



SPONSORSHIP POLICY

I. GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT

The Town of Kure Beach permits private sponsorships of government programs or services in limited circumstances as a means to generate funds for improving or expanding those programs and services and exercises sole discretion over who is eligible to become a sponsor according to the terms of this Policy. Whenever possible, sponsorships shall be linked to specific activities, events, programs, or publications. The Town of Kure Beach will neither seek nor accept sponsors that manufacture products or take positions inconsistent with local, state, or federal law or with the Town of Kure Beach policies, positions, or resolutions. The acceptance of a sponsorship offer or the establishment of a sponsorship agreement does not constitute an endorsement by the Town of Kure Beach of the sponsor's organization, products, or services.

II. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this Policy is to define the conditions upon which sponsorship messages may be placed upon property or in publications of the Town and to establish definitive guidelines for the acceptance and placement of such messages. It is the intent of the Town of Kure Beach to preserve its full rights and discretion to reject or refuse placement of any or all sponsorship messages. To the extent that any such messages are accepted, the Town of Kure Beach reserves the right of full editorial control over the placement, content, appearance and wording and to determine and prohibit types of sponsorship messages which are deemed inappropriate for or inconsistent with the business of the Town or the services provided to the Town of Kure Beach residents.

III. CRITERIA FOR SPONSORSHIP

The Town of Kure Beach recognizes that entering into a sponsorship agreement with an external entity does not constitute an endorsement of the entity or its services and products but does imply an affiliation. Such affiliation can affect the reputation of the Town of Kure Beach among its residents. Therefore, any proposal for sponsorship of a Town of Kure Beach program or service in which the involvement of an outside entity compromises the public interest will be rejected.

The Town of Kure Beach shall consider the following criteria before entering into a sponsorship agreement:

- Extent and prominence of public display of sponsorship;
- Aesthetic characteristics of the public display of sponsorship;
- Level of support provided by the sponsor;
- Cooperation necessary from other Town of Kure Beach Departments to implement the sponsorship;
- Inconsistencies between the Town of Kure Beach policies and the known policies or practices of the potential sponsor;

- Other factors that might undermine public confidence in the Town's impartiality or interfere with the efficient delivery of Town services or operations, including, but not limited to, current or potential conflicts of interest between the sponsor and the Town of Kure Beach employees, officials, or affiliates; and the potential for the sponsorship to tarnish the Town's standing among its residents at large.

IV. SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENTS

Sponsorship agreements for Town of Kure Beach programs or services shall clearly outline the forms of support sought and offered, the recognition to be given by the Town, and should detail the following information, at a minimum:

- Activities, products, and services of the private entity, its parent, subsidiaries, affiliates and predecessor companies;
- Benefits to be given to the proposed sponsor by the Town of Kure Beach;
- Benefits to be given to the Town of Kure Beach by the proposed sponsor;
- Prominence of the proposed public recognition of support;
- Content of the proposed public recognition of support;
- Duration of the proposed public recognition of support;
- Conditions under which the sponsorship agreement may be terminated.

V. IMPERMISSIBLE SPONSORS AND MESSAGE CONTENT

Sponsorship from an organization that is engaged in any of the following activities, or has a mission of supporting any of the following subject matters, or that, in the sole discretion and judgment of the authorized representative of the Town of Kure Beach, is deemed to be unsuitable for and contrary to community standards or appropriateness for government publications, shall be prohibited on any Town property or in Town publications:

- Promotion of the sale or consumption of alcoholic or cereal malt beverages, in name, likeness or implication or promotion of establishments that are licensed for and primarily sell alcoholic or cereal malt beverages, including bars; provided, however, restaurants or other food services establishments and hotels or other places of lodging may be authorized when the commercial message or advertisement promotes only the food services or lodging;
- Promotion of the sale or consumption of tobacco or vaping products or depiction of the use of tobacco or vaping products;
- Commentary, advocacy or promotion of issues, candidates, campaigns or organizations of a social, political, religious, or rhetorical nature;
- Promotion of gambling, pari-mutual betting, or games of chance, in name, likeness or implication, or promotion of establishments providing such services or activities of a related or similar nature;
- Depiction in any form of nudity or semi-nudity, profanity, obscenity, or lewdness, or characterizations which suggest, depict or promote any such element or sexually oriented products, activities or materials;
- Promotion in any form of illegal drugs, illegal drug use, illegal drug paraphernalia, or characterizations which suggest or depict the promotion or glorification of any such products, activities or materials;

- Promotion of the use or sale of firearms, explosives or other weapons, or the depiction, suggestion or glorification of violence or acts of a violent nature;
- Use of language or descriptive material which when taken in form and context is deemed to be unsuitable for or contrary to community standards of appropriateness for governmental use for family publications;
- Use of words, language, representations or descriptive material of any kind having more than one meaning or connotation, one of which would otherwise be prohibited under this Policy;
- Inclusion of materials, depictions, promotions or offerings which are the type prohibited by, or by their nature would violate, any federal, State, or local law, rule, or regulation.

The Town of Kure Beach reserves the right and discretion to exercise full editorial control over the placement, content, appearance, and wording of sponsorship affiliations and messages. The Town of Kure Beach may make distinctions on the appropriateness of sponsors on the basis of subject matter of a potential sponsorship recognition message.

VI. PERMISSIBLE RECOGNITION MESSAGES

Sponsorship recognition messages may identify the sponsor but generally should not promote or endorse the organization or its products or services. Statements that advocate, contain price information or an indication of associated savings or value, request a response, or contain comparative or qualitative descriptions of products, services or organizations will ordinarily not be accepted. Typically, only the following content will be deemed appropriate:

- The legally recognized name of the sponsoring organization;
- The sponsor's organizational slogan if it identifies rather than promotes the organization or its products or services;
- The sponsor's product or services line, described in brief, generic, objective terms;
- Brief contact information for the sponsor's organization, such as a phone number, address, website, or QR code. Contact information should be stated in a manner that avoids an implication of urging the reader to action.

The Town of Kure Beach will not make any statements that directly or indirectly advocate or endorse a sponsor's organization, products, or services.

No materials or communications, including, but not limited to, print, video, Internet, broadcast, or display items developed to promote or communicate the sponsorship using the Town of Kure Beach's name, marks, or logo, may be issued without written approval from the Town of Kure Beach Commissioners and Town Attorney, or their designees.

VII. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Sponsor is solely responsible for obtaining necessary permission to use photographs, trademarks, trade names, copyrighted material or any other legally protected property. All commercial messages or advertisements shall be accepted and published by the Town upon the representation that the agency or sponsor is authorized to publish the entire contents and subject matter thereof.

2. Sponsor assumes liability for all content and responsibility of any claim arising therefrom. Sponsor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Town, its officials, officers, agents and employees against all damages, costs and expenses including, without limitation, attorney's fees resulting from any claim, action or proceeding alleging that the commercial message or sponsorship infringes on any copyright, violates any right of privacy, or other personal or property right, constitutes libelous matter, plagiarism, unfair competition, unfair trade practice, infringement of trademarks, or other matter contrary to law or contains any formula or instructions injurious to the user of a sponsor's product.
3. The Town is not liable for delays in publication or presentation of sponsorship messages in any event or for any reason, including acts of God, action by any governmental or quasi-governmental entity, lack of funds, fire, flood, insurrection, riot, explosion, embargo, strikes whether legal or illegal, labor or material shortage, transportation interruption of any kind, work slowdown, or any condition beyond the control of the Town affecting publication or presentation of sponsorship in any manner.
4. If an error or omission occurs in the publication or placement of any sponsorship message, the Town's liability shall be limited to the amount of the reduction in the value of the sponsorship due to the error or omission, but in no event shall liability exceed the total cost payable for the sponsorship space.
5. The words "a paid sponsorship", or some like term, may be added to sponsorship messages that, in the sole opinion of the Town, might be confused with editorial matters.

VIII. AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS

Placement of sponsorship messages upon Town property or in Town publications shall require specific authorization from the Town of Kure Beach Town Council via the creation and approval of a Sponsorship Agreement Form for each sponsorship opportunity. Interested sponsors shall submit a completed Sponsorship Agreement Form to the appropriate Town designee for review in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy and be notified by such designee upon acceptance or denial of the sponsorship offer. The Town of Kure Beach Town Council reserves the right to require Sponsorship Agreement Forms for specific sponsorship opportunities be reviewed by Town Council prior to approval or denial.

This Policy shall be and become effective upon adoption by the Town of Kure Beach Town Council and shall thereafter apply to the acceptance and placement of sponsorship messages as provided in the Policy; provided, however, that sponsorship messages which were made prior to the adoption of this Policy shall not be considered in violation of the Policy, and to the extent possible shall be construed and completed, if necessary, in the manner most consistent with the Policy.