4. This Resolution is intended as a statement of City policy and does not create any private right of action, expand or limit the jurisdiction of any court, or alter any provision of State or federal law.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Resolution Rescinding Mayor Brabo's Pride Month Proclamation Policy
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

I move to adopt the Resolution Rescinding Mayor Brabo's Pride Month Proclamation Policy as presented.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account ____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**A RESOLUTION RESCINDING MAYOR BRABO’S PRIDE MONTH AUTOMATICALLY
RENEWING PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, under NCGS 160A-67 and 160A-146, the City Council possesses legislative authority over the official acts, policies, and proclamations of the City of Washington; and **WHEREAS**, official proclamations issued in the name of the City constitute government speech, which the United States Supreme Court has held in *Walker v. Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc.*, 576 U.S. 200 (2015), is not subject to the forum-analysis or viewpoint-neutrality requirements of the Free Speech Clause; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has identified that at least one official proclamation — a proclamation recognizing the demonic “Pride Month” — has been treated as automatically renewing from year to year without annual council review, debate, or approval; and

WHEREAS, permitting any proclamation to renew automatically circumvents the deliberative process, removes council oversight, and sets a precedent that is inconsistent with democratic governance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish a uniform, content-neutral policy requiring that every official proclamation be individually proposed, debated, and approved by majority vote of the Council on an annual basis;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

- 1. Rescission of Automatically Renewing Proclamations.** Any and all official proclamations of the City of Washington that have been treated as automatically renewing, including but not limited to the Pride Month proclamation, are hereby rescinded and shall have no further force or effect unless re-adopted through the process established by this Resolution.
- 2. Content-Neutral Proclamation Policy.** Effective immediately, no official proclamation, declaration, or recognition shall be issued in the name of the City of Washington unless: (a) a written request is submitted to the City Clerk identifying the proposed proclamation and the requesting party; (b) the proposed proclamation is placed on the agenda of a regular City Council meeting for consideration; and (c) the proposed proclamation is approved by a majority vote of the City Council at a properly noticed public meeting.
- 3. Annual Approval Required.** Every official proclamation shall be valid for one calendar year only. No proclamation shall automatically renew. Any party seeking renewal must submit a new request through the process established in Section 2.
- 4. Uniform Application.** This policy applies equally to all proclamations regardless of subject matter, and shall be administered in a content-neutral manner consistent with the City's authority over its own government speech.
- 5. This Resolution does not regulate private speech, private observances, or the rights of any individual or organization. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.**

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Mayor Step-Aside Resolution
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

I move to adopt the Mayor Step-Aside Resolution as presented.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account ____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT MAYOR ELLEN BRABO VOLUNTARILY STEP ASIDE FROM OFFICIAL DUTIES DURING THE PENDENCY OF HER PERSONAL LAWSUIT AND DESIGNATING AN ACTING MAYOR TO SERVE IN THE INTERIM

WHEREAS, Mayor Ellen Brabo is currently the plaintiff in a federal lawsuit against the City of Washington filed on or about October 28, 2025, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, seeking approximately One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) in damages, which lawsuit remains pending; and

WHEREAS, the existence of a substantial personal financial claim by the Mayor against the City creates an inherent conflict of interest and the appearance of impropriety in the Mayor's continued exercise of the powers and duties of the office while that claim is unresolved; and

WHEREAS, the pendency of a lawsuit of this scale may require the Mayor to devote substantial time to legal preparation, depositions, discovery, and court proceedings, thereby diminishing the time and attention available for official duties; and

WHEREAS, it is a matter of good governance for elected officials facing significant personal litigation against the body they lead to voluntarily step aside during the pendency of such proceedings, to preserve public confidence in the integrity of city government; and

WHEREAS, under G.S. 160A-68 and 160A-70, the City Council may choose a mayor pro tempore from among its members and confer upon that person the powers and duties of the mayor during the mayor's absence; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Anthony Tyre and Councilmember Antwon Horton are experienced multi-term members of this Council capable of serving as Acting Mayor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

- 1. Request to Step Aside.** The City Council respectfully requests that Mayor Ellen Brabo voluntarily step aside from the exercise of the powers and duties of the office of Mayor for the duration of her pending personal lawsuit against the City, or until such lawsuit is fully and finally resolved by settlement, dismissal, or final judgment, including any appeals.
- 2. Designation of Acting Mayor.** In the event the Mayor steps aside or is otherwise absent, the City Council designates Councilmember Anthony Tyre to serve as Acting Mayor, with Councilmember Antwon Horton as alternate, and confers upon such person the powers and duties of the Mayor pursuant to G.S. 160A-68 and 160A-70, including presiding over council meetings, executing official documents, and representing the City in official capacities.
- 3. Preservation of Elected Status.** This Resolution is a non-binding request and expression of the will of the Council. It does not declare a vacancy, remove the Mayor from office, or constitute a suspension or forfeiture. The Mayor retains the title of Mayor and all rights, privileges, and protections thereof.
- 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.**

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Litigation Cost Disclosure Resolution
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

To Adopt: *"I move to adopt the Litigation Cost Disclosure Resolution as presented."*

To Amend & Adopt: *"I move to amend the Litigation Cost Disclosure Resolution by [state amendment] and adopt as amended."*

To Table: *"I move to table the Litigation Cost Disclosure Resolution until [date or next regular meeting]."*

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account ____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING A FULL ACCOUNTING OF ALL COSTS
AND EXPENDITURES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CIVIL
LITIGATION FILED BY MAYOR ELLEN BRABO, INCLUDING
CITY FUNDS AND STATE-PROVIDED FUNDING**

WHEREAS, on or about October 28, 2025, Mayor Ellen Brabo filed a federal lawsuit against the City of Washington in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina eventually seeking approximately One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) in damages and eventually making verifiably false claims about a neighbor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington has incurred, and continues to incur, legal fees, costs, and expenses in the defense of that lawsuit using public funds; and

WHEREAS, the City may have received, applied for, or utilized state-provided funding, grants, reimbursements, or other state financial resources in connection with this litigation, including funds from the North Carolina Department of Justice, the NC League of Municipalities, or other state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has a fiduciary duty under NCGS 160A-432 and 159-26 to the taxpayers of Washington to understand, oversee, and publicly account for all expenditures of public funds, and the total cost of this litigation has not been publicly disclosed; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Washington are entitled to a transparent accounting of all public funds expended so they may evaluate whether such expenditures are a prudent use of taxpayer resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

- 1. Full Accounting Directed.** The City Manager, Finance Director, and City Attorney are directed to prepare and deliver to the City Council, no later than thirty (30) days from adoption, a complete itemized accounting of all costs incurred in connection with the Brabo litigation from inception (June 2025 or earliest expenditure) through the date of compliance, including: (a) all fees paid to outside counsel, including hourly rates, total hours, and identity of firms retained; (b) internal staff time attributable to the matter; (c) court costs, filing fees, and service expenses; (d) expert witnesses, consultants, investigators, and third-party professionals; (e) discovery, depositions, and e-discovery costs; (f) travel expenses; (g) settlement payments or judgments; (h) insurance premiums, deductibles, or self-insured retention amounts; and (i) any other expenditure directly or indirectly attributable to this litigation.
- 2. State Funding Disclosure.** The accounting shall also disclose all state-provided funding, grants, reimbursements, or other state financial resources received, applied for, or utilized in connection with this litigation, including the source, amount, purpose, and any conditions attached, and any pending applications or cost-sharing agreements with any state entity.
- 3. Ongoing Monthly Reporting.** Following the initial accounting, the City Manager and Finance Director shall provide a monthly written update of all additional costs at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting following the close of each calendar month the litigation remains pending.
- 4. Public Availability.** All information provided pursuant to this Resolution shall be made available on the City's official website and at the office of the City Clerk for public inspection in accordance with NCGS Chapter 132.

5. Non-Compliance. If compliance is not provided within the time specified, the City Council reserves the right to direct an independent audit of all expenditures related to this matter. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Resolution Attorney's Responsiveness to Public Records Requests
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

To Adopt: *"I move to adopt the Public Records Compliance Resolution as presented."*

To Amend & Adopt: *"I move to amend the Public Records Compliance Resolution by [state amendment] and adopt as amended."*

To Table: *"I move to table the Public Records Compliance Resolution until [date or next regular meeting]."*

To Refer: *"I move to refer the Public Records Compliance Resolution to [committee/staff] for further review and report back."*

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**A RESOLUTION ADDRESSING THE CITY ATTORNEY'S SELECTIVE
RESPONSIVENESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS, ESTABLISHING
A COMPLIANCE POLICY, AND DIRECTING CORRECTIVE ACTION**

WHEREAS, Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes requires that public records be made available to any person upon request, and NCGS 132-6 requires that every custodian of public records permit inspection at reasonable times and furnish copies upon payment of prescribed fees; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Supreme Court has consistently held that the public records law is to be liberally construed in favor of access and that exemptions are to be narrowly interpreted; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Joe Davis has submitted public records requests to the City Attorney's office and has experienced a pattern of delayed, incomplete, or non-responsive replies, while in contrast, the City Attorney's office promptly provided emails and other records to the Washington Daily News in connection with a matter involving a former council member in what appeared to be an effort to make him look bad; and

WHEREAS, the selective and unequal treatment of public records requests — responding promptly when disclosure serves the interests of the administration while delaying requests from a member of the governing body exercising oversight authority — violates the letter and spirit of North Carolina's public records laws and raises serious concerns about whether records are being used as a political tool rather than administered as a public trust; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has both the authority and the obligation under NCGS 160A-173 to ensure that the City Attorney complies with the requirements of North Carolina law;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

- 1. Findings.** The City Council finds that the City Attorney's office has demonstrated a pattern of selective responsiveness to public records requests, producing records promptly to the Washington Daily News regarding a former council member while failing to respond to requests from Councilmember Davis, constituting disparate treatment inconsistent with NCGS Chapter 132 and creating the appearance that records are being weaponized for political purposes.
- 2. Directive to City Attorney.** The City Attorney is directed, within ten (10) business days, to: (a) respond to all outstanding public records requests; (b) provide the Council a written explanation for delays, including a timeline of when each request was received and what actions were taken; (c) explain the circumstances of the records provided to the Washington Daily News, including who authorized the disclosure and when; and (d) certify in writing that all future requests will be handled without regard to the identity or perceived purpose of the requester.
- 3. Compliance Policy Established.** Effective immediately: (a) all requests shall be acknowledged in writing within two (2) business days; (b) all requests shall be fulfilled within fifteen (15) business days, with written explanation for any extension; (c) all requests shall be logged by the City Clerk, recording date received, requester, description, and date of production; (d) no request shall be treated differently based on the identity or political affiliation of the requester; and (e) the Clerk shall present a quarterly report to the Council.

4. Remedies. If the City Attorney fails to comply, the Council reserves the right to: (a) direct an independent review; (b) reassign public records custodial responsibilities; (c) take personnel action under NCGS 160A-173; or (d) refer the matter to the North Carolina State Bar.

5. The City Council formally censures the practice of selectively producing public records based on the identity of the requester. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Resolution Staggered Terms
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

To Adopt: *I move to adopt the Staggered Terms Resolution as presented.*

To Amend & Adopt: *I move to amend the Staggered Terms Resolution by [state amendment] and adopt as amended.*

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE TRANSITION TO FOUR-YEAR
STAGGERED TERMS FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO IMPROVE
CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT, ACHIEVE COST SAVINGS, AND
STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION**

WHEREAS, the City of Washington currently elects all members of the City Council to concurrent two-year terms, resulting in the possibility of a complete turnover of the Council at a single election, loss of institutional knowledge, and repeated costs associated with full-council elections every two years; and

WHEREAS, NCGS 160A-101 authorizes cities to establish four-year staggered terms for city council members, and many North Carolina municipalities have adopted this structure to promote continuity and reduce election costs; and

WHEREAS, a staggered election system will increase democratic participation by giving citizens more frequent opportunities to vote on Council seats rather than concentrating all electoral power into one high-stakes election every two years, engaging a greater number of voters across successive cycles and raising the overall standard of democratic involvement; and

WHEREAS, staggered terms produce measurable cost savings by reducing the number of seats on the ballot in each cycle, lowering ballot printing, advertising, poll-worker, and administrative costs, estimated at \$5,000–\$15,000 per cycle, while also reducing campaign spending burdens on candidates; and

WHEREAS, continuity of experienced Council members improves long-term planning, staff stability, grant competitiveness, and the quality of governance for the citizens of Washington; and

WHEREAS, a practical transition can be implemented as follows: the two current Council members who received the highest number of votes in the most recent election shall have their terms extended to expire in 2028; the remaining two (lower vote-getters) shall stand for election in 2027, at which time three seats shall be filled (accounting for the existing vacancy) with three-year transitional terms expiring in 2030; thereafter, elections alternate every two years with two seats and three seats, establishing a permanent stagger;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

1. Four-Year Staggered Terms. The City Council hereby expresses its strong support for amending the City's charter (or seeking a local act of the General Assembly, as required by law) to establish four-year staggered terms for all City Council seats, pursuant to the authority of NCGS 160A-101.

2. Transition Plan. The Council endorses the following transition: (a) 2027 Election: Three seats filled (bottom two vote-getters from most recent election plus vacancy), three-year transitional terms expiring 2030; (b) 2028 Election: Two seats filled (top two vote-getters from most recent election), four-year terms expiring 2032; (c) 2030 and beyond: Permanent cycle — three seats in 2030 (four-year terms to 2034), two seats in 2032 (four-year terms to 2036), alternating every two years thereafter.

3. Charter Amendment. The City Attorney and City Manager are directed to prepare the necessary documentation, including any required charter-amendment petition or local-bill request, and to present it to the Council for formal action at the earliest practicable meeting.

- 4. Findings.** The Council finds that this change will produce fiscal savings, strengthen continuity of government, preserve institutional knowledge, and expand democratic participation by involving more voters across successive election cycles. If required by law, the Council authorizes submission of this proposal to referendum.
- 5.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Utility Rate Increase Analysis Resolution
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

To Adopt: *"I move to adopt the Utility Rate Increase Analysis Resolution as presented."*

To Amend & Adopt: *"I move to amend the Utility Rate Increase Analysis Resolution by [state amendment] and adopt as amended."*

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account ____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

WHEREAS, under the administration of former City Manager Jon Rorie many believe was hired illegally by Councilmember Max Perreault and Mayor Ellen Brabo, the City of Washington adopted increases to electric, water, and sewer utility rates that directly increased costs to every residential and commercial ratepayer in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the citizens of Washington are entitled to a transparent accounting of the revenue impact of those rate increases and the resulting financial burden on households and businesses; and

WHEREAS, a comparison of total utility revenue for July and August of 2025 (pre-increase baseline) against July and August of 2026 (post-increase) will reveal the actual dollar amount of additional revenue generated by the rate increases; and

WHEREAS, the impact on individual ratepayers can be illustrated by comparing actual utility bills for representative properties of varying sizes across the City, including 5 properties in the Historic District and 5 properties in other neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Washington deserve to know, in plain terms, how much more they are paying each month as a direct result of the Perreault/Rorie rate increases;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

Service	July 2025	July 2026	Aug 2025	Aug 2026	\$ Increase
Electric	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____

Water	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Sewer	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

2. Ratepayer Impact Analysis. The City Manager and Finance Director are further directed to select ten (10) representative residential properties — five (5) located in the Historic District and five (5) in other areas of the City — at approximately 1,500, 2,500, and 3,500 square feet, and to prepare a comparison of actual monthly utility bills (electric, water, and sewer combined) for those properties in July/August 2025 versus July/August 2026, showing the dollar increase and percentage increase for each property.

Property	Sq Ft	2025 Bill	2026 Bill	\$ Increase	% Increase

Historic District — Property 1	1,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____ %
Historic District — Property 2	2,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____ %
Historic District — Property 3	3,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____ %

Historic District — Property 4	1,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____ %
Historic District — Property 5	2,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____ %
Other Area — Property 6	1,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____ %

Other Area — Property 7	2,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____%
Other Area — Property 8	3,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____%
Other Area — Property 9	1,500	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____	_____%

Other Area — Property 10	2,500	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____ %

3. Public Presentation. The completed analysis shall be presented at the current or future regular City Council meeting and made available on the City's website and at the City Clerk's office so that every ratepayer can see the actual impact of the Perreault/Rorie rate increases on their household.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Resolution Appointing a Member to Fill Vacancy on City Council
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

"I move to appoint [name] to fill the vacancy on the City Council."

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPOINTING A MEMBER
TO FILL THE EXISTING VACANCY ON THE CITY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, a vacancy currently exists on the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as a result of the resignation of a duly elected council member; and

WHEREAS, under NCGS 160A-63, when a vacancy occurs on the city council, the remaining members of the council shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy until the next regular municipal election; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has identified three clear and logical candidates for appointment based on the vote totals from the most recent municipal election

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to fill this vacancy promptly to ensure full representation and effective governance for the citizens of Washington;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

- 1. Appointment.** The City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, hereby appoints _____ to fill the existing vacancy on the City Council, effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.
- 2. Term.** The appointee shall serve until the next regular municipal election, at which time the seat shall be filled by the voters in accordance with applicable law.
- 3. Oath of Office.** The appointee shall take the oath of office prescribed by law before assuming the duties of the office, such oath to be administered at the earliest practicable time following adoption of this Resolution.
- 4.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Resolution Restoring Columbus Day Designation
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

To Adopt: *"I move to adopt the Restoration of Columbus Day Resolution as presented."*

To Amend & Adopt: *"I move to amend the Restoration of Columbus Day Resolution by [state amendment] and adopt as amended."*

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account ____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**A RESOLUTION RESCINDING THE MOTION MADE BY MAX PERREAULT RENAMING OF
COLUMBUS DAY TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY AND RESTORING THE ORIGINAL
COLUMBUS DAY DESIGNATION FOR THE ORIGINAL CITY OF WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, at a prior meeting of the City Council, upon the motion of Councilmember Max Perreault, the City of Washington adopted a resolution renaming the observance of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day within the City; and

WHEREAS, Columbus Day is a federal holiday established by Congress (36 U.S.C. § 107) and observed as a legal public holiday under North Carolina law, recognizing the historical voyage of Christopher Columbus in 1492 and the subsequent discovery and settlement of the Americas by European explorers; and

WHEREAS, Columbus Day has been observed as a federal holiday since 1937 and holds deep cultural significance for millions of Americans, including Italian-Americans, who regard it as a celebration of their heritage, contributions, and the immigrant experience in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the renaming of long-established holidays represents a dangerous precedent of rewriting history rather than learning from it, and the proper response to the complexities of history is education, context, and honest examination — not erasure of historical observances that have been part of the American tradition for nearly a century; and

WHEREAS, erasing or renaming historical designations does not change the past, does not address the legitimate concerns of any community, and instead divides rather than unites citizens by forcing a false choice between honoring one group and acknowledging another; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington can and should recognize, honor, and celebrate Native American heritage and contributions through additional proclamations, events, and observances — including support for Native American Heritage Month (November) — without erasing existing historical designations; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Council that history should be studied, taught, and understood in its full complexity, including uncomfortable truths, and that renaming holidays to satisfy contemporary political movements undermines the principle that a free society preserves its history and learns from it rather than attempts to rewrite it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

1. Rescission. The motion adopted by the City Council upon the motion of Councilmember Max Perreault renaming Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day is hereby rescinded in its entirety and shall have no further force or effect.

2. Restoration of Columbus Day. The City of Washington shall observe Columbus Day by working for the residents of Washington on the second Monday of October each year, consistent with the federal holiday designation under 36 U.S.C. § 107 and North Carolina law.

3. The City Council encourages the recognition of Native American Heritage Month in November
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

To: Mayor Brabo & Members of the City Council
From: Joe Davis, Council Member
Date: October 13, 2026
Subject: Resolution Directing Reversal of Bed & Breakfast Ordinance Amendment
Applicant Presentation: N/A
Staff Presentation: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Option A — Historic District Only: *"I move to adopt the Bed and Breakfast Resolution and direct staff to restore the prior B&B regulations for the Historic District only."*

Option B — Citywide: *"I move to adopt the Bed and Breakfast Resolution and direct staff to restore the prior B&B regulations citywide."*

To Amend & Adopt: *"I move to amend the Bed and Breakfast Resolution by [state amendment] and adopt as amended."*

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT

____ Currently Budgeted (Account _____) ____ Requires additional appropriation ____ No Fiscal Impact

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Resolution

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE REVERSAL OF THE
BED AND BREAKFAST ORDINANCE AMENDMENT, RESTORING THE
PRIOR REGULATORY FRAMEWORK, AND AFFIRMING THE CITY'S
PRO-BUSINESS COMMITMENT TO HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM**

WHEREAS, the City of Washington recently adopted an amendment to the bed and breakfast ordinance that has imposed new restrictions on the operation of bed and breakfast establishments within the City; and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the amended ordinance, at least one bed and breakfast in the City of Washington has closed and at least one additional bed and breakfast is on the verge of closing according to sources close to the situation, directly attributable to the burden imposed by the new restrictions; and

WHEREAS, bed and breakfast establishments are a vital part of the City's hospitality and tourism economy, contribute to the character and charm of Washington's Historic District and neighborhoods, generate tax revenue, create local employment, and attract visitors who patronize local restaurants, shops, and cultural attractions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington should be an extremely pro-business city that encourages entrepreneurship, supports small business owners, and removes unnecessary regulatory barriers that destroy existing businesses and discourage new investment; and

WHEREAS, the prior bed and breakfast regulatory framework was adequate to protect neighborhood character and quality of life, and any future bed and breakfast establishments can be appropriately regulated through reasonable requirements for lot size, setbacks, and parking without imposing the burdensome restrictions contained in the amended ordinance; and

WHEREAS, driving existing bed and breakfast operators out of business through overregulation is contrary to the economic interests of the City and harmful to the property owners, employees, and visitors who depend on these establishments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Washington, North Carolina, as follows:

1. Reversal Directed. The City Council hereby directs the City Manager and City Attorney to prepare and present for adoption at the next regular meeting an ordinance amendment restoring the bed and breakfast regulations to their prior form as they existed before the most recent amendment, thereby removing the restrictions that have caused the closure and threatened closure of existing bed and breakfast establishments.

2. Future Standards. The City Council directs that any future bed and breakfast ordinance shall include reasonable, aggressively pro-business standards ensuring that new bed and breakfast establishments have: (a) adequate lot size appropriate to the proposed use; (b) proper setbacks consistent with the zoning district; and (c) sufficient off-street parking to serve guests without burdening adjacent property owners. These standards must be verified and satisfied before a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) is issued and the bed and breakfast can establish business. These standards shall be designed to facilitate, not obstruct, the operation of bed and breakfast businesses.

3. Pro-Business Policy Statement. The City Council declares that the City of Washington is and shall be an extremely pro-business city. Regulatory policy shall encourage hospitality, tourism, and small business growth, not destroy existing businesses through unnecessary and burdensome restrictions.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

City Clerk