ORDINANCE NO. 2020-00724

"Cornelius High School Agriculture Building" (listed under Tax Parcel Number 00520129 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, NC as of October 1, 2019 and including the exterior of the 1937 Cornelius High School Agriculture Building as shown on the attached map). The property is owned by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and is located at 21126 Catawba Avenue, Cornelius, NC.

WHEREAS, all of the prerequisites to the adoption of this ordinance prescribed in Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina have been met; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Cornelius, North Carolina, have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 6th day of January 2020, on the question of designating a property known as the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building as an historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 9th day of December 2019, on the question of designating a property known as the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building as an historic landmark; and
WHEREAS, the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building is one of two surviving agriculture buildings of the four that were erected in Mecklenburg County in 1937-38 and funded by the PWA; and

WHEREAS, the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building illustrates the efforts of the Mecklenburg County School System to assist farmers and aspiring farmers to gain the knowledge and skills demanded by an increasingly complex era of agricultural practice; and

WHEREAS, the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building was designed by Willard G. Rogers, an architect of local and regional importance; and

WHEREAS, the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building is a sophisticated example of a Classical Revival style institutional structure used for educational purposes in Mecklenburg County; and

WHEREAS, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building possesses special significance in terms of its history, architecture, and/or cultural importance; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building is owned by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Cornelius, North Carolina:

1. That the property known as the “Cornelius High School Agriculture Building” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 00520129 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office,
Charlotte, NC as of October 1, 2019 and including the exterior of the 1937 Cornelius High School Agriculture Building as shown on the attached map) is hereby designated as an historic landmark pursuant to Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina. The location of said landmark is noted as being situated at 21126 Catawba Avenue, Cornelius, NC. Exterior features are more completely described in the *Survey and Research Report on the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building (2018).*

2 That said exterior is more specifically defined as the historic and structural fabric, especially including all original exterior architectural features.

3. That said designated historic landmark may be materially altered, restored, moved or demolished only following issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. An application for a Certificate of Appropriateness authorizing the demolition of said landmark may not be denied, except if such landmark is judged to be of State-wide significance by duly authorized officials of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. However, the effective date of such Certificate may be delayed in accordance with Chapter 160A, Article 19, and amendments thereto, and hereinafter adopted.

4 Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent or delay ordinary maintenance or repair of any architectural feature in or on said landmark that does not involve a change in design, material or outer appearance thereof, nor to prevent or delay the construction, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition or removal of any such feature when a building inspector or similar official certifies to the Commission that such
action is required for the public safety because of an unsafe condition. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the owner of the historic landmark from making any use of the historic landmark not prohibited by other statutes, ordinances or regulations. Owners of locally designated historic landmarks are expected to be familiar with and to follow The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, the guidelines used by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission to evaluate proposed alterations or additions.

5 That a suitable sign may be posted indicating that said property has been designated as a historic landmark and containing any other appropriate information. If the owner consents, the sign may be placed on said historic landmark.

6 That the owners of the historic landmark known as the Cornelius High School Agriculture Building be given notice of this ordinance as required by applicable law and that copies of this ordinance be filed and indexed in the offices of the Town Clerk, Building Standards Department, Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds, and the Tax Supervisor, as required by applicable law.

7 That which is designated as a historic landmark shall be subject to Chapter 160A, Article 19, of the General Statutes of North Carolina as amended, and any amendments to it and any amendments hereinafter adopted.
Adopted the __6th__ day of January, 2020, by the members of the Board of
Commissioners of the Town of Cornelius, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

Woody T. Washam, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Lori Harrell, Town Clerk

Approved as to form:

Town Attorney
Exhibit:

Exhibit A

[Map of the area with labeled points: Cornelius Elementary and Ag Building]