

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO A PROPOSED REZONING FOR A LARGE-SCALE DATA CENTER ADJACENT TO THE RURAL HALL TOWN LIMITS

WHEREAS the Town of Rural Hall has been notified by the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Planning Department of a proposed rezoning of property located adjacent to the Town's municipal limits from RS9 and RS20 (Residential) to LI-S (Limited Industrial – Special Use) to allow for the development of a large-scale data center; and

WHEREAS although the subject property lies outside the corporate limits of the Town of Rural Hall and is therefore under the zoning jurisdiction of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County, the proposed development is in close proximity to the Town and its residents; and

WHEREAS the Town Council recognizes that projects of this scale may have significant regional impacts, including but not limited to:

- Increased demand on electrical infrastructure and the potential need for substations or transmission upgrades;
- Substantial water usage and potential impacts to shared water resources;
- Traffic impacts during both construction and operation;
- Noise, lighting, and visual impacts associated with large industrial-scale facilities;
- Stormwater runoff and environmental impacts due to large areas of impervious surface; and
- Public safety considerations, including fire protection needs and the presence of backup generation systems or battery storage; and

WHEREAS the Town Council has a responsibility to advocate for the health, safety, and general welfare of its residents, including those living in areas immediately adjacent to the Town's municipal boundaries; and

WHEREAS similar large-scale data center proposals in surrounding jurisdictions, including recent discussions in Stokes County, have generated significant public concern regarding land use compatibility and long-term community impacts; and

WHEREAS the Rural Hall Town Council believes that the proposed rezoning to LI-S for a large-scale data center at this location is not compatible with the existing and planned character of the surrounding area and may adversely affect nearby residential properties and community resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Rural Hall, North Carolina, as follows:

1. The Town of Rural Hall hereby formally expresses its opposition to the proposed rezoning of property adjacent to the Town limits from RS9 and RS20 to LI-S for the purpose of developing a large-scale data center.
2. The Town Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Planning Department, the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Planning Board, and the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners for consideration as part of the official record for this rezoning request.
3. The Town Manager and staff are directed to continue monitoring the proposal, to engage with Planning staff as appropriate, and to advocate for the interests of Rural Hall residents throughout the review process.

ADOPTED this 13th day of April, 2026, by the Town Council of the Town of Rural Hall, North Carolina.



Terry M. Bennett, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lynette Hendrick, Town Clerk

