

# Resolution



City Council  
City of Wilmington  
North Carolina

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**Introduced By:** Rebecca L. Hawke, City Manager

**Date:** 7/15/2025

## **Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Establish Standards and Provisions Regarding the Creation and Management of Social Districts**

### **LEGISLATIVE INTENT/PURPOSE:**

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-205.4, the City may adopt an ordinance designating one or more social districts for use in accordance with N.C.G.S. §18B-300.1; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly enacted the above legislation allowing municipalities to designate social districts within their jurisdiction to allow alcoholic beverages sold by licensed premises to be consumed within the district, outside of the establishment where the beverage was purchased; and,

WHEREAS, the City and Wilmington Downtown Inc. have worked together to develop a draft of general standards and provisions regarding the creation and management of social districts; and,

WHEREAS, under certain circumstances, the City believes that a social district can be a valuable tool to increase economic activity and vibrancy for a wide range of businesses within the City; and,

WHEREAS, the passing of this resolution aligns with the City of Wilmington's Strategic Plan to prioritize the enhancement and growth of Wilmington's position as a nationally recognized entertainment, cultural, and tourism destination; and,

WHEREAS, the attached proposed draft guidelines have been developed through collaboration amongst several City departments, including the police, fire, parks and recreation, public works, parking and downtown services, and legal; and,

WHEREAS, authorizing the City Manager to establish social district guidelines will help provide for the safety and security of the public.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

THAT, the City Manager is hereby authorized to establish standards and provisions regarding the creation and management of social districts, consistent with state, federal, and local law, and with all actions of City Council regarding the creation of specific social districts.

Adopted at a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting

On \_\_\_\_\_ 2025

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Penelope Spicer-Sidbury, City Clerk

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Bill Saffo, Mayor

Approved As To Form:

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City Attorney