A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UPS TEAMSTERS IN THEIR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND PLEDGE TO STAND STRIKE READY IN SOLIDARITY

WHEREAS, working people in North Carolina and the United States are laboring under conditions of extreme income inequality, with many households forced to take on extra hours, shifts, and jobs while executive pay reaches record-setting levels; and

WHEREAS, the degradation of legal and policy support for organized labor has coincided with lower wages, unsafe working conditions, increasing worker mistreatment; and

WHEREAS, UPS Teamsters carry goods totaling 6% of the National GDP, fulfilling a vital role in every sector of our economy; and

WHEREAS, UPS Teamsters are currently in contract negotiations in advance of their current contract expiring on August 1; and

WHEREAS, UPS Teamsters are negotiating to eliminate excessive overtime and get rid of anti-worker two-tier driver classifications, combat employee harassment, and turn part-time jobs into full-time jobs; and

WHEREAS, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, UPS is reporting record profits, thanks to the efforts of their many essential workers; and

WHEREAS, the right to withhold labor is a fundamental right of all workers and a vital tool for securing fair and safe working conditions; and

WHEREAS, the UPS Teamsters have authorized a strike for their union if their demands are not met in time to approve a new contract before August 1; and

WHEREAS, the last time UPS drivers went on strike in 1997, their action resulted in victory for the union within 15 days;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carrboro Town Council stands in solidarity with UPS Teamsters in their fight for a fair contract, and asks the residents of Carrboro to stand Strike Ready to support these professionals who contribute their vital labor to nearly every major industry. We ask that our residents make preparations to avoid crossing any potential UPS picket lines, making plans to receive packages through other carriers. We also direct town staff to research the implications of a UPS driver strike on Town business and report a plan to avoid crossing a picket line to Town Council.

This is the 27th day of June, 2023.