

Wilmington, Delaware
February 19, 2026

#0187

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Darby**

WHEREAS, the Diamond State Port Corporation (“DSPC”) is undertaking a major port expansion project in the Edgemoor/Claymont area, including the development of new container terminal facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Edgemoor port expansion will significantly increase maritime, truck, rail, industrial, and logistical activity immediately adjacent to and functionally integrated with the City of Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of the port expansion, including but not limited to traffic congestion, air quality, noise pollution, environmental justice concerns, emergency response demands, workforce access, housing pressure, and infrastructure strain, will be borne disproportionately by Wilmington residents and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, despite the operational, environmental, and economic integration of the Edgemoor port expansion with the City of Wilmington, the subject land currently lies outside the City’s municipal boundaries, limiting the City’s ability to exercise zoning, land-use regulation, public safety coordination, taxation, and community impact oversight; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington has a compelling governmental interest in ensuring that major industrial and infrastructure developments directly affecting its residents are subject to appropriate municipal governance, accountability, and alignment with the City’s comprehensive planning, public safety, and environmental justice goals; and

WHEREAS, Delaware law permits the annexation of contiguous territory into municipal boundaries when such annexation serves the public interest, promotes orderly development, and ensures responsible governance of land uses with regional and municipal impact; and

WHEREAS, annexation of the Edgemoor port expansion lands into the City of Wilmington would promote coordinated land-use planning and zoning oversight; ensure municipal representation and accountability for port-related impacts; strengthen public safety, emergency management, and infrastructure coordination; align economic development with community benefits and workforce access; and provide clarity regarding taxation, service delivery, and regulatory authority; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington City Council has a responsibility to proactively safeguard the interests of City residents as state-controlled infrastructure expands beyond existing municipal boundaries in ways that directly affect Wilmington's social, environmental, and economic well-being;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington City Council formally requests the annexation of the port expansion lands located in the Claymont/Edgemoor area into the municipal boundaries of the City of Wilmington, pursuant to applicable provisions of Delaware law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urges the Governor of the State of Delaware, the Delaware General Assembly, the Executive of New Castle County, Members of the New Castle County Council, and relevant state and county agencies support and facilitate the annexation of the Edgemoor port expansion area in recognition of the City's governance responsibilities and the impacts borne by Wilmington residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council requests that the Administration coordinate with appropriate City departments to evaluate and prepare an annexation plan, including: boundary mapping, infrastructure and service impacts, zoning and land-use

alignment, public safety and emergency response considerations, as well as fiscal and taxation implications

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council respectfully urges formal intergovernmental coordination between the City of Wilmington, the Diamond State Port Corporation, New Castle County, and the State of Delaware to ensure a transparent, equitable, and orderly annexation process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wilmington City Council affirms that annexation of the Edgemoor port expansion lands into the City of Wilmington is necessary to ensure coordinated land-use planning, zoning oversight, public safety and emergency response coordination, infrastructure management, and accountability for the environmental, transportation, and quality-of-life impacts borne by Wilmington residents as a result of port expansion activities.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: Despite the operational, environmental, and economic integration of the Edgemoor port expansion with the City of Wilmington, the subject land currently lies outside the City's municipal boundaries, limiting the City's ability to exercise zoning, land-use regulation, public safety coordination, taxation, and community impact oversight. This Resolution requests state and local coordination to facilitate the annexation of port expansion lands in the Claymont-Edgemoor area into the municipal boundaries of the City of Wilmington.