



**Resolution in Support of Honoring
Veterans by Participating in
Operation Green Light
November 6, 2023 through November 19, 2023**

WHEREAS, the Town of Kitty Hawk recognizes the necessity and value of a dedicated Veterans Services Officer whose role includes aiding and advocating for local veterans by helping them to navigate the complexities of veteran-specific benefits, resources and programs and ensuring they receive the benefits and assistance they deserve, and;

WHEREAS, the Dare County Board of Commissioners established the Dare County Veterans Advisory Council in respectful recognition of the service and sacrifice of all Dare County veterans as represented in all five branches of the United States military, and;

WHEREAS, members of the Dare County Veterans Advisory Council assist veterans by serving as a liaison with the community in coordinating services and activities that benefit local veterans and their families and also solicit information and provide updates about activities honoring veterans in our community, and;

WHEREAS, the residents of Kitty Hawk have the utmost respect, appreciation and gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our country and our community in the U.S. Armed Forces and believe these service members should be granted specific recognition, and;

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices made by those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens, and Kitty Hawk seeks to honor these individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all, and;

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in various organizations such as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups and community organizations, as well as through civil service and by volunteering at various community-based events, and;

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually, and an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future, and;

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life and that active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service, and;

WHEREAS, as of 2022, 40 percent of transitioning service members stationed in bases throughout North Carolina decided to stay in North Carolina upon their transition to civilian life, and 55 percent of service members retiring from the military with 20-plus years of service also made the decision to stay in North Carolina, and;

WHEREAS, more than 3,200 veterans who are currently residing within Dare County are receiving services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that range from healthcare to assistance with filing claims, and;

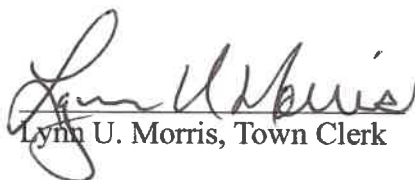
WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to participate in Operation Green Light for Veterans 2023 by shining green lights throughout their communities to let local veterans know they are seen, appreciated and supported, and;

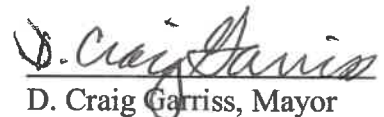
WHEREAS, the Dare County Veterans Advisory Council worked with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to bring The Wall That Heals—a traveling, three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., that tours the country—to Dare County, where it will be on display at the Soundside Event Site in Nags Head from November 16, 2023 through November 19, 2023, and;

WHEREAS, that having officially been designated a “Green Light for Veterans County,” Dare County hereby declares now through November 19, 2023 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light 2023 in Dare County, the Town Council of Kitty Hawk encourages its citizens to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve our freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 6, 2023 through November 19, 2023.

This the 2nd day of October 2023.


Lynn U. Morris, Town Clerk


D. Craig Garriss, Mayor