

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF HIGH POINT
APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE STATE OF
NORTH CAROLINA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON PROCEEDS RELATING TO THE
SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID LITIGATION**

WHEREAS, as of 2019, the opioid epidemic had taken the lives of more than 16,500 North Carolinians, torn families apart, and ravaged communities from the mountains to the coast; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the opioid crisis, increasing levels of drug misuse, addiction, and overdose death; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the total "economic burden" of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement; and

WHEREAS, the opioid crisis has had, and continues to have, devastating impacts to High Point citizens and their families, as well as straining local government resources; and

WHEREAS, certain counties and municipalities in North Carolina, joined with thousands of local governments across the country to file lawsuits against opioid manufacturers and pharmaceutical distribution companies to hold those companies accountable for their misconduct; and

WHEREAS, local governments and the State of North Carolina anticipate a settlement in the national opioid litigation to be forthcoming. By signing onto the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), the State and local governments maximize North Carolina's share of opioid settlement funds to ensure the needed resources reach communities, once a negotiation is finalized, as quickly, effectively, and directly as possible.

WHEREAS, representatives of local North Carolina governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina Department of Justice have negotiated and prepared a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to provide for the equitable distribution of any proceeds from a settlement of the national opioid litigation to the State of North Carolina and to individual local governments; and

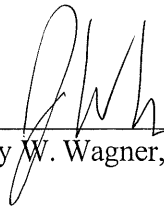
WHEREAS, it is advantageous to all North Carolinians for local governments, including Greensboro and its citizens, to sign onto the MOA and demonstrate solidarity in response to the opioid epidemic, and to maximize the share of opioid settlement funds received both in the state, this County, and the City of High Point to help abate the harm, and

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WHEREAS, the MOA directs substantial resources over multiple years to local governments on the front lines of the opioid epidemic while ensuring that these resources are used in an effective way to address the crisis. Greensboro County will dedicate opioid settlement funds received to opioid treatment and remediation activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of High Point hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation and any subsequent settlement funds that may come into North Carolina as a result of the opioid crisis. Furthermore, this Council hereby authorizes and directs staff to take such measures as are required to implement the terms of the MOA and receive the settlement funds, including that any additional documents needing signatures as a result of allocation of opioid settlement funds coming to North Carolina local governments may be authorized by the City Manager and Attorney, without requiring additional Council approval. Be it further resolved that copies of this Resolution and the signed MOA may be sent to opioiddocs@ncdoj.gov as well as forwarded to the N.C. Association of County Commissioners and the North Carolina League of Municipalities as requested.

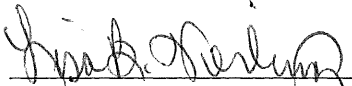
Adopted by the High Point City Council this the 21st day of June, 2021.



Jay W. Wagner, Mayor

Attest:





Lisa B. Vierling, City Clerk