

Wilmington, Delaware
February 19, 2026

#0186

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Darby**

WHEREAS, the Diamond State Port Corporation (“DSPC”) is a public corporation created by the State of Delaware to own, operate, and manage the Port of Wilmington and related port facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Wilmington is physically located within the corporate boundaries of the City of Wilmington and has a direct and substantial impact on the City’s residents, infrastructure, environment, land use, transportation systems, workforce, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, decisions made by the DSPC Board of Directors affect matters of significant municipal concern, including but not limited to environmental justice, traffic and truck routing, public safety, zoning compatibility, labor and workforce standards, and neighborhood quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington currently has only one mandated representative on the DSPC Board of Directors despite bearing a disproportionate share of the impacts associated with port operations and expansion; and

WHEREAS, municipal representation on state or quasi-state boards overseeing facilities located within city boundaries is a recognized best practice for transparency, accountability, and intergovernmental coordination; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington City Council, through its Finance and Economic Development Committee and Intergovernmental Committee, has a vested responsibility to ensure that major state-controlled assets located in the City operate in a manner aligned with municipal priorities and community well-being; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington City Council respectfully requests the creation of a designated seat on the Board of Directors of the Diamond State Port Corporation (DSPC) to be filled by a sitting member of the Wilmington City Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council recommends that the requested seat be reserved for a member of Wilmington City Council serving on either the Finance and Economic Development Committee, the Intergovernmental Committee, or another Council Member designated by Council leadership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urges the Governor of the State of Delaware and the Delaware General Assembly to take all necessary legislative or administrative actions to amend applicable statutes or appointment practices to formalize Wilmington City Council representation, including consideration of a voting or ex-officio seat.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, until such statutory changes are enacted, the City Council requests that the Governor appoint a Wilmington City Council member to the DSPC Board at the earliest available opportunity, consistent with existing appointment authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wilmington City Council affirms that representation on the DSPC Board of Directors is necessary to ensure transparency, accountability, and coordination between state port operations and local land use, transportation planning, environmental justice, public safety, and community well-being within the City of Wilmington.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: Despite bearing a disproportionate share of the impacts, the City currently lacks sufficient formal representation on the Diamond State Port Corporation (DSPC) Board. This Resolution urges the Governor of the State of Delaware and the Delaware General Assembly to take the necessary legislative or administrative actions to formalize City Council representation on the DSPC Board, including consideration of a voting or ex-officio seat, and requests interim appointment of a Wilmington City Council member until such changes are enacted.