MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
BETHEL TOWN HALL
September 1, 2026

Present: Mayor Carl Wilson, Mayor Pro-Tem Camilla Griggs, Commissioner Cassandra Conger, Commissioner Elvis Jones, Commissioner Thomas Lilley, Commissioner Fred Whitehurst

Members of the Board Absent: None

Staff Present: Interim Town Manager, D. Scott Elliott, Attorney, Keen Lassiter, Clerk, Linda Sheppard, and Deputy Clerk, Jalissa Griggs.

Call to Order

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs gave the invocation. Pitt County Commissioner Mary Perkins-Williams then led the pledge of allegiance.

It is noted that one item was added to the agenda: 1) Report on the condemnation process for dilapidated structures with Pitt County Inspections Department.

Commissioner Lilley made a motion to approve the additional proposed agenda item, Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lilley made a motion to approve the proposed agenda, Commissioner Conger seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lilley made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Called Meeting on July 14, 2026, and the minutes from the Regular Monthly Meeting on August 4, 2026, Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Tricia Werkaw at 213 Railroad Street addressed the Board regarding advanced planning for severe weather events. She expressed concerns of how the extreme hot weather temperatures may affect Town residents.

Carolyn Mayo and Jerome Brown, United Providers of Health (U.P.O.H.) and owners of Bethel Pharmacy, Coffee Shop and More, and Bethel Hardware, presented their “Rural Renewal” concept of a collective effort to renew Bethel’s quality of life through where people eat, live, work, and play.

Public Hearing

Mayor Wilson opened the second public hearing for the 2026 Community Development Block Grant - Neighborhood Revitalization application. The first public hearing was held at the August 4, 2026 meeting. The Interim Town Manager stated that the Town intended to apply again for the maximum amount of $950,000 and that the anticipated use of funds would be to complete approximately four additional replacement homes. Ben Jones with Faltor Consulting, has been conducting interviews and field review work for potential applicants by the application due date of October 13, 2026.

Commissioner Whitehurst asked when construction might begin on the houses chosen under the prior year's grant (2025 CDBG-NR). Mr. Jones responded that he could not yet provide an exact timeline, but he gave a status report. He said that in June the Town had submitted all requested documentation to the State and had effectively begun the State's review period. According to Mr. Jones, the State had exceeded its expected review time, and he had followed up twice. The most recent response had simply indicated that the State was still working on the file. He explained that the Town was waiting for release of funds approval. Once that approval was received, he said the process could move "full steam ahead," including asbestos inspections, surveys, plan selection with residents, and bidding. He estimated that once release of funds was granted, contractor selection could follow within a month or two. The Interim Town Manager summarized that all required actions and paperwork had been completed locally and that the matter was now in the State's hands pending environmental and release-of-funds clearance.

Commissioner Whitehurst asked whether the homes would bid to a single contractor or multiple contractors. Mr. Jones answered that the procurement would be through an open bid process advertised in the newspaper as well as by direct solicitation to contractors known to work on grant-funded housing. He clarified that all homes would be bid together but each house would appear as a separate line item, allowing different contractors to win different houses.

Commissioner Jones asked about the composition of the housing selection committee. The Interim Town Manager explained that the committee had not yet been formally recreated for this year's application. He recalled that last year's group consisted of the Mayor, himself, Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs before she joined the Board, and citizen Margaret Witherspoon. He also noted that at a prior meeting, citizen Mary Hall had expressed interest in serving. The Interim Town Manager asked Ben Jones whether the documents required the Mayor or the Board to appoint the committee. Mr. Jones responded that the process was flexible and not necessarily dependent on a formal board appointment; he said the Town could proceed in whatever way the Board found appropriate, while keeping the group relatively small for manageability.

Commissioner Whitehurst asked whether additional interested persons would be considered for the committee. Mr. Jones replied that they would.

Commissioner Jones expressed concern that the committee could otherwise appear to consist only of Town officials. The Interim Town Manager stressed that the committee would be advisory only and that all recommendations would come back before the full Board for final

approval, including the primary list of four houses and alternate houses, if needed. He further explained that Mr. Jones would perform the field inspections, photograph the houses, compile demographic information and application materials, and present those materials to the committee. When asked whether the committee itself would inspect homes, the Interim Town Manager stated that Mr. Jones conducts the in-depth review and that the committee's role was to review the compiled material; Mr. Jones added that he had already spent several days in Bethel doing that work and would present the results in document form with photos and resident information.

Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs noted for the record that residents, and not just board members, had served on the committee.

Mary Hall at 3535 Smith Street, stated that she was the person who wanted to serve on the housing committee. She said that if she were to help make decisions, she wanted to understand the process "from the beginning." Specifically, she asked how the list of applicants was developed and how people learned to get on that list.

Mr. Jones explained that any resident who believed he or she met the grant criteria—ownership, owner occupancy, income eligibility, real property status, and apparent need for repair—could come to Town Hall and ask to be placed on the list. He said Town staff had maintained a running list and that he had then contacted those individuals, scheduling home visits and surveys for those who responded.

The Interim Town Manager added that roughly 45 people were on the list. He stated that the Town had advertised both public hearings in the newspaper, posted information on the Town website, and announced the program at board meetings. He also noted that the CDBG-NR program was not new to Bethel and that residents had inquired about future rounds over time. He said the process was intended to identify the homes in the greatest need among low- and moderate-income households. Ms. Hall indicated she was satisfied with the explanation and reiterated that she wanted to understand the process if she were to serve.

Carolyn Mayo asked in light of potential new construction work, whether developers or contractors were being accepted and whether there was any requirement to use Bethel vendors, specifically mentioning Bethel Hardware as a possible local source for materials such as flooring. Mr. Jones answered that there was no requirement to purchase materials from any particular vendor. He stated that local contractors would be invited to bid and that contractors could choose to source locally; he observed that convenience might naturally lead some bidders to purchase materials from Bethel businesses.

Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing.

Old Business

Report on the Condemnation Process for Dilapidated Structures with Pitt County Inspections Department:
The Interim Town Manager gave a report on the condemnation program for vacant and dilapidated structures. He reminded the Board that funds had been set aside approximately two years earlier from fund balance for this purpose, but that implementation had taken time. He said the Town had now identified well over a dozen residential structures, in addition to multiple nonresidential structures, that required action.

He explained that the Town contracts with Pitt County Inspections for inspection services, including the condemnation process. He reported that two properties had already moved into the formal process and that two public hearings had been held on those cases. He introduced Pitt County Inspections representatives Steve Allen and Renise Keyes.

Regarding 191 Railroad Street, the Interim Town Manager said the property had been condemned and that the owners had taken out a demolition permit. He invited Mr. Allen to clarify the schedule. Mr. Allen stated that the findings from the hearing gave the owners until October 30, 2026 to be actively working on tearing the structure down. He emphasized that the work needed to be visibly underway and not merely nominal activity immediately before the deadline. If by day 60 or 61 demolition was not actively proceeding, the matter would fall to the Town to continue the condemnation and demolition process.

Mr. Allen then addressed 190 Andrews Street. He said a hearing had been scheduled and one hearing had already occurred the prior week, but the matter had encountered difficulty because the homeowners could not be reached: one owner had died and another was in a nursing home. As a result, that case would have to be restarted to ensure proper notice and procedure, with the hope of having another hearing in approximately two weeks.

The Interim Town Manager said the Town had already provided Pitt County with a list of five additional properties and that, now that the process had become more established, staff hoped to proceed more rapidly. He also stated that the Town intended to partner with the Bethel Fire Department where feasible so that some condemned structures could be burned as training exercises rather than demolished mechanically. He noted that structures too close to adjoining buildings would likely have to be torn down instead but using burn training where possible could save the Town substantial money, leaving only foundation and debris cleanup costs.

Commissioner Whitehurst asked whether the list of properties targeted for condemnation was available publicly. The Interim Town Manager replied that the Town had a multi-page spreadsheet listing not only condemned properties but also categories such as junk vehicles, high grass, excessive bushes, major rehabilitation, and teardowns. He said it likely needed updating but was a public record and could be provided.

Commissioner Jones raised a related concern about minimum housing standards for rental properties, noting that in connection with CDBG outreach some residents appeared to be living

in poor conditions. The Interim Town Manager responded that the Town's Code of Ordinances did contain a substantial section on minimum housing and related matters, but what the Town lacked was a code enforcement officer to consistently pursue violations. He remarked that many code provisions go unaddressed unless conditions become serious enough to force action.

The Mayor addressed the Board directly and asked commissioners, as they drive through town, to take note of dilapidated structures and poor living conditions and to bring those observations back to him and the manager so they could continue building lists and evaluating community conditions. He acknowledged that deciding which homes should receive attention first was difficult and noted that some homes and buildings had needed demolition "for years" without action. He stressed that the Town was now moving forward, though the process was slow and sometimes painful, particularly where multiple heirs or siblings were involved with a property.

Commissioner Whitehurst referenced prior discussions about hiring a code enforcement officer and specifically mentioned Mr. Willie Hyman as someone he felt would be well suited to the role. The Mayor responded that the idea had not died, that he had spoken with Mr. Hyman, and that the matter still needed further discussion with the manager before being brought formally to the Board. Interim Town Manager added that budget constraints were also part of the issue.

Local Work Group – Strategic Economic Development Plan:
As a follow-up to Sharon Smith's presentation on August 4, 2026, the Town needed to appoint a local work group or committee to assist in developing the Strategic Economic Development Plan. Interim Town Manager presented suggested attributes of people who could be approached to serve (Attachment A) as well as a list of suggested people to use as a starting point:

Attribute	Name
Town Elected Official	Mayor Carl Wilson
Town Elected Official	Mayor Pro-Tem Camilla Griggs
Town Staff	Scott Elliott
Business Owners	Jerome Brown
Business Owners	Carolyn Mayo
Business Owners	Kevin Adams
Business Owners	Tim Goddard
Education Representative	Dr. Garrie Moore
Industry Representative	Cassie Penland

Tim Goddard and Kevin Adams were unable to be reached by staff.

Interim Town Manager stated he needed to get the process moving with the Department of Commerce. He reviewed the anticipated expectations for work group members: several in-person meetings at Town Hall of about an hour and a half each, candid participation, and completion of a short confidential questionnaire or interview.

Commissioner Conger suggested that the Town should consider including a couple of teenagers or young adults to represent the future of Bethel and to help answer what it would take for younger people to remain in town or return later with their families. The Interim Town Manager asked Commissioner Conger for names to suggest; Commissioner Conger will provide some in the future.

The Interim Town Manager then asked whether the Board would be willing to approve the list as presented, with the understanding that additional names could be called in and added later. He noted that the Board would ultimately adopt the strategic plan itself and that the work group's role was temporary and advisory, unlike a standing body such as the Planning Board.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the list of people to serve as a local work group on the Town's Strategic Economic Development Plan with the notion to add committee members as needed, Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Whitehurst indicated that he would like to be added to the committee.

2026 CDBG-NR Application Program Documents:
In like manner to the Town's prior application for its 2025 CDBG-NR application, there are a series of ten required documents that must be passed by the Town for the 2026 application (See Attachment B):

1. Resolution to Apply
2. Citizen Participation Plan
3. Housing Selection Committee By-Laws
4. Application Summary Page
5. Federal Requirements and Certification
6. Disclosure Report
7. CDBG Program Regulations
8. Disclosure of Civil Rights Complaints
9. Certification Regarding Debarment
10. Flood Certification

Commissioner Lilley made a motion to approve the ten presented 2026 CDBG-NR program application documents, Commissioner Conger seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Follow-up to Planning Board Member Appointments: Set Terms:
At the Board's August 4, 2026 meeting, the Board selected a slate of individuals to serve as the Town's Planning Board. There is a need to assign the terms (length of years to be served) to these appointments. The initial terms set are to be on a staggered basis. Attachment C is a copy of Section 151.02 (Membership and Vacancies, Attendance). Based upon the language in Section

151.02, it was recommended to set the terms in the order in which each member was selected. It was noted that initially there will be (2) one-year terms, (2) two-year terms, and (3) three-year terms. Thereafter, terms will be for a full three years.

Name	Length of Initial Term
Cathy Lee Jones	1 Year
Ferrell Blount	1 Year
Izora Ebron	2 Years
Andreea Andrews Cabrera	2 Years
Ken Stuary Perry	3 Years
*Kevin Adams	3 Years
*Otis Cox	3 Years

*ETJ representatives to be formally appointed by the Pitt County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to set and approve the terms in the order in which each member was selected as submitted, Commissioner Lilley seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Budget/Financial Matters (Attachment D):
Interim Town Manager presented Budget Amendment #4 – The proposed budget amendment appropriates mural project revenues/expenses from FY 25-26 into FY 26-27.

Interim Town Manager presented Budget Amendment #5 – The proposed budget amendment creates a Professional Services line item within the 10-420 budget. This is a follow-up to the Board's approval of the professional engineering services contract with Rivers & Associates from August 4, 2026, which includes a provision of up to $10,000 for "as-needed" services.

Interim Town Manager presented Budget Amendment #6 – The proposed budget amendment reappropriates unspent budgeted funds from FY 25-26 into FY 26-27. There was $5,121 remaining of the $40,000 for the Stormwater Utility Rate Study.

Interim Town Manager presented Budget Amendment #7 – The proposed budget amendment establishes a budget to account for the revenue and expenses of the 2025 CDBG-NR grant in the amount of $950,000.

Interim Town Manager presented Budget Amendment #8 – The proposed budget amendment removes the fire truck loan proceeds and appropriates fund balance of $125,000 for the fire truck purchase. Instead of an internal loan within the Town, the Town's auditor, Greg Redman, has suggested that the Town annually move back the two budgeted appropriations within the Fire

Department budget of $10,400 and $11,243 to fund balance at year end. This would then become an interest free loan as such.

Interim Town Manager presented Budget Amendment #9 – The proposed budget amendment moves $10,000 from 10-510-4500 (Contracted Services for Law Enforcement) to 10-980-0064 (SCIF Project Fund). Within 10-510-4500, there were overbudgeted funds based upon the pending Sheriff's Office contract renewal for law enforcement. The renewal came in less than expected. This budget amendment is for non-anticipated cost of a sewer and water line, exterior window wrapping, sidewalk repair, and Town Hall door replacement associated with the new breakdown for the Town Staff/Sheriff's Office at Town Hall.

Commissioner Lilley made a motion to approve Budget Amendments #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, Commissioner Conger seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution Honoring Dorothy Leathers Harrell:
The Town of Bethel has been asked to assist in recognizing one of its former residents who turns 100 this year. Attachment E is a resolution that accomplishes this objective.

Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs made a motion to adopt Resolution Honoring Dorothy Leathers Harrell on the occasion of her 100th birthday, Commissioner Conger seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Departmental Reports

Interim Town Manager:
The Interim Town Manager gave the Public Safety Report for the month of July 2026 (See Attachment F).

Interim Town Manager also gave the financial report for July 2026 (Attachment G).

Commissioner Lilley made a motion to approve the financial report for July 2026, Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

It was announced that the next meeting will be held October 6, 2026.

It was announced that the tentative date for the Town's Christmas parade has been set for December 12, 2026. Interim Town Manager issued a call for parade volunteers, directing interested individuals to contact Town Hall and speak with the Town Clerk or Deputy Clerk. He noted that the Town coordinates this event on behalf of its residents and that volunteer assistance is greatly appreciated.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Lilley reported on two operational issues at the station. Fire truck 2106 continues to experience air system problems; the issue has been worked on twice without resolution, and the truck must currently be aired up using the station's compressor before it can respond to calls. A third technician is being scheduled for repair. Second, the air conditioning unit serving the office area and restrooms has failed entirely. Staff is managing with the recently installed mini-split in the meeting room, but the restrooms remain without climate control.

He also provided an update on the upcoming ISO evaluation, noting that the long-tenured evaluator is retiring and a trainee will be conducting the inspection. Unlike previous visits, this evaluation is expected to be thorough from top to bottom. Commissioner Lilley expressed confidence that the department would be well-prepared, particularly with the arrival of new equipment.

Commissioner Lilley reported that a delegation of four—including himself and the Interim Town Manager—is scheduled to fly to Ocala, Florida on September 22nd to conduct a final inspection of the new fire truck. Any deficiencies identified will be corrected prior to delivery. Upon arrival in Rocky Mount, North Carolina equipment from the existing truck will be transferred to the new apparatus. He anticipated the new truck would be in service at the station by mid-to-late October 2026.

Commissioner Lilley also announced the department's annual barbecue fundraiser, scheduled for September 19th from 11:00 AM until sold out. Tickets are $12 per plate and may be purchased in advance from any department member or at the station on the day of the event. The goal is to sell 600 plates.

Public Works

The Interim Town Manager provided an update on the Smith Street Park project. He reported that as of the meeting date, an asphalt crew was actively on-site paving the walking trail, which had previously been leveled, graveled, and compacted. The paving process was expected to take several days to complete the full loop. Upon completion, crews will grade and seed the soil along the edges of the path to finish the surrounding area. The Manager noted that the trail is 8 feet wide. Once paving is complete, all remaining park amenities currently in storage—including picnic tables, trash cans, and exercise equipment—will be installed to complete this phase of park improvements.

Town Attorney

The Town Attorney delivered a detailed report to supplement a prior written communication (Attachment H) sent to the Board on the subject of modified utility vehicles—commonly referred to as "gators" or "side-by-sides."

The Town Attorney gave a foundational explanation of municipal authority in North Carolina, noting that municipalities may only exercise powers expressly granted by the General Assembly. He used the Town's existing golf cart ordinance as an illustrative example.

In 2009, the General Assembly enacted G.S. 160A-300.6, which authorized municipalities to regulate the operation of golf carts on public streets with posted speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less, and to establish local registration requirements and operating rules. The Town of Bethel adopted its golf cart ordinance (Chapter 75) in 2010, one year after the enabling statute was passed.

The Town Attorney then pivoted to the matter of modified utility vehicles. He explained that in September 2020, in response to a similar situation, he was asked to research the issue and discovered that the General Assembly had just enacted Session Law 2020, which amended three general statutes to address modified utility vehicles:

- G.S. 20-4.01(27) — Added a definition for "modified utility vehicle."
- G.S. 20-287.12 — Modified to include mini trucks and modified utility vehicles with respect to applicable fees.
- G.S. 20-121.1 — Established the operational framework for low-speed vehicles, mini trucks, and modified utility vehicles on public roads.

The Town Attorney read the key provisions of G.S. 20-121.1 (Attachment I), emphasizing that modified utility vehicles may be operated on any street or highway with a posted speed limit of 55 miles per hour or less, provided the vehicle is equipped with the required safety equipment and is registered with DMV and insured in accordance with state motor vehicle requirements. He underscored the critical distinction between golf carts and modified utility vehicles: whereas the General Assembly left regulation of golf carts to individual municipalities, it chose to govern modified utility vehicles at the state level. Therefore, if a gator meets the statutory requirements and is registered and insured, the owner may operate it on any qualifying public road without any additional approval from the Town.

Commissioner Lilley raised the issue of engine displacement, recalling that in 2020 a prior discussion had involved a 2,400 cc threshold. The Town Attorney confirmed that the original session law did contain a reference to engines with displacement greater than 2,400 cc, which he found puzzling at the time, as most gators do not have engines of that size. He confirmed, however, that the General Assembly subsequently removed that requirement from the final codified definition, and it no longer appears in the current statute.

The discussion then turned to a specific constituent's situation. Commissioner Lilley noted that three residents had come forward with gators they wished to operate on town streets, and introduced Mr. Charles Earl Harris, Jr. of 3761 Cecil Street, who addressed the Board directly.

Mr. Harris explained that his vehicle is an older model and does not carry a certificate number required by DMV for registration. He stated that he has already invested approximately $1,000 in upgrading his vehicle with the required safety equipment through his John Deere dealer—rather than doing so himself—to ensure proper installation. He further confirmed that he had contacted

both the dealer and DMV directly but was informed that without the certificate number, registration cannot be completed.

The Town Attorney acknowledged the difficulty and noted that the statute was clearly written with new vehicles in mind, and that older vehicles sold before the law was enacted were not contemplated in the registration framework. He expressed genuine optimism that a solution should be possible, reasoning that if the vehicle meets all the physical requirements set out in the statute, the vehicle's age should be immaterial. He offered to speak with Mr. Harris at no charge to the Town in an attempt to find a path forward.

Closing Remarks

Commissioner Lilley reminded those present that December 2027 will mark the Bethel Fire Department's 100th anniversary. Planning is underway, including commemorative shirts and challenge coins to be sold as fundraisers. A formal open house celebration is being organized, with a date tentatively around early December 2027.

Commissioner Whitehurst stated that there were tires and furniture at the former GBodyParts building that he would like to give away to citizens who could use them.

Commissioner Lilley made a motion to recess the Town Board meeting at 7:33pm as well as convene the Closed Session Meeting at 8:03pm, Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Conger and seconded by Commissioner Lilley to approve the execution by the Mayor of the three (3) documents submitted to the Town by the NC Department of Environmental Quality related to the Pre-Regulatory Landfill Program (Owner Permission for Property Access, Property Owner Consent to Land Use Restrictions and US Army Corps of Engineering Access Authorization). All members of the Board present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Lilley to accept Scott Elliott's resignation as Town Manager effective December 2026. All members of the Board present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Lilley and seconded by Commissioner Conger instructing Scott Elliott to begin to advertise for the Town Manager position. All members of the Board present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lilley and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Griggs to adjourn at 8:30 P.M. All members of the Board present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried unanimously.

_____
Mayor, Carl Wilson

ATTEST:

_____
Linda Sheppard, Town Clerk

_____
Date

Local Work Group

The Local Work Group should be comprised of 8-10 people from the community and as fully-representative of the community as possible. Some guidelines to consider:

- Town Elected Officials
- Town Staff
- County Elected Officials
- County Staff
- Key property owners
- Citizens who are active in the community
- Critical stakeholders
- Downtown Business Owners representing all sectors of downtown, including retail, service and professionals, etc.
- Preservation or Historical Associations
- Chamber of Commerce
- Business Association
- Arts Council
- Beautification Initiative Representation
- Small Business Center Representation
- Financial Institutions
- Commercial and Residential Realtors
- University, College or Community College Representation
- School System Representation
- Students (High School or College Age)
- Senior Adults
- Churches
- Primary Industry Representation
- Primary Employment Centers
- Utility Companies
- Male/Female
- Ethnicities
- Public/Private

Work Group Members should be prepared to :

- Meet in-person for several meetings at Town Hall (approx. 90 minutes each)
- Participate and provide candid input and information
- Participate in a 10–15-minute confidential online questionnaire or phone/video interview

ATTACHMENT B

RESOLUTION FOR THE TOWN OF BETHEL

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING FOR THE 2026 CDBG NR PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Bethel Board of Commissioners has previously indicated its desire to assist in community development efforts for housing within the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners have held two public hearings concerning the proposed application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit LMI families with housing needs; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners wish the Town to pursue a formal application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit LMI families with housing needs; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners certify it will meet all federal regulatory and statutory requirements of the State of North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town's Board of Commissioners that the Town is authorized to submit a formal application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for approval of a Community Development Block Grant to benefit LMI families with housing needs.

Adopted this the ___ day of _____, 20___ in Bethel, North Carolina.

_____

Carl Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

Town Manager

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

This plan describes how The Town of Bethel will involve citizens in the planning, implementation and assessment of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The funds must be used for projects which benefit low and moderate-income persons and aids in the elimination and prevention of slums and blight. The program is intended to assist governments in understanding neighborhood improvement programs. The regulations give ultimate responsibility for the design and implementation of the program to local elected officials and require that citizens be given an opportunity to serve in a key advisory role to these elected officials.

SCOPE OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Citizens will be involved in all stages of the CDBG program, including program implementation, assessment of performance and design of changes in the Citizen Participation Plan. There will be three (3) general mechanisms for their involvement:

1. To serve as an advisory committee to the project;
2. To attend or hold public hearings or community meetings; and
3. To provide individual citizen efforts in the form of comments, complaints or inquiries submitted directly to the Program Administrators or designated Town official.

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Citizen participation in program implementation will occur primarily through consultation with the Town. The Town will be asked to review and comment on specific guidelines for approved projects. They will also meet to review any program amendments, budget revisions and program modifications. All such changes will be discussed with the Town and their comments considered prior to taking action. If program amendments require approval from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, a public hearing shall be held specifically on the amendment. Citizens may also be involved in implementation of projects specifically requiring citizen participation, such as self-help projects. Their roles will be defined as the project develops. Technical assistance will be available as needed.

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

As a part of the orientation to the program offered at the public hearing, citizens will be invited to submit comments on all aspects of program performance through the program year. Comments should be submitted in writing to the Town Administrator. He or she will respond in writing within ten (10) days. If the response is unsatisfactory, the complainant should write directly to the Mayor. He or she shall respond within ten (10) days.

If the citizen is still dissatisfied, he/she should write to the NC Department of Commerce, Rural Economic Development Division/State CDBG Program, 4346 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4346, Attention: Citizen Participation Matter. Program staff will also be available during normal business hours to respond to any citizen inquiries or complaints at 919-814-4663

VIRTUAL HEARINGS

During a declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor or General Assembly, and if a local unit of general government is concerned about significant public health risks that may result from holding an in-person public hearings, the local unit of general government may undertake a virtual public hearing (alone, or in concert with an in-person hearing) if:

- It allows questions in real time, with answers coming directly from the elected representatives to all "attendees." Therefore, members of the public must be entitled to participate and address the governing body during any telephonic or video-conference meeting.
- The governing body must post a written notice that gives the public a way to participate remotely, such as a toll-free dial-in number, and that includes an electronic copy of any agenda packet that officials will consider at the meeting.
- As with an in-person hearing, the grantee must select a virtual hearing method or platform that provides accessibility for persons with disabilities and limited English proficiency (LEP) to the greatest extent possible. These accommodations must be free to these populations.
- A governing body must provide the public with access to a recording of any telephonic or videoconference meeting.
- The local unit of government must document its efforts and the reason for them.
- Additional specific communication requirements and requirements for conducting remote meetings can be found in Article 1A of Chapter 166A and Article 33C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical Assistance will be provided to citizen organizations and groups of low/moderate income persons or target area residents upon request to The Town of Bethel. Such assistance will support citizen efforts to develop proposals, define policy and organize for the implementation of the program. It is expected that such assistance will be provided directly to the Town in response to their request. Assistance could be provided in the form of local presentations, informational handouts, research of a specific issue, or other short-term efforts.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Town of Bethel will also undertake public information efforts to promote citizen participation. These efforts will include the following:

1. Public Notice of all Public Hearings will be published in the non-legal section of the local newspaper at least ten (10) days before the scheduled hearing. These notices will indicate the date, time, location and topics to be considered.

2. Orientation Information will be provided at the first public hearing. The Program Administrator(s) will make a presentation which covers: (a) the total amount of CDBG funds available and the competitive basis for award; (b) the range of eligible activities; (c) the planning process and the schedule of meetings and hearings; (d) the role of citizens in the program and (e) a summary of other program requirements, such as the environmental policies, fair housing provisions and contracting procedures.

3. A Public File containing program documentation will be available for review at the Town Hall during normal business hours. Included will be copies of the Application, Environmental Review Record, the Citizen Participation Plan and the Annual Performance Report. Other program documents are also available for citizen review on request at the Town Hall consistent with applicable State and local laws regarding personal privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

4. Public Hearings an interpreter will be provided for all non-English speaking individuals and/or deaf individuals.

ADOPTED, this the ___1st__day of _____September__, 20_26___.

_____ _____

Mayor

Town of Bethel

Attest: Town Manager

Town of Bethel

TOWN OF BETHEL
HOUSING SELECTION COMMITTEE
BYLAWS

I. Purpose

The purpose of the Bethel Housing Selection Committee is to make recommendations to the Town on the following:

a. Recommend which residents are in need of housing assistance.
b. To review housing grant applications and housing needs.
c. To make recommendations concerning the items that require citizen input in the grant applications such as which citizens should receive housing assistance, what if any interest should be paid by citizens who receive housing funds and the types of assistance that will be provided.

II. Membership

The Selection Committee membership shall consist of 3 members. Members will be appointed by the manager and shall serve for a term of two years.

III. Officers

Chairman: The Chairman will be elected by the members of the Housing Committee. The Chairman shall decide all points of order and procedure, subject to these bylaws, unless otherwise directed by a majority of the Committee in session at the time. The Chairman shall vote on all matters before the Committee and shall have no extraordinary voting powers in the case of a tie vote.

The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and shall appoint the Chairman of all subcommittees. The Chairman shall be responsible for establishing the agendas for all meetings.

Upon resignation of the Chairman, the Committee shall elect a new Chairman within 90 days to complete the existing term of office.

Vice-Chairman: A Vice-Chairman shall be elected by the Committee from among its members in the same manner as the Chairman and shall be eligible for re-election. He/she shall serve as acting Chairman in the absence of the Chairman, and at such time he/she shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

IV. Attendance at Meetings

Should a Committee member fail to attend three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, the Chairman shall contact the member to determine their interest in continuing to serve on the Committee. Should there be no reasonable excuse for such

absences, the Chairman, with the concurrence of the Committee present at a regular meeting, may recommend to the Board of Commissioners that a vacancy be declared and that the vacant position be filled.

V. Eligibility Criteria

The HSC will apply eligibility criteria as follows:

- Owner occupied home;
- Home is considered a "Real Property";
- Homeowner is up to date on real estate taxes or has an active payment plan in place; and,
- Owner's income is 80% or less than the median family income of the Pitt County Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

The HSC will Apply Priority Criteria as follows:

- There is a Severely Deteriorated House Condition with an appropriate Treatment of Reconstruction.
- Substantial Rehabilitation: Projects that have rehabilitation costs above $72,000 per unit or $70 per square foot, including Lead Based Paint treatment costs and any other additional eligible costs associated with substantial rehabilitation projects.
- Reconstruction: The rebuilding of a structure on the same lot in substantially the same manner. Reconstruction will be used when high costs (such as lead-based paint, high material cost, etc.) make rehabilitation not feasible.
- Housing repair needs that are beyond the ability of other rehabilitation programs.

The HSC will Apply Additional Criteria for consideration:

- Elderly (minimum 62 years old);
- Disabled household members;
- Minors living in the home;
- Veteran status; and,
- Any additional information the Consultant finds pertinent.

VI. Voting:

All members of the Committee shall vote on every issue that requires this procedure except that a member of the Committee shall be excused from voting on matters involving direct personal or financial interest. In the event that Committee member abstains from voting for reasons other than direct personal or financial interest, the abstention shall be ruled by the Chairman as an affirmative vote. A tie vote of those present shall cause the motion to fail.

VII. Meetings

A. Regular Meetings: Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held on a date and time which shall be approved by the majority of the members.

B. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Housing Committee shall be held at a time and place designated by the officer calling the same and shall be called by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman. Notice thereof shall be given to all members not less than forty-eight hours in advance.

C. Cancellation of Meetings: Whenever there is no business for the Committee, the Chairman may dispense with a regular meeting by giving notice to all the members not less than seventy-two hours in advance.

D. Quorum: A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Committee membership.

E. Conduct of Meetings: Committee meetings and its subcommittees shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any time by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee. The proposed amendment must have been presented in written form to the Committee members at least seven (7) working days prior to the date of the meeting at which such action is to be taken.

ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF BETHEL:

Carl Wilson, Mayor

September 1, 2026
Date

APPLICATION SUMMARY – 2026 *CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Program*

1. Applicant's name	Town of Bethel	**2. Date**
a. Mailing Address	PO Box 337	
b. City and Zip Code	Bethel, NC 27812	□ **Original**
c. County	Pitt	**dated:** 10/13/2026
d. Contact Person	D. Scott Elliot	
e. Telephone Number	252-818-0891	□ **Amendment**
f. Fax Number		**dated:** ____/____/____
g. e-mail address	manager@townofbethelnc.com	
h. UEI Number	TBGKJML4NXA7	
3. Preparer's Name	L. Ben Jones	**c. Telephone Number**
a. Firm's Name	FALTOR Consulting, LLC	252-521-7965
b. Mailing Address	PO BOX 10136	
c. City and Zip Code	Goldsboro, NC 27532	**f. Fax Number**
d. e-mail address	faltorco.ben@gmail.com	
4. Developer's Name		**c. Telephone Number**
a. Mailing Address		
b. City and Zip Code		**a. Fax Number**
5. Development Name		
a. Street Address		
b. City and Zip Code		
c. Ownership Entity		

6. Program Category	7. Project Number	8. Project Name	9. CDBG Funds Requested
C	1	2026 Bethel CDBG NR	$950,000.00
Rural Community Development Only	1		$

10. Certification by the Chief Elected Official

a) I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. Data in this application is true and correct,
2. Opportunities have been provided for citizen participation and access to information concerning the proposed activities,
3. This document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached certifications and state standards if the assistance is approved.

b) I acknowledge that, if funded, this application is part of the Grant Agreement.

a. Typed Name and e-mail Address of Chief Elected Official ➢	Carl Wilson
b. Typed Title ➢	Mayor
c. Signature ➢	
d. Typed Date ➢	September 1, 2026

For REDD Use Only

Date Received: **Application Number:**

FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS AND CERTIFICATIONS

The applicant hereby assures and certifies that:

a) It will comply with all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, rules and Executive Orders.

b) It possesses legal authority to apply for the grant, and to execute the proposed program.

c) Its governing body has duly adopted or passed as an official act a resolution, motion or similar action authorizing the filing of the application, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directing and authorizing the identified as the official representative of the applicant to act about the application and to provide such additional information as may be required.

d) It is following a detailed, written citizen participation plan which will provide opportunities for citizen participation, hearings, and access to information with respect to its community development program that are comparable to those required of grantees under Section 104(a) of the Act and in accordance with Rule .1002 of the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Administrative Rules.

e) Its chief elected official or other officer of the applicant if assistance is approved by Rural Economic Development Division:

   1) Consents to assume the status of the "responsible Federal Official" as that term is used in Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 104(f) of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and other provisions of Federal law, as specified in 24 CFR 58.5 which further the purposes of NEPA.

   2) Is authorized and consents on behalf of the applicant and himself to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the purpose of enforcement of his responsibilities as such an official.

   3) Consents to review and comment on all Environmental Impact Statements prepared for Federal projects which may have an impact on the applicant's/recipient's community development program.

   4) Consents to perform all coordination functions required under 24 CFR Part 58 and 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508.

f) The ***CDBG-NR Program*** has been developed to give maximum feasible priority to activities which will benefit low and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight. The requirement for this certification will not preclude Commerce from approving an application where the applicant certifies, and Commerce determines, that all or part of the ***CDBG-NR Program*** activities are designed to meet other community development needs having urgency as specifically explained in the application in accordance with Section .0800 of 4 NCAC 19L of the North Carolina Administrative Code.

g) Its program will be conducted and administered in conformity with Public Law 88-352 and Public Law 90-284, and that it will affirmatively further fair housing.

h) It will comply with all provisions of 4 NCAC 19L of the North Carolina Administrative Code, entitled North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program.

i) It will give Commerce, HUD and the Comptroller General through any authorized representative access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers or documents related to the grant.

j) It will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using positions for a purpose that is or gives the appearance of being motivated by a desire for private gain for themselves or others, particularly those with whom they have family, business, or other ties.

k) It will follow a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan that is in accordance with the provisions of Section 104(d) and all other provisions of the Act.

l) It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted in whole or part under Section 106 of the Act or with amounts resulting from a guarantee under Section 108 of the Act by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged to assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements, unless (i) funds received under Section 106 are used to pay the proportion of such fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of such public improvements that are financed from revenue sources other than under this title; or (ii) for purposes of assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income who are not persons of very low income, the grantee certifies to the Secretary or such State, as the case may be, that it lacks sufficient funds received under Section 106 to comply with requirements of clause (i).

m) It has or will develop a plan that identifies community development and housing needs, including the needs of low and moderate-income persons, and the activities to be undertaken to meet such needs.

n) Its notification, inspection, testing and abatement procedures concerning lead-based paint will comply with 24 CFR Part 35.

o) When issuing statements, press releases, request for proposals, bid solicitation and other documents describing the above-mentioned program such as the environmental review, public hearings, fair housing notices, etc., it shall clearly state:

1) The percentage of the total cost of the project which will be financed with CDBG money, and
2) the dollar amount of CDBG funds for the project.

p)

1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form- LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub grants, and contracts under grant, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

q) It has adopted and will enforce a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in nonviolent civil rights demonstrations and has adopted and is enforcing a policy of enforcing applicable state and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such nonviolent civil rights demonstration within its jurisdiction in accordance with Section 519 of Public Law 101-144, (the 1990 HUD Appropriations Act).

r) All project areas are either not in a floodplain, or if the project area is in a floodplain, the applicant participates in the flood insurance program. All properties assisted in the project will be covered for flood insurance prior to beginning construction, and all public facilities will be constructed to comply with applicable floodplain regulations.

CERTIFICATION OF ABILITY

The Town of Bethel hereby certifies its ability to meet Federal Performance and Procurement Requirements with Certification as further expanded in the preceding attachments.

Name of Chief Elected Official Carl Wilson

Title Mayor

Signature _____

Date September 1, 2026

DISCLOSURE OF CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINTS/LAWSUITS

The Town of Bethel hereby assures and certifies that there are no open, unresolved or pending Civil Rights Lawsuits against the participating local governments in this Neighborhood Revitalization Program ***(CDBG-NR).***

Name of Chief Elected Official	Carl Wilson
Title	Mayor
Signature	
Date	September 1, 2026

STATE CDBG PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Citizen Participation

If funded, the grantee will have documentation on file of compliance with citizen participation requirements in the application process 4 NCAC 19L. 1002 (b): publisher's affidavits of notices and minutes signed by the town or county clerk of the two required public hearings.

Project Administration

- The grantee is responsible for CDBG oversight. If funded, the grantee will supervise the implementation of the project as follows:
- The local government manager reviews and signs off on all project reports.
- The project administrator or local government staff will present and give at least quarterly written status reports to the elected board. A signed copy of the quarterly report must be submitted to the grant representative for review.
- At least two people from the local government listed on the signatory cards will review and sign off on invoices and requests for payment.
- Maintain all project files at the local government offices and make them available to citizens during regular business hours.

Audits/Compliance

CDBG grantees expending $25,000 or more in a fiscal year are required to have funds audited for the CDBG program. CDBG funds can be used to pay for the CDBG portion of the audit provided the grantee has expended $750,000 or more in the fiscal year in total federal awards (CDBG and other federal funds). If the grantee has expended less than $750,000 in total federal awards, the grantee may budget local funds in the administrative line item in the CDBG application to pay for the CDBG portion of the audit and claim the local administrative funds as local commitment.

Housing

- **Substantial Rehabilitation:** Any rehabilitation cost above $72,000 per unit or $70 per square foot which would include the Lead Based Paint cost and any other additional funds is considered substantial rehabilitation and requires the prior approval of REDD.

- **Manufactured Homes Policy:** Manufactured homes rehabilitated with CDBG funds must be converted into real property (per G.S. 105-273 paragraph 13) that is owned and occupied by the homeowner prior to any rehabilitation.

The CDBG assistance must be secured by a Note and Deed of Trust at the time of rehabilitation. No CDBG funds may be spent to rehabilitate any manufactured home built prior to 1978.

In addition, the grantee will adhere to the following:

1. Adopt a financial design for rehabilitation that meets the minimum REDD criteria. The financial design must be submitted to REDD for review.

2. Prior to rehabilitating a house with a pit privy/outhouse or no wastewater disposal system, if public sewer is unavailable, contact the local health department for determination whether the property can be permitted for an on-site wastewater system. If not, the family should be relocated.
3. Clear titles as required in the application.
4. Work with the State Health Hazard Control Unit and local government departments to comply with federal and state lead-based paint requirements. In addition, ensuring rehabilitation design will address lead-based paint hazards.
5. Voluntary withdrawal from the program, document with evidence on file.
6. Establish and implement a home maintenance program to instruct occupants of rehabilitated houses, including (1) maintenance of any on-site wastewater systems and/or wells or (2) maintenance of newly installed indoor plumbing.
7. Install water-saving devices in houses with on-site septic tanks. If facets need to be replaced install a water saving device. See Bulletin 02-5, Low Flow Plumbing Fixtures
8. If undertaking voluntary clearance, document with evidence on file that property owners are aware of and agree to voluntary clearance.
9. If undertaking rehabilitation, acquisition and/or clearance of dwellings, comply with state notification, certification, and disposal requirements for asbestos.
10. If acquiring property with a dwelling, maintain a plan for residential reuse of the residential property.
11. If undertaking temporary or permanent relocation, budget adequate funds based on the costs of housing in the area.
12. If abandoning outhouses or septic tanks, budget adequate funds to cover related costs in accordance with state and local health department regulations.
13. Establish a written recipient referral procedure to address non-CDBG needs (i.e., social services, credit counseling, employment etc.)
14. Low and moderate beneficiaries may not be charged for tap fees or assessments for water or sewer improvements.
15. All items rehabilitated, if required under the building code, must be permitted, and inspected.
16. Procurement and bid request for rehabilitation should include a section that describes the estimated man hours expended on the project. It should include both administration and labor.

Housing
When using CDBG funds for housing activities, if funded, the grantee will adhere to the following: Comply with the new Lead-Based Paint regulations 24 CFR Part 35, the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act and the "Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Guidelines for North Carolina Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Recipients" published by Rural Economic Development Division.

Program Income
If the local government makes a loan to the developer, a plan for reuse of program income will be developed and subject to REDD approval.

Legally Binding Commitment (LBC)
The local government will develop and execute an LBC with the non-profit or for-profit developer subject to REDD requirements.

Build America, Buy America (BABA)
The **Build America, Buy America Act (BABA)** enacted as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, established a domestic content procurement preference for all Federal financial assistance obligated for some infrastructure, public facility, and housing projects. **BABA applies to the infrastructure, public facility, and housing projects that**:

- Include post FY2023 CDBG-NR funds **and**
- Contain iron or steel **and**
- Receive a total of CDBG and federal financial assistance **greater than $250,000**.

All iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in covered infrastructure projects must be produced in the United States. This applies to all expenditures by a federal agency such as HUD to a non-federal entity (State of North Carolina) for an infrastructure, public facility, or project including construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair.

For housing rehabilitation projects, if an individual home receives $250,000 or less in CDBG loans or grants and separate environmental reviews for each home BABA does not apply. If all homes in a program are included in a single environmental review, BABA does apply. The latter is the typical scenario in the CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) program.

The HUD covered construction materials groups include all raw materials used in construction including:

- **Iron and Steel**: Includes materials that are primarily composed of iron or steel.
- **Identified Non-Iron and Steel Construction Materials**: Includes metals other than iron and steel (non-ferrous metals), plastic and polymer-based PCV pipe and tube (e.g., PVC pipe), lumber, and composite building materials. Does not include cement and aggregates (stone, sand, gravel).
- **Other Construction Materials**: Include glass, drywall, and other construction materials.
- **Manufactured Products**: A definition is forthcoming pending a proposed Office of Management and Budget (OMB) rulemaking.

BABA requirements flow with all CDBG funding. Local governments (grant recipients) and contractors must comply.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization Act of 2022, which became effective October 1, 2022, includes a new requirement for Grantees (Grant Subrecipients) to support an individual's, including survivor's, right to seek law enforcement or emergency assistance. CDBG grants awarded on or after the effective date will be required to:

- "Report any of their laws or policies, or, as applicable, the laws or policies adopted by subgrantees, that impose penalties on landlords, homeowners, tenants, residents, occupants, guests, or housing applicants based on requests for law enforcement or emergency assistance or based on criminal activity that occurred at a property; and
- Certify that the grantee will comply with the VAWA requirements.

The applicant hereby assures and certifies that by his/her signature, its duly authorized official has read and understands the State CDBG Program Standards and, if funded, will adhere to all standards applicable to the funded project.

Name of Chief Elected Official Carl Wilson

Title Mayor

Signature _____

Date September 1, 2026

DISCLOSURE REPORT

1. Applicant/Recipient Name, Address, and Phone:
2. **Check One**: ☒ Initial Report ☐ Update Report
3. **Social Security Number or Employer ID Number**: 56-6001178
4. **Project Name and Location**: 2026 Bethel CDBG-NR
5. **Total Amount requested/received** (including anticipated program income): $ 950,000
6. **Other government assistance.** (Check One):

   X No other government assistance is, or is expected to be, provided for this project

   _____ All other government assistance provided for this project is listed on the table below/attached page(s).

(Note: Disclosures must be complete and accurate but, need to be made only once for this report. If assistance is reported in the Sources and Uses disclosure section, then it need not also be reported here. If there is assistance reportable here, but reported only in the Sources and Uses disclosure, (check here):

_____ Assistance is disclosed in Sources and Uses Attachments

Agency Name and Address	Program and Type of Assistance	Amount Requested/Received

7. **Interested Parties**. (Check One):

   X No parties have a reportable financial interest in this project. Interested parties include developers, contractors, consultants, individuals, entities including units of government with a financial interest greater than $50,000 or 10 percent of the assistance (whichever is lower; being a party to a contract procured under Federal procurement regulations at 2 CFR Part 200 does not, by itself, constitute a reportable financial interest).

   _____ All parties with a reportable financial interest are listed on table below/attached page(s).

Name and Address	Type of Participation	Interest ($ and %)

8. All expected sources of funds available or expected to be available for the project or activity and all reportable uses of funds are included in the application for funds and on the following forms (check all that apply):

☒ CDBG **PROJECT BUDGET**

☐ CDBG **LOCAL COMMITMENT FORM**

☐ Other Attachment(s). Describe: _____

9. **Certification:**

I hereby certify that all information in this report and its attachments is true and complete.

_____ September 1, 2026

Signature **Date**

CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

Applicants should refer to the regulations. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form, signature on this form provides for compliance with certification requirements implementing Federal Executive Order 12549 and guidance issued in the *Federal Register*, Volume 70, No. 168, pages 51863 through 51880 for "Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement)." The certification shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Rural Economic Development Division determines to award the covered transaction, grant or cooperative agreement.
As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions:

1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principles:
    a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by a federal department or agency.
    b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction or records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property:
    c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
    d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default.
2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above applicable certification(s).

Name of Applicant/Grantee **Town of Bethel**	**Grant Number and Project Name** **2026 Bethel CDBG-NR**
Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative **Carl Wilson, Mayor**	
Signature	**Date** **September 1, 2026**

FLOOD PLAIN CERTIFICATION

TOWN OF BETHEL

2065 CDBG-NR PROJECT

This certification is made with direct regards to the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization project. It hereby certifies that this project either does not contain activities that will be in the flood plain or if the project area is in a flood plain, the applicant participates in the flood insurance program. The Town of Bethel participates in the national flood insurance program, and if any properties are later amended into the program and found to be located in the flood plain, then they will be covered for flood insurance prior to beginning construction on the property.

Carl Wilson, Mayor

September 1, 2026
Date

ATTACHMENT C

§ 151.02 MEMBERSHIP AND VACANCIES; ATTENDANCE.

(A) The Planning Board shall consist of seven members.

(1) Five members shall be citizens and residents of the town, and shall be appointed by the Town Board; two members shall be citizens of the county who reside outside the town but within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the town as specified by an extraterritorial boundary ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. § 160A-360(b), and shall be appointed by Pitt County Board of Commissioners.

(2) The members of the Planning Board shall serve for terms of three years each, such terms to be initially staggered as follows: two members for one year, two members for two years and three members for three years.

(3) Thereafter, member vacancies shall be appointed for a term of three years for each member appointed.

(B) Vacancies occurring for reasons other than expiration of term shall be filled as they occur for the unexpired remainder of the term. Faithful attendance at meetings of the Board is to be considered a prerequisite to continued membership, and the Town Board may remove and replace any member continually delinquent in his duty to attend.
(Prior Code, § 38-2) (Ord. passed 2-10-1980; Ord. passed 11-14-1989)

ATTACHMENT D

TOWN OF BETHEL

LINE ITEM TRANSFER/BUDGET AMENDMENT

Date: 9/1/26
Amendment # _____4_____
Department: RECREATION

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

FROM			TO		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

BUDGET AMENDMENT

REVENUES			EXPENDITURES		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Mural Project Grant	10-355-0000	$ 21,100.00	Mural Project Expenses	10-620-8000	$ 21,100.00
Total		**$ 21,100.00**	**Total**		**$ 21,100.00**

Explanation: To re-appropriate funds for Mural Grant not spent in FY26

Requested by:

_____

Approved by:

_____

TOWN OF BETHEL

LINE ITEM TRANSFER/BUDGET AMENDMENT

Date: 9/1/26
Amendment # _____5_____
Department: ADMINISTRATION

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

FROM			TO		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

BUDGET AMENDMENT

REVENUES			EXPENDITURES		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Fund Balance Appropriated	10-399-0000	$ 10,000.00	Professional Services	10-420-0400	$ 10,000.00
Total		**$ 10,000.00**	**Total**		**$ 10,000.00**

Explanation: To appropriate Engineering Services

Requested by:

Approved by:

TOWN OF BETHEL

LINE ITEM TRANSFER/BUDGET AMENDMENT

Date: 9/1/26
Amendment # _____6_____
Department: STORMWATER

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

FROM			TO		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

BUDGET AMENDMENT

REVENUES			EXPENDITURES		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Fund Balance Appropriated	10-399-0000	$ 5,121.00	Stormwater Expenses	10-670-7000	$ 5,121.00
Total		**$ 5,121.00**	**Total**		**$ 5,121.00**

Explanation: To re-appropriate remaining funds for Stormwater Utility Rate Study

Requested by:

_____

Approved by:

_____

TOWN OF BETHEL

LINE ITEM TRANSFER/BUDGET AMENDMENT

Date: 9/1/26
Amendment # _____7_____
Department: CDBG-NR

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

FROM			TO		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

BUDGET AMENDMENT

REVENUES			EXPENDITURES		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
CDBG-NR Grant	67-354-0000	$ 950,000.00	Construction	67-818-0000	$ 818,000.00
			Technical Services	67-818-1000	$ 40,000.00
			Grant Administration	67-818-3000	$ 92,000.00
Total		**$ 950,000.00**	**Total**		**$ 950,000.00**

Explanation: To establish budget for CDBG-NR

Requested by:

Approved by:

TOWN OF BETHEL

LINE ITEM TRANSFER/BUDGET AMENDMENT

Date: 9/1/26
Amendment # _____8_____
Department: FIRE

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

FROM			TO		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

BUDGET AMENDMENT

REVENUES			EXPENDITURES		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Proceeds from Loan	10-395-0000	$ (125,000.00)			
Fund Balance Appropriated Restr	10-397-0000	$ 125,000.00			
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

Explanation: To remove loan proceeds and appropriate fund balance for balance of fire truck capital outlay

Requested by: **Approved by:**

_____ _____

TOWN OF BETHEL

LINE ITEM TRANSFER/BUDGET AMENDMENT

Date: 9/1/26
Amendment # _____9_____
Department: SCIF/General

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

FROM			TO		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

BUDGET AMENDMENT

REVENUES			EXPENDITURES		
Account Name	**Acct #**	**Amount**	**Account Name**	**Acct #**	**Amount**
			Contracted Services	10-510-4500	$ (10,000.00)
			Transfer to SCIF Fund	10-980-0064	$ 10,000.00
			Transfer from General Fund	64-390-0010	$ (10,000.00)
			Police Building Repairs	64-510-1500	$ 10,000.00
Total		$ -	**Total**		$ -

Explanation: Moves $10,000 from 10-510-4500 (Contracted Services for Law Enforcement) to 10-980-0064 (SCIF Project Fund). Within the 10-510-4500 we overbudgeted funds based upon the pending Sheriff's Office contract renewal for law enforcement. The renewal came in less than expected. This budget amendment is for non-anticipated cost of a sewer and water line, exterior window wrapping, sidewalk repair, and Town Hall door replacement associated with the new breakdown for the Sheriff's Office at Town Hall.

Requested by: **Approved by:**

ATTACHMENT E

RESOLUTION HONORING
DOROTHY LEATHERS HARRELL
ON THE OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

WHEREAS, the Town of Bethel recognizes and honors former resident Dorothy Leathers Harrell, who was born in Bethel, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Leathers Harrell will celebrate the remarkable milestone of her 100th birthday on October 11, 2026; and

WHEREAS, although she currently resides in Portsmouth, Virginia, Dorothy Leathers Harrell was born and raised in Bethel, North Carolina. Her North Carolina roots helped shape the woman she became, and throughout her life she has maintained a deep love and affection for her hometown and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Leathers Harrell was born on the King Farm in Bethel, North Carolina, and is the eldest daughter of Simon and Lucy Leathers; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy and her family were members of Riddick's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Bethel, North Carolina, where Dorothy was baptized at the young age of six or seven years old; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy fondly recalls the joy and excitement of going "to town" with her family to enjoy ice cream, which in those days cost only five cents; and

WHEREAS, when Dorothy was approximately ten years old, her family relocated to Portsmouth, Virginia; however, she never missed an opportunity to return to Bethel, Tarboro, Conetoe, and surrounding communities to visit family and friends and maintain the bonds that connected her to her North Carolina home; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Leathers Harrell was a founding member of the Ward-Leathers Family Reunion, whose first planning meeting was held in Bethel, North Carolina, in 1971. The family reunion continued for approximately 45 years and was frequently hosted in Bethel and surrounding communities, strengthening family connections and preserving the heritage of generations; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Leathers Harrell is also the widow of a World War II veteran, and her life reflects a legacy of family, faith, perseverance, service, and devotion to her community and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bethel is proud to recognize Dorothy Leathers Harrell as a cherished daughter of the community and to celebrate the extraordinary milestone of her 100 years of life, love, faith, family, and memories; and

WHEREAS, reaching the age of 100 is a rare and extraordinary accomplishment deserving of the highest recognition and celebration, and Dorothy's life story represents an important part of the history and heritage of Bethel, North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Bethel, North Carolina, hereby recognizes and honors Dorothy Leathers Harrell on the occasion of her 100th Birthday, celebrates her remarkable life and enduring connection to the Town of Bethel, and extends its heartfelt congratulations, appreciation, and best wishes to her on this extraordinary milestone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Bethel recognizes Dorothy Leathers Harrell's contributions to her family and her lasting connection to the Bethel community, and celebrates the legacy she represents for present and future generations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Dorothy Leathers Harrell as a lasting expression of the Town of Bethel's appreciation and affection on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 2026.

TOWN OF BETHEL, NORTH CAROLINA

_____
Carl Wilson
Mayor

_____
Linda Sheppard
Town Clerk

SEAL

Town of Bethel
Monthly Crime Statistic July 2026
August 25, 2026

Total Calls For Service N= 100 (CAD Data)
Total Incident Reports N= 27

Index Crimes

Violent Crime	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026
Murder	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0
Assault	3	3	1
Property Crime			
Burglary	1	2	1
Larceny	3	1	0
Auto Theft	2	0	0
Arson	0	0	1

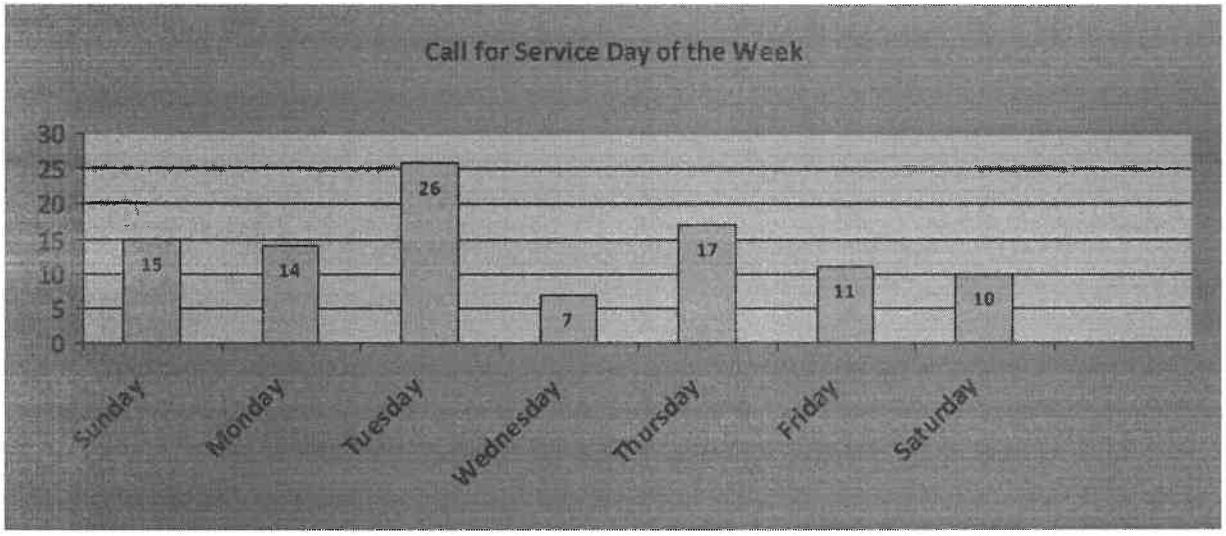
Total Part II Crimes reported N= 24
(Numbers Based on the number of incident reports)

The most common Calls For Service prefomed with in the city of Bethel.

Traffic Complaint Report	1
Traffic Stops	8
Business Checks	260 (These are done in addition to calls for service.)
Sex Offender Check	10
Welfare Check	0
Alarm	9
Warrant Service	7
Ride By	22

Calls for Service Day of the Week

N= 100 (CAD Data)



Cash Balance Report

ATTACHMENT G

Period Ending 7/31/2026

Town of Bethel

8/13/2026 10:48 AM

Bank 5 SOUTHERN BANK & TRUST Acct#- 5531103060

Account	Balance
10-102-0000 GENERAL FUND CHECKING	$111,257.92
15-102-0000 CAPITAL RESERVE CASH	$0.00
63-102-0000 ARP GRANT CHECKING	$0.00
64-102-0000 SCIF GRANT FUND CHECKING	-$68,893.40
65-102-0000 RTG CASH	$4,086.68
Bank 5 Total:	$46,451.20

Bank 6

Account	Balance
10-151-0000 NCCMT INVESTMENTS	$2,410,477.73
64-151-0000 NCCMT INVESTMENTS	$170,811.43
65-151-0000 NCCMT INVESTMENTS	$0.00
66-151-0000 NCCMT-STRUCTURE DEMOLITION	$200,000.00
Bank 6 Total:	$2,781,289.16

Total Cash Balance:	$2,827,740.36

Budget vs Actual (Summary)

Town of Bethel
8/13/2026 11:22:08 AM

Period Ending 6/30/2027

10 GENERAL FUND

Description	Budget	Encumbrance	MTD	QTD	YTD	Variance	Percent
Revenues							
	2,082,350	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,528.32	(2,049,821.68)	2%
Revenues Totals:	2,082,350	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,528.32	(2,049,821.68)	2%
Expenses							
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
GOVERNING BODY	40,680	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,757.80	35,922.20	12%
ADMINISTRATION-GF	459,484	775.77	0.00	0.00	48,028.80	410,679.43	11%
TAX COLLECTION PITT COUNTY	9,500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,500.00	
POLICE DEPARTMENT	242,000	280.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	241,720.00	0%
FIRE DEPARTMENT	675,810	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,785.57	650,024.43	4%
STREET DEPARTMENT	418,823	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,777.74	391,045.26	7%
SANITATION DEPARTMENT	74,300	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,336.08	67,963.92	9%
RECREATION DEPARTMENT	24,400	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,875.00	(5,475.00)	122%
LIBRARY	29,771	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,399.33	5,371.67	82%
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT	17,500	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	16,300.00	7%
SENIOR CENTER	18,500	0.00	0.00	0.00	129.87	18,370.13	1%
STORMWATER	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
CONTINGENCY	17,404	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,404.00	
DEBT SERVICE	23,075	0.00	0.00	0.00	986.00	22,089.00	4%
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	31,103	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,103.00	0.00	100%
Expenses Totals:	2,082,350	1,055.77	0.00	0.00	200,379.19	1,880,915.04	10%
10 GENERAL FUND Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses:			0.00	0.00	(167,850.87)		

ATTACHMENT H

Outlook

Modified Utility Vehicle

From Law Offices of E. Keen Lassiter <ekllawoffice@yahoo.com>
Date Tue 8/25/2026 3:07 PM
To Town Manager of Bethel <manager@townofbethelnc.com>

1 attachment (5 MB)
TOB - NCGS 20.pdf;

Scott - Good afternoon. At the August 4, 2026 Town meeting, Charles Earl Harris, Jr. addressed the Town Board during the Public Comment session and expressed concerns about "Town restrictions" on the operation of "gator" type vehicles on Town streets and asked for Town relief on this issue. You and I discussed this matter on August 20th during which I related that I recalled looking into this matter several years ago and that I would look for an office file regarding same. I did locate a 2020 file on this matter and I have reviewed the research and notes in that file. In 2020 the General Assembly did pass a law (Session Law 2020-40) stating that certain utility vehicles which met the new definition for a "modified utility vehicle" and are also equipped with the required safety equipment can operate on public streets once registered with DMV. It is my understanding that the General Assembly passed this law to address the operation of a gator-type vehicle on public roads. However, the Town plays no role in this process. It is solely the responsibility of the Owner of the modified utility vehicle to ensure the vehicle is registered with DMV. I have attached a copy of three (3) statutes which relate to this matter. I hope this email is helpful. Please forward it to Mr. Harris for his review. Please contact me with any additional questions in this regard. Thanks. Keen

Law Offices of E. Keen Lassiter, P.A.
102-C Regency Boulevard
Greenville, NC 27834
Post Office Box 2636
Winterville, NC 28590
(252) 355-1135 Telephone

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§ 20-4.01. Definitions.

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply throughout this Chapter to the defined words and phrases and their cognates:

(1) Airbag. – A motor vehicle inflatable occupant restraint system device that is part of a supplemental restraint system.

(1a) Alcohol. – Any substance containing any form of alcohol, including ethanol, methanol, propanol, and isopropanol.

(1b) Alcohol Concentration. – The concentration of alcohol in a person, expressed either as:

a. Grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood; or

b. Grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath.

The results of a defendant's alcohol concentration determined by a chemical analysis of the defendant's breath or blood shall be reported to the hundredths. Any result between hundredths shall be reported to the next lower hundredth.

(1c) All-Terrain Vehicle or ATV. – A motorized vehicle 50 inches or less in width that is designed to travel on three or more low-pressure tires and manufactured for off-highway use. The terms "all-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" do not include a golf cart or a utility vehicle, as defined in this section, or a riding lawn mower.

(1d) Business District. – The territory prescribed as such by ordinance of the Board of Transportation.

(2) Canceled. – As applied to drivers' licenses and permits, a declaration that a license or permit which was issued through error or fraud, or to which G.S. 20-15(a) applies, is void and terminated.

(2a) Class A Motor Vehicle. – A combination of motor vehicles that meets either of the following descriptions:

a. Has a combined GVWR of at least 26,001 pounds and includes as part of the combination a towed unit that has a GVWR of at least 10,001 pounds.

b. Has a combined GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds and includes as part of the combination a towed unit that has a GVWR of at least 10,001 pounds.

(2b) Class B Motor Vehicle. – Any of the following:

a. A single motor vehicle that has a GVWR of at least 26,001 pounds.

b. A combination of motor vehicles that includes as part of the combination a towing unit that has a GVWR of at least 26,001 pounds and a towed unit that has a GVWR of less than 10,001 pounds.

(2c) Class C Motor Vehicle. – Any of the following:

a. A single motor vehicle not included in Class B.

b. A combination of motor vehicles not included in Class A or Class B.

(3) Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 667, s. 1.

(3a) Chemical Analysis. – A test or tests of the breath, blood, or other bodily fluid or substance of a person to determine the person's alcohol concentration or presence of an impairing substance, performed in accordance with G.S. 20-139.1, including duplicate or sequential analyses.

(3b) Chemical Analyst. – A person granted a permit by the Department of Health and Human Services under G.S. 20-139.1 to perform chemical analyses.

(3c) Commercial Drivers License (CDL). – A license issued by a state to an individual who resides in the state that authorizes the individual to drive a class of commercial motor vehicle. A "nonresident commercial drivers license

d. An offense committed in another jurisdiction which prohibits substantially similar conduct prohibited by the offenses in this subsection.

e. A repealed or superseded offense substantially similar to impaired driving, including offenses under former G.S. 20-138 or G.S. 20-139.

f. Impaired driving in a commercial motor vehicle under G.S. 20-138.2, except that convictions of impaired driving under G.S. 20-138.1 and G.S. 20-138.2 arising out of the same transaction shall be considered a single conviction of an offense involving impaired driving for any purpose under this Chapter.

g. Habitual impaired driving under G.S. 20-138.5.

A conviction under former G.S. 20-140(c) is not an offense involving impaired driving.

(24b) On-track equipment. – Any railcar, rolling stock, equipment, vehicle, or other device that is operated on stationary rails.

(25) Operator. – A person in actual physical control of a vehicle which is in motion or which has the engine running. The terms "operator" and "driver" and their cognates are synonymous.

(25a) Out of Service Order. – A declaration that a driver, a commercial motor vehicle, or a motor carrier operation is out-of-service.

(26) Owner. – A person holding the legal title to a vehicle, or in the event a vehicle is the subject of a chattel mortgage or an agreement for the conditional sale or lease thereof or other like agreement, with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement, and with the immediate right of possession vested in the mortgagor, conditional vendee or lessee, said mortgagor, conditional vendee or lessee shall be deemed the owner for the purpose of this Chapter. For the purposes of this Chapter, the lessee of a vehicle owned by the government of the United States shall be considered the owner of said vehicle.

(27) Passenger Vehicles. –

a. Ambulances. – Vehicles equipped for transporting wounded, injured, or sick persons.

b. Autocycle. – A three-wheeled motorcycle that has a steering wheel, pedals, seat safety belts for each occupant, antilock brakes, completely or partially enclosed seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride, and is otherwise manufactured to comply with federal safety requirements for motorcycles.

c. Child care vehicles. – Vehicles under the direction and control of a child care facility, as defined in G.S. 110-86(3), and driven by an owner, employee, or agent of the child care facility for the primary purpose of transporting children to and from the child care facility, or to and from a place for participation in an event or activity in connection with the child care facility.

d. Common carriers of passengers. – Vehicles operated under a certificate of authority issued by the Utilities Commission for operation on the highways of this State between fixed termini or over a regular route for the transportation of persons for compensation.

e. Excursion passenger vehicles. – Vehicles transporting persons on sight-seeing or travel tours.

f. For-hire passenger vehicles. – Vehicles transporting persons for compensation. This classification shall not include the following:
   1. Vehicles operated as ambulances.
   2. Vehicles operated by the owner where the costs of operation are shared by the passengers.
   3. Vehicles operated pursuant to a ridesharing arrangement as defined in G.S. 136-44.21.
   4. Vehicles transporting students for the public school system under contract with the State Board of Education.
   5. Vehicles leased to the United States of America or any of its agencies on a nonprofit basis.
   6. Vehicles used for human service.
   7. Vehicles used for volunteer transportation.
   8. Vehicles operated in a TNC service, excluding vehicles operated in connection with a brokering transportation network company, regulated under Article 10A of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes.

g. Low-speed vehicle. – A four-wheeled vehicle that is either electrically powered or propelled by a gasoline engine whose top speed is greater than 20 miles per hour but less than 25 miles per hour.

g1. Mini-truck. – A motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property and having four wheels, an engine displacement of 660cc or less, an overall length of 130 inches or less, an overall height of 78 inches or less, and an overall width of 60 inches or less.

g2. Modified utility vehicle. – A motor vehicle that (i) is manufactured or upfitted by a licensed manufacturer, dealer, or person or business otherwise engaged in vehicle manufacturing or modification for off-road use with equipment required by G.S. 20-121.1(2a), except a vehicle identification number, and (ii) has four wheels, an overall length of 110 inches or greater, an overall width of 58 inches or greater, an overall height of 60 inches or greater, a maximum speed capability of 40 miles per hour or greater, and does not require an operator or passenger to straddle a seat. "Modified utility vehicle" does not include an all-terrain vehicle, golf cart, or utility vehicle, as defined in this section, or a riding lawn mower.

h. Motorcycles. – Vehicles having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including autocycles, motor scooters, and motor-driven bicycles, but excluding tractors and utility vehicles equipped with an additional form of device designed to transport property, three-wheeled vehicles while being used by law-enforcement agencies, electric assisted bicycles, and mopeds as defined in sub-subdivision d1. of this subdivision.

i. Motor-driven bicycle. – A vehicle with two or three wheels, a steering handle, one or two saddle seats, pedals, and a motor that cannot propel the vehicle at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour on a level surface. This term shall not include an electric assisted bicycle as defined in subdivision (7a) of this section.

§ 20-87. Passenger vehicle registration fees.

These fees shall be paid to the Division annually for the registration and licensing of passenger vehicles, according to the following classifications and schedules:

(1) For-Hire Passenger Vehicles. – The fee for a for-hire passenger vehicle with a capacity of 15 passengers or less is one hundred twenty-eight dollars and fifty cents ($128.50). The fee for a for-hire passenger vehicle with a capacity of more than 15 passengers is two dollars and fifty-five cents ($2.55) per hundred pounds of empty weight of the vehicle.

(2) U-Drive-It Vehicles. – U-drive-it vehicles shall pay the following tax:

Motorcycles:	1-passenger capacity	$29.50
	2-passenger capacity	38.50
	3-passenger capacity	43.75
Automobiles:	15 or fewer passengers	$85.00
Buses:	16 or more passengers	$3.35 per hundred pounds of empty weight

Trucks under 7,000 pounds that do not haul products for hire:

4,000 pounds	$69.50
5,000 pounds	$85.00
6,000 pounds	$102.75.

(3) Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 976, s. 3.

(4) Limousine Vehicles. – For-hire passenger vehicles on call or demand which do not solicit passengers indiscriminately for hire between points along streets or highways, shall be taxed at the same rate as for-hire passenger vehicles under G.S. 20-87(1) but shall be issued appropriate registration plates to distinguish such vehicles from taxicabs.

(5) Private Passenger Vehicles. – There shall be paid to the Division annually, as of the first day of January, for the registration and licensing of private passenger vehicles, fees according to the following classifications and schedules:

Private passenger vehicles of not more than fifteen passengers	$46.25
Private passenger vehicles over fifteen passengers	51.50

Provided, that a fee of only one dollar and fifty-five cents ($1.55) shall be charged for any vehicle given by the federal government to any veteran on account of any disability suffered during war so long as such vehicle is owned by the original donee or other veteran entitled to receive such gift under Title 38, section 252, United States Code Annotated.

(6) Private Motorcycles. – The base fee on private passenger motorcycles shall be twenty-five dollars and fifty cents ($25.50); except that when a motorcycle is equipped with an additional form of device designed to transport persons or

property, the base fee shall be thirty-eight dollars and fifty cents ($38.50). An additional fee of four dollars ($4.00) is imposed on each private motorcycle registered under this subdivision in addition to the base fee. The revenue from the additional fee, in addition to any other funds appropriated for this purpose, shall be used to fund the Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program created in G.S. 115D-72.

(7) Dealer License Plates. – The fee for a dealer license plate is the regular fee for each of the first five plates issued to the same dealer and is one-half the regular fee for each additional dealer license plate issued to the same dealer. The "regular fee" is the fee set in subdivision (5) of this section for a private passenger motor vehicle of not more than 15 passengers.

(8) Driveaway Companies. – Any person engaged in the business of driving new motor vehicles from the place of manufacture to the place of sale in this State for compensation shall pay a fee of one-half of the amount that would otherwise be payable under this section for each set of plates.

(9) House Trailers. – In lieu of other registration and license fees levied on house trailers under this section or G.S. 20-88, the registration and license fee on house trailers shall be eighteen dollars ($18.00) for the license year or any portion thereof.

(10) Special Mobile Equipment. – The fee for special mobile equipment for the license year or any part of the license year is two times the fee in subdivision (5) for a private passenger motor vehicle of not more than 15 passengers.

(11) Any vehicle fee determined under this section according to the weight of the vehicle shall be increased by the sum of five dollars ($5.00) to arrive at the total fee.

(12) Low-Speed Vehicles, Mini-Trucks, and Modified Utility Vehicles. – The fee for a low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle is the same as the fee for private passenger vehicles of not more than 15 passengers. However, the fee for any low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle that is offered for rent shall be the same as the fee for a U-drive-it automobile.

(13) Additional fee for certain electric vehicles. – At the time of an initial registration or registration renewal, the owner of a plug-in electric vehicle that is not a low-speed vehicle and that does not rely on a nonelectric source of power shall pay a fee in the amount of two hundred fourteen dollars and fifty cents ($214.50) in addition to any other required registration fees.

(13a) Additional fee for plug-in hybrid vehicles. – At the time of an initial registration or registration renewal, the owner of a plug-in hybrid vehicle shall pay a fee in the amount of one hundred seven dollars and twenty-five cents ($107.25) in addition to any other required registration fees.

(14) Research pilot or demonstration project motor vehicles. – The Division shall not collect a registration fee for a motor vehicle to be used by a State agency in a research pilot or demonstration project. (1937, c. 407, s. 51; 1939, c. 275; 1943, c. 648; 1945, c. 564, s. 1; c. 576, s. 2; 1947, c. 220, s. 3; c. 1019, ss. 1-3; 1949, c. 127; 1951, c. 819, ss. 1, 2; 1953, c. 478; c. 826, s. 4; 1955, c. 1313, s. 2; 1957, c. 1340, s. 3; 1961, c. 1172, s. 1a; 1965, c. 927; 1967, c. 1136; 1969, c. 600, ss. 3-11; 1971, c. 952; 1973, c. 107; 1975, c. 716, s. 5; 1981, c. 976, ss. 1-4; 1981 (Reg. Sess., 1982), c. 1255; 1983, c. 713, s. 61; c. 761, ss. 142, 143, 145; 1985, c. 454, s. 2; 1987, c. 333; 1989, c. 755, ss. 2, 4; c. 770, ss. 74.2, 74.3; 1989 (Reg. Sess., 1990), c. 830, s. 1; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 1015, s.

§ 20-121.1. Operation of a low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle on certain roadways.

The operation of a low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle is authorized with the following restrictions:

(1) A low-speed vehicle may be operated only on streets and highways where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. A mini-truck or modified utility vehicle may be operated only on streets and highways where the posted speed limit is 55 miles per hour or less. This subdivision does not prohibit a low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road or street being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.

(2) A low-speed vehicle or mini-truck shall be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, windshield wipers, speedometer, seat belts, and a vehicle identification number. Any such required equipment shall be maintained in proper working order.

(2a) A modified utility vehicle shall be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, a speedometer, seat belts, and a vehicle identification number. Any such required equipment shall be maintained in proper working order. If a modified utility vehicle does not have a vehicle identification number, upon application by the owner, the Division shall assign a vehicle identification number to the modified utility vehicle prior to registration. The operator of and all passengers on a modified utility vehicle that is not equipped with a windshield and windshield wipers shall wear a safety helmet, with a retention strap properly secured, that complies with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 218.

(3) A low-speed vehicle, mini-truck, or modified utility vehicle shall be registered and insured in accordance with G.S. 20-50 and G.S. 20-309.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other subdivision of this section, the Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles, mini-trucks, or modified utility vehicles on any road or highway if it determines that the prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.

(5) Low-speed vehicles must comply with the safety standards in 49 C.F.R. § 571.500.

(6) Regardless of age, a mini-truck shall not qualify as an antique vehicle or historic vehicle as described in G.S. 20-79.4(b). (2001-356, s. 5; 2019-34, s. 3; 2020-40, s. 3; 2021-33, s. 2; 2024-46, s. 1(c).)