

RESOLUTION 2025-144

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE EGG
HARBOR, COUNTY OF OCEAN STATE OF NEW JERSEY
SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WILDLIFE
INTERACTION PLAN TO PROTECT NORTHERN
DIAMONDBACK TERRAPINS AND PROMOTE
COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the Township of Little Egg Harbor is home to ecologically sensitive coastal habitats that support the Northern Diamondback Terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*), a species of special concern in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the township recognizes the threats posed to terrapins and other wildlife by roadways, habitat disruption, and limited public awareness; and

WHEREAS, Great Bay Boulevard, along with other marshland areas within the township, has been identified as a high-density habitat and roadkill “hotspot” for Northern Diamondback Terrapins; and

WHEREAS, the Township supports the efforts of its community partners, including the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey, Frog Pond Elementary and George Mitchell Schools, and local volunteers in implementing a Wildlife Interaction Plan that includes data collection, public education, hatchling head-start programs, and signage; and

WHEREAS, the Township has shared a Terrapin Toolkit on its municipal website to help raise community awareness and encourage responsible coexistence with wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Township intends to explore opportunities for posting additional educational or cautionary signage related to terrapin crossings in coordination with county, state, or local partners, to further support public awareness and wildlife safety; and

WHEREAS, adopting this resolution demonstrates the Township's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable community practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Township formally supports the implementation of the Wildlife Interaction Plan for the protection of Northern Diamondback Terrapins within its jurisdiction.
2. The Township endorses ongoing education, monitoring, and conservation efforts in coordination with community partners and relevant agencies.
3. The Township will continue to share educational materials, promote awareness, and support best practices that align with this plan and contribute to wildlife conservation in Little Egg Harbor.
4. That a certified copy of this resolution, shall be forwarded to the Little Egg Harbor Township Environmental Commission.

CERTIFICATION

I, KELLY LETTERA, CMC, RMC, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Little Egg Harbor do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township of Little Egg Harbor Township Committee at a meeting held on the 12th day of **June, 2025**.



KELLY LETTERA, CMC, RMC
Township Clerk
Little Egg Harbor Township