



A Resolution for the Minutes honoring and recognizing the vital relationship between the City of Camden, New Jersey, its neighborhood and business communities, and its Delaware River waterfront.

WHEREAS, by virtue of its location at the confluence of the Delaware River and Cooper River, the City of Camden, New Jersey has played an important role in the history of the State of New Jersey, the Delaware Valley Region, and the Delaware River Basin;

WHEREAS, Cooper's Ferry and its predecessor operated as early as 1688 and provided the earliest means of communication and transportation across the Delaware River between Philadelphia and Camden;

WHEREAS, access to ocean trade made Camden County a manufacturing hub and contributed to the development of the popular phrase, "On Camden supplies, the world relies;"

WHEREAS, as industry and trade thrived and population grew in the 19th and early 20th centuries, the region's water quality declined and the industrial nature of the waterfront restricted access for Camden communities;

WHEREAS, on December 12, 1972, the Commission amended its Comprehensive Plan to include Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority's ("CCMUA") regional sewage facilities plan. In the decades since, the City of Camden, Camden County, and CCMUA have worked in partnership to provide local and regional water quality improvements through regional wastewater treatment, resilient sewer and stormwater infrastructure, and creative measures to address flooding and reduce combined sewer overflows;

WHEREAS, beginning in the 1980s the State of New Jersey, Camden County, the Delaware River Port Authority, and the City of Camden have worked in partnership to clean up legacy industrial pollution and redevelop the Camden waterfront;

WHEREAS, these efforts have transformed the Camden waterfront both economically and environmentally, and the waterfront and the City are emerging as a home for world-class businesses, tourist attractions, marinas, health care, community organizations, and educational institutions;

WHEREAS, Camden residents and visitors now access and enjoy riverside parks such as Gateway Park, Cooper's Poynt Waterfront Park, Pyne Poynt Park, New Camden Park, Cramer Hill Park, and Wiggins Waterfront Park and Marina, which have reconnected Camden to its waterfront;

WHEREAS, the City, Camden County Parks Department, and State of New Jersey are redeveloping brownfields into public parks and green stormwater infrastructure, and more projects, including the Camden Water Trail, are planned to further enhance access to and enjoyment of the City's waters and waterfront; and

WHEREAS, the Camden Community Partnership continues its mission to serve as the catalyst for the preservation and growth of a vibrant Camden, and the Camden Collaborative Initiative continues to lead the way in planning and developing projects that will further revitalize Camden's waterways and its waterfront.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware River Basin Commission honors and recognizes the City of Camden, New Jersey and its government and community partners for:

- 1. Committing to clean, healthy, and sustainable water resources for its residents and the natural environment.**
- 2. Envisioning and investing to create an economically thriving and dynamic waterfront along the Delaware River.**
- 3. Opening additional and improved opportunities for public access to Camden's waterfront and waterways.**
- 4. Nurturing a spirit of community that continues to identify and address water quality and water equity challenges.**

BY THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

June 7, 2023