

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT WEEK | 2022**

- WHEREAS,** it is the policy of the County of Durham that purchasing by the County and contracts with the County be open to all people and be free of discrimination on the basis of race and gender; and
- WHEREAS,** diverse entrepreneurship encourages progress toward innovative solutions to the problem of economic growth, and supports the promise of thriving communities that embrace inclusion and a better life for all families; and
- WHEREAS,** the Durham County Minority and Women Enterprise Ordinance Section 8-132 provides minorities and women equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of the County’s contracting program, including, but not limited to, employment, construction projects, and/or materials and service contracts, consistent with law; and
- WHEREAS,** G.S. 143-128, provides for Good Faith Efforts to be made in an effort to ensure fair participation of minority and women business owners in all County projects; and
- WHEREAS** according to the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, the impacts of the Covid 19 have contributed to a staggering 41 percent drop in African American business owners, 32 percent decline in Latinx business owners, 26 percent in Asian business owners and a 25 percent reduction in women owned businesses nationwide, and
- WHEREAS,** it is further the policy of the County to conduct its contracting programs so as to prevent such discrimination, correct present discrimination and to resolve claims of such discrimination; and
- WHEREAS,** the County of Durham is a sponsor of the Minority Enterprise Development Week; and
- WHEREAS,** During Minority Enterprise Development Week, we recognize that our County and our economy are stronger because of the hardworking men and women who comprise America’s minority business community. They consistently demonstrate the courage it takes to overcome adversity, seize opportunity, and contribute to our shared prosperity.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED I,** Brenda Howerton, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim October 3 – 7, 2022 as

**“MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT WEEK”**

in Durham County.

This 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

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Brenda Howerton, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

