



**RESOLUTION 2020-186-0 OF THE MORRISVILLE TOWN
COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW
OF THE WAKE STONE MINING PERMIT**

WHEREAS, the Town of Morrisville’s mission statement is “Connecting our diverse community to an enhanced quality of life through innovative programs and services”; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Morrisville’s objectives include providing mobility options for our non-driving citizens, and being responsible stewards of the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Morrisville has invested in the Crabtree Creek Greenway and Hatcher Creek Greenway to specifically connect the Town of Morrisville to Lake Crabtree County Park and to the Reedy Creek Park entrance of our beloved William B. Umstead State Park; and

WHEREAS, Morrisville residents and businesses have relocated to our town for an enhanced quality of life and connected community; and

WHEREAS, Morrisville residents are frequent users of Lake Crabtree County Park and Umstead State Park for hiking, running, biking, and family outings; and

WHEREAS, Wake Stone Corporation has submitted a modification application to the State of North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for its Mining Permit 92-10 requesting to expand its Triangle Quarry operations; and

WHEREAS, the proposed location of the expanded operations is the Raleigh Durham Airport Authority (RDUAA) 105-acre Odd Fellows Tract located directly across Crabtree Creek from the current Triangle Quarry pit; and

WHEREAS, the Odd Fellows Tract is on the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation critical land acquisition list to purchase and add to Umstead State Park,

WHEREAS, The Conservation Fund, a national environmental non-profit organization, offered to buy the Odd Fellows Tract from RDUAA to expand Umstead State Park in October 2017; and

WHEREAS, state guidance for applications, granting and conditions for operators desiring to engage in mining activities are governed by Article 7 of the Mining Act of 1971; and

WHEREAS, DEQ may deny a permit request based on violations of requirements outlined in subsection 74-51(d) of the Mining Act; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing to seek community feedback on the application is scheduled for June 23, 2020 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Due to COVID-19 limits on the size of public gatherings, the hearing will be conducted digitally; and

WHEREAS, all public and interested parties have the explicit right to submit public comments regarding Wake Stone’s permit application; and

WHEREAS, many Town of Morrisville residents are concerned that expansion of the quarry operations may severely impact quality of life due to the loss of tree canopy and wildlife as well as the resulting pollution of our air and water resources; and

WHEREAS, Wake County Commissioners have emphasized a need for more Open Space for citizens of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Morrisville is one of the local governmental units closest to the proposed expanded quarry operation; and

WHEREAS, the expanded mining operations by Wake Stone may violate standards of air quality, surface water quality, and ground water quality; and

WHEREAS, the expanded mining operations by Wake Stone may have a significantly adverse effect on the purposes of a publicly owned park, forest, or recreation area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MORRISVILLE TOWN COUNCIL hereby requests the NC Department of Environmental Quality to deny the permit for Wake Stone Corporation's mining permit modification application if determined to have a significantly adverse effect on air, surface water or ground water quality and based on the potential negative impacts on the environment and quality of life in the surrounding area due the town's proximate location to Umstead State Park and Lake Crabtree County Park.

Adopted this the 23rd day of June 2020.

TJ Cawley, Mayor

Eric W. Smith II, Town Clerk