



# CONNIE WILSON CONSULTING



## Items of Interest

- D.R. Bryan of Chapel Hill, a coastal property owner or experienced in land development has been appointed to the Coastal Resource Commission
- Atlantic Beach has joined other coastal governments in adopting a resolution to support legislation to deal with dangerous holes more than 12 inches wide on beaches.
- More money will go to Buncombe County projects and less to advertising after a bill passed the North Carolina Legislature July 1 altering the way occupancy tax revenue is divided. Before the local bill's passage, the county's hotel and other room occupancy tax dollars, which go to the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority, were split 75%-25% between marketing and projects. Now the money will be split 66%-33%, with more going toward the Tourism Product Development Fund, which funds projects and venues that can result in visitors staying in the area longer.

## TISPC Legislative Update August 2022

The General Assembly ended its short session on July 1st following through on their commitment for a quick session. The legislature will reconvene one day every month through the end of the year to deal with vetos, court decision, redistricting and other urgent issue that may arise. The only issue that may bring them back before the end of the year would be a compromise on Medicaid expansion. In the budget that was ratified and signed by the Governor there were several provisions of interest to TISPC:

### Shallow Draft Inlet Fund

- Grants Authorized. – The Secretary is authorized to accept applications for grants for nonfederal costs of projects sponsored by (i) units of local government for the purpose set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section and (ii) units of local government and other entities for the purpose set forth in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section.
- Cost share shall be at least one non-State dollar for every three dollars from the Fund
- The Department shall adopt rules to implement the grant programs authorized under subsection (b1) of this section."
- Removes the match requirement for a NC Wildlife Resource Commission boat ramp in Carteret County

### Coastal Storm Mitigation Fund

- New grant authorization language mirroring the Shallow Draft fund was added
- Rules must also be adopted for this fund like Shallow Draft

### Other Provisions

- \$1M to The Coastal Federation for Oyster Sanctuary Funds and \$6.5 for living shorelines
- \$325,980,444 in nonrecurring funds appropriated to the Department of Environmental Quality for the Water Infrastructure Fund and \$285,500,000 in nonrecurring funds appropriated for the 2022-2023 fiscal year from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Department for the Water Infrastructure Fund shall be allocated to the Drinking Water Reserve and Wastewater Reserve to be used for the purposes set forth in G.S. 159G-33(a)(2) and G.S. 159G-34(a)(2)