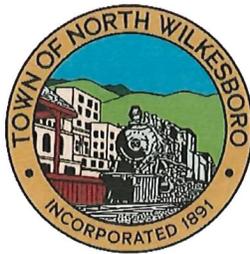




Eddie Settle, Chairman of Wilkes County Board of Commissioners



Michael Inscore, Mayor



Robert Johnson, Mayor



Victor Varela, Mayor

**CONTINUATION OF WILKES COUNTY, WILKESBORO, NORTH WILKESBORO,
AND RONDA DECLARED COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY
AND
TERMINATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RESTRICTIONS IN FAVOR OF NORTH
CAROLINA STATE RESTRICTIONS BY WILKES COUNTY, WILKESBORO, NORTH
WILKESBORO AND RONDA**

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of North Carolina declared a state of emergency as defined by N.C.G.S. § 166A-19.3(6) and 166A-19.3(19) for the State of North Carolina based on the public health emergency posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic and declared a national emergency under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and

corresponding regulations of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”);
and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the County of Wilkes with the consent of the Towns of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro, and Ronda, proclaimed a Declaration of a State of Emergency that placed restrictions on mass gatherings; and

WHEREAS, each of the parties to the Proclamation have issued amendments to the declared State of Emergency affecting business operations, mass gatherings, religious functions, hotels, short-term rentals, and other matters; and

WHEREAS, the Governor subsequently issued Executive Orders implementing a statewide stay at home order, placing restrictions on business activities and gatherings to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and enacting social distancing regulations and sanitation practices for businesses, among other things; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 138 easing restrictions on travel, business operations, and mass gatherings pursuant to phase 1 of the Governor’s plan to reopen the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners and the Mayors of the Towns of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro, and Ronda have consulted with health care professionals and based upon guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, the Wilkes County Health Department Director, and other state officials and have determined that there is a need for the Wilkes County State of Emergency to remain in place and that the restrictions enacted by the parties and the Governor’s Executive Orders have demonstrated effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined at this time that the restrictions enacted in the Governor’s Executive Orders adequately protect the health and safety of Wilkes County residents without a separate set of locally enacted emergency restrictions and that uniformity of restrictions between the State of North Carolina, Wilkes County, and the Towns of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro, and Ronda will improve public understanding and adherence to restrictions.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority contained in Article 1A of the North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 166A, the undersigned Chairman of the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners, the Mayor of the Town of Wilkesboro, the Mayor of the Town of North Wilkesboro, and the Mayor of the Town of Ronda do hereby order the following:

1. This Proclamation shall have no effect on the State of Emergency declared in Wilkes County on March 13, 2020. The State of Emergency shall continue in effect within the County of Wilkes and within the corporate limits of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro, and Ronda.

2. For purposes of aligning with the Governor's Orders pertaining to COVID-19 and establishing uniformity and consistency with the State prohibitions and guidelines, the undersigned hereby adopt and incorporate all restrictions and prohibitions contained in the Governor's Executive Orders effective immediately as related to the activity of people and businesses, and the undersigned mandate that they be followed in Wilkes County and the Towns of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro, and Ronda for the time period of their effective dates, which shall include any extensions, amendments of, or future Governor's Executive Orders. Any previous restrictions enacted by the parties are hereby rescinded.

3. This Proclamation may be amended by the undersigned parties, acting jointly or individually, if it is determined that the health and safety of Wilkes County residents are not adequately protected based upon existing evidence and recommendations by health care professionals, guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, the Wilkes County Health Department Director, and State officials.

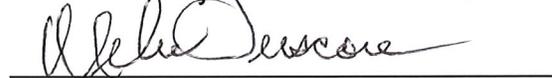
4. Copies of this Proclamation shall be (a) distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) filed with Clerks to the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners and the Towns of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro, and Ronda; and (c) distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this Proclamation.

5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Proclamation is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Proclamation.

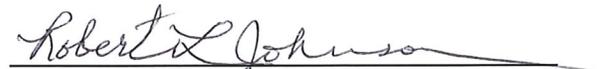
Declared this the 8th day of May, 2020.

By: 

Eddie Settle, Chairman
Wilkes County Board of Commissioners

By: 

Michael Inscore, Mayor
Town of Wilkesboro

By: 

Robert Johnson, Mayor
Town of North Wilkesboro

By: 

Victor Varela, Mayor
Town of Ronda