

**RESOLUTION 2021-4, OPPOSING SENATE BILL 349/HOUSE BILL 401
INCREASING HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES**

WHEREAS, the legislation proposed in Senate Bill 349/House Bill 401 and the plan to remove decision making authority on allowable uses in residential zoning districts at the local level is of great concern to the Town Council of Laurel Park, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, provisions within this legislation would severely diminish or even eliminate the ability of local government to determine what is best for its community and allow community input and involvement in the decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Laurel Park has a Comprehensive Land Use plan created through citizen input; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Laurel Park is in the process of updating its land use ordinances to allow for more housing options within their planning jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Town Council members were elected by their citizens to protect and preserve the quality of life that their residents have come to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, residents could not enjoy a safe and secure, clean and well-kept environment, if it were not for the efforts of its elected officials and Town Staff employing effective and proven zoning processes that include community input; and

WHEREAS, although HB401/SB349 has reportedly been endorsed by "affordable housing" proponents as a way to increase supply and decrease costs, in actuality there is nothing in the bill which actually controls costs or ensures affordability; and

WHEREAS, a one-size fits all approach to land use is drastic and illogical as well as an attack on local land-use decision-making; and

WHEREAS, placing all cities and towns under one statewide zoning mandate would eliminate the single-family zoning designation and allow multi-family housing in every neighborhood without guarantee that this would create more affordable housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of Laurel Park, North Carolina as follows:

1. That the General Assembly not adopt either HB401 or SB349;
2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to our elected State representatives and the Governor;

3. Asks the General Assembly pass a bill requiring a study on the issue of affordable housing, to better address the needs of our state while recognizing the diversity and needs of municipal and county residents.

Adopted on April _____, 2021.

Carey O’Cain

Mayor

ATTEST:

Tamara Amin
Town Clerk