

Proclamation

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Chapel Hill Transit

WHEREAS, On August 1, 1974, the Chapel Hill Community Transit service began operations under the visionary leadership of then-Mayor Howard Lee, who reimagined public transit as more than just a means of transportation but as a fundamental civil right; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro's first Black mayor, Robert "Bob" Drakeford, elected in 1977, planned and championed for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro bus system; and

WHEREAS, the partnership between the Town of Chapel Hill, the Town of Carrboro, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has been crucial in funding and supporting a transit system that connects our community, fostering independence and opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, since 2002, has been fare-free for customers, which eliminates financial barriers for the community and enhances operational efficiency; and

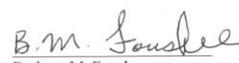
WHEREAS, Carrboro spends over \$2 Million annually to provide free bus rides; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro is committed to addressing disparate impacts of transportation decisions and prioritizing investments in racial minority and lower-income communities; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro has partnered with Chapel Hill and UNC for 50 years, developing a local transit system that serves almost 7 million bus trips per year and on average nearly 8,000 boardings per day in Carrboro alone; and

WHEREAS, throughout the next year, the Town of Chapel Hill will celebrate 50 years of Chapel Hill Transit's service with numerous opportunities for community members to engage with and learn about its services, encouraging everyone to incorporate public transit into their daily routines; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara M. Foushee, Mayor of Carrboro, do hereby recognize and congratulate Chapel Hill Transit on its milestone anniversary and proclaim the month of September 2024 as Chapel Hill Transit Appreciation Month. I encourage all residents to participate in celebrating this vital service and to honor the dedicated individuals who have contributed to its legacy.


Barbara M. Foushee

