

NEW HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NATIONAL BIKE MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as National Bike Month, as promoted by the League of American Bicyclists, to celebrate the many benefits of bicycling and encourage communities to support safe cycling; and

WHEREAS, the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners supports safe and convenient bicycling as a means of transportation, recreation, and improved health and wellness for residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, New Hanover County (County) continues to invest in and advance a connected network of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, as guided by the County's Bicycle and Pedestrian Priorities Amendment to the 2016 Comprehensive Land Use Plan, in partnership with the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and through projects such as the Middle Sound Greenway, multi-use trails along North and South College Road, and corridor connections along Market Street, with completed projects and others advancing through design and construction across the community; and

WHEREAS, New Hanover County Parks and Gardens provides and maintains parks and open spaces that support recreational bicycling and promote health and wellness for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, promoting bicycling as an alternative transportation option supports efforts to reduce congestion, improve air quality, enhance quality of life, and strengthen connections across our community; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, 73 roadway crashes involving bicyclists occurred in the County, underscoring the continued need for safe facilities, public awareness, and shared responsibility among all roadway users; and

WHEREAS, the County supports bicycle safety education and outreach initiatives, including Cape Fear Trails and the "Be a Looker" campaign, promoting responsible use of shared transportation systems; and

WHEREAS, these efforts align with the County Strategic Plan focus areas of Community Safety and Well-being and Sustainable Land Use and Environmental Stewardship, supporting resident well-being and the protection of natural areas through planned growth and development; and

WHEREAS, the County will continue to advance and coordinate efforts with regional partners to:

1. Improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to strengthen connectivity and accessibility across the community for users of all ages and abilities; and
2. Promote education and awareness to encourage safe and responsible bicycling for residents of all ages; and
3. Encourage motorists to remain alert and safely share the road with bicyclists; and
4. Integrate bicycle-friendly infrastructure through planning to expand connections between neighborhoods, parks, and community destinations, while promoting traffic safety measures that support safe cycling.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners that the month of May 2026 be recognized as "National Bike Month" in New Hanover County, and all residents are encouraged to explore and enjoy the County's growing network of bicycle facilities and to practice safe bicycling throughout the year.

ADOPTED this 4th day of May, 2026.



NEW HANOVER COUNTY



LeAnn Pierce, Chair

ATTEST:


Kimberleigh G. Crowell, Clerk to the Board