

March 26, 2019 – presented for approval

1 **R2019-22: A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE POLICY OF THE CITY OF**
 2 **MYRTLE BEACH REGARDING THE PROVISION OF A HOMELESS TASK FORCE**

3 **Applicant/Purpose:** Staff / to establish a policy regarding the provision of a homeless task
 4 force.

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 6 **Brief:**

- 7 • Homelessness is a serious issue, affecting nearly every community in this nation,
 8 including the City, & Horry County.
- 9 • Being homeless is a human condition & not a crime.
- 10 • Homelessness is a challenge that is not going to go away, & as the region continues to
 11 grow so too will the homeless population.
- 12 • Homelessness has numerous root causes &, as is true in every City in this nation, no
 13 single or easy solution exists to “fix” this challenge
- 14 • Homelessness can have an impact on our community & local economy.
- 15 • New Directions of Horry County & ECHO (Eastern Carolina Homeless Organization) have
 16 been very successful in helping those persons in our community who are homeless &
 17 who are actively trying to break free from the cycle of homelessness
- 18 • The City believes it is the right time for a comprehensive community-wide strategy &
 19 approach to have a substantial impact on assisting our homeless residents.

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 21 **Issues:**

- 22 • A Homeless Taskforce Advisory Board (HTAB), is proposed to explore opportunities to
 23 address best practices to address the City’s homelessness conditions.
- 24 • The board shall report recommendations to City Council no later than 3/31/20.
- 25 • The Board shall consist of up to 11 members:
 - 26 ○ A member to be appointed by Grand Strand Medical Center.
 - 27 ○ A member to be appointed by the New Directions of Horry County Board of
 28 Directors.
 - 29 ○ A member to be appointed by the ECHO Board of Directors
 - 30 ○ Up to 8 members to be appointed by Council, one of whom shall be designated
 31 chairperson. These members shall have the following qualifications:
 - 32 ▪ 1 member shall be a religious leader from a local church.
 - 33 ▪ Up to 10 members who represent the community at large.
- 34 • The Board is tasked with:
 - 35 ○ Conducting a “best practices” review of techniques & programs used to
 36 effectively address homeless in other communities.
 - 37 ○ Recommending policies, action steps, & guidelines which may be applicable to
 38 positively impact homelessness.
 - 39 ○ Make recommendations on how to best coordinate homeless services currently
 40 being provided among the service providers.

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 42 **Public Notification:** Normal meeting notification.

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 44 **Alternatives:**

- 45 • To modify the resolution.
- 46 • To amend the resolution.

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 48 **Financial Impact:** None at this time.

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 50 **Manager’s Recommendation:** I recommend approval.

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 52 **Attachment(s):** Proposed resolution.

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4 CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH
5 COUNTY OF HORRY
6 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE
POLICY OF THE CITY OF MYRTLE
BEACH REGARDING THE PROVISION
OF A HOMELESS TASK FORCE.

10 WHEREAS, homelessness is a serious issue, affecting nearly every community in this
11 nation, including the City of Myrtle Beach, and Horry County; and
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13 WHEREAS, City Council recognizes that being homeless is a human condition and not a
14 crime; and
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16 WHEREAS, as reflected in the “The Horry County HOME Consortium 2018-2022
17 Consolidated Plan”; the causes of homelessness and chronic homelessness continue to
18 be a focus for our community and region; particularly in the City of Myrtle Beach;
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20 WHEREAS, City Council acknowledges that homelessness is a challenge that is not
21 going to go away, and as the region continues to grow so too will the homeless
22 population; and
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24 WHEREAS, City Council recognizes homelessness has numerous root causes and, as is
25 true in every City in this nation, no single or easy solution exists to “fix” this
26 challenge; and
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28 WHEREAS, City Council also recognizes the homeless can have an impact on our
29 community and the local economy in general; and
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31 WHEREAS, in Resolution R2011-51 City Council adopted a policy on homelessness,
32 which led to the creation of New Directions of Horry County; and
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34 WHEREAS, in Resolution R2018-28 City Council encouraged New Direction and other
35 homeless agencies to work collaboratively in addressing homelessness; and
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37 WHEREAS, New Directions of Horry County and ECHO (Eastern Carolina Homeless
38 Organization) have been very successful in helping those persons in our community
39 who are homeless and who are actively trying to break free from the cycle of
40 homelessness; and
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42 WHEREAS, City Council believes it is the right time for a comprehensive community
43 wide strategy and approach to have a substantial impact on assisting the homeless;
44 and
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46 WHEREAS, the City of Myrtle Beach has determined that the provisions of this
47 Resolution will substantially advance, and are reasonably and rationally related to,
48 legitimate government interests by promoting the health, safety, morals,
49 convenience, order, prosperity, and welfare of the citizens of this City.
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51 NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH HEREBY RESOLVES:

- 52 1. That the provision of Homeless Task Force serves to meet all the City’s goals
53 established for FY 2019-20 including: Public Safety, Infrastructure, Economic
54 Development, Communications, and Quality of Life.

- 1 2. To further examine best practices opportunities A Homeless Taskforce Advisory
2 Board (HTAB), a time limited and specific purpose advisory body, is hereby
3 established to further explore opportunities to address the City's homeless
4 condition.
- 5 a. This Board is established as of the date of execution of this resolution,
6 and shall report its recommendations to City Council not later than
7 March 31, 2020.
- 8 b. Appointment. The HTAB shall consist of up to eleven (11) members, and
9 shall include the following:
- 10 i. A member to be appointed by Grand Strand Medical Center.
11 ii. A member to be appointed by the New Directions of Horry
12 County Board of Directors.
13 iii. A member to be appointed by the ECHO Board of Directors
14 iv. Up to eight members to be appointed by City Council, one of
15 whom shall be designated by Council as the chair. Each
16 appointee shall be chosen for their demonstrated interest in
17 addressing the homeless condition in the community. These
18 members shall have the following qualifications:
- 19 • One member shall be a religious leader from a local
20 church.
21 • Up to 10 members who represents the community at
22 large.
- 23 b. Term. Those members appointed by Council serve at the pleasure of
24 Council.
- 25 c. Compensation. Members of the HTAB shall serve without compensation.
- 26 d. Quorum. For the purposes of conducting any official business a majority
27 of the HTAB board shall constitute a quorum.
- 28 e. Compliance with Open Meetings Law. All meetings of the HTAB shall be
29 held and conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.
30 All records of the Board shall be held and subject to public disclosure in
31 accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.
- 32 f. Purpose. The Board is tasked with the following:
- 33 • The Board shall conduct a "best practices" review of techniques
34 and programs used to effectively address homeless in other
35 communities.
36 • The Board shall recommend policies, action steps, and guidelines
37 which may be applicable to positively impact homelessness.
38 • The Board is to make recommendations on how to best
39 coordinate homeless services currently being provided among
40 the service providers.

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42 SIGNED, SEALED and DATED, this 26th day of March, 2019.

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47 BRENDA S. BETHUNE, MAYOR

48 ATTEST:

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52 JENNIFER STANFORD, CITY CLERK