



Town of Southern Shores

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Resolution 2013-02-01

RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN OF SOUTHERN SHORES CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE FUNDING FOR THE DREDGING OF OREGON INLET

WHEREAS, Oregon Inlet is crucial to the economy of Dare County and the surrounding region with an annual documented economic impact of over \$682 million and generates over \$88 million in federal, state and local tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, navigational access through Oregon Inlet is threatened by treacherous shoaling conditions that has resulted in a dangerous situation that threatens lives, commercial and recreational vessels and jeopardizes the economy of the region; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Inlet is a vital waterway that provides access to harbors of safety for commercial and recreational vessels on the North Carolina coast; and

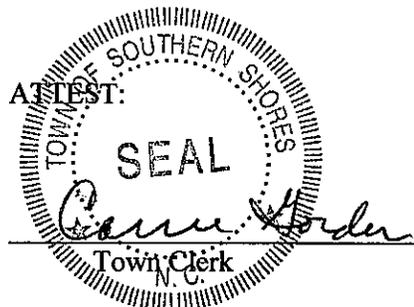
WHEREAS, many large vessels can no longer gain access to Wanchese Harbor because of the deplorable conditions at Oregon Inlet which have caused some marine related businesses to cease operations and forced commercial fishermen to land their catches at out-of- state markets, which increases their operating costs and deprives the State of North Carolina of valuable landing quotas in excess of \$1.9 million; and

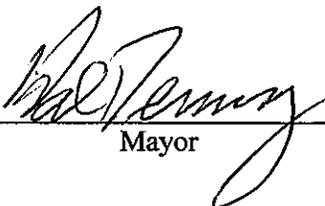
WHEREAS, without navigational access through Oregon Inlet key Dare County industries will continue to suffer irreparable harm including commercial fishing operations, seafood processing houses, boat builders, recreational fishing and charter boat operators, marine repair facilities, and other local businesses that vitally depend on Oregon Inlet; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the adverse economic impact caused by Oregon Inlet shoaling, public safety is at risk due to shoaling because it prevents emergency assistance to ships in distress off the coast of North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southern Shores Town Council strongly requests that State and Federal agencies immediately begin the work necessary to clear the channel at Oregon Inlet and to appropriate adequate ongoing funding to maintain safe and reliable access as a matter of economic necessity and public safety.

ADOPTED THIS 5th DAY OF February, 2013





Mayor