

County of Buncombe
Proclamation

Proclamation Honoring Chairman Brownie Newman

WHEREAS, Chairman Brownie Newman has served as a Commissioner to the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners since 2012 and was elected as Chair in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Newman's leadership has been marked by his commitment to improving the quality of life for all residents of Buncombe County, particularly through advocacy for environmental sustainability, affordable housing, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, Buncombe County has set a vision to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2030, a goal that is being realized through groundbreaking initiatives such as the Woodfin Solar Project, the largest solar energy project ever developed by a local government in North Carolina, as well as the installation of solar arrays at numerous public buildings and schools; and

WHEREAS, he has been a strong advocate for affordable housing, playing a pivotal role in securing \$40 million through the Affordable Housing Bond, which has directly resulted in the creation of over 700 new affordable rental units; and

WHEREAS, his leadership in sustainable practices has also been evidenced through his advocacy for the Green Building Policy and Sustainable Vehicle Policy; and

WHEREAS, he has supported good governance and strategic planning by supporting efforts to implement the County's first strategic plan and legislative agenda; and

WHEREAS, his leadership extends beyond the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, where he has served on numerous regional boards and commissions, including the Blue Horizons Community Council, the Affordable Housing Committee, and the Environmental and Energy Stewardship Subcommittee, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); and the School Capital Fund Board; among others; and

WHEREAS, the impact of Chairman Newman's work has been transformative, enhancing Buncombe County's environmental stewardship, expanding affordable housing options, and ensuring that the county is well-positioned for a prosperous and sustainable future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this the 19th day of November 2024, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim November 2024 as

Chairman Brownie Newman Appreciation Month

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the Buncombe County to be affixed this 19th of November, 2024.

2024 Buncombe County Commissioners:

Chairman Brownie Newman

Vice-Chair Parker Sloan

Commissioner Al Whitesides

Commissioner Amanda Edwards

Commissioner Terri Wells

Commissioner Martin Moore