CARTERET COUNTY
Chamber of Commerce

Position Statement on the Use of Eminent Domain

The mission of the Carteret County Chamber of Commerce is to improve the economic climate of Carteret County by uniting the business community and providing leadership that supports sustainable growth, investment certainty, and long-term prosperity.

Eminent domain is an extraordinary governmental authority intended for limited and essential public purposes. While legally permitted, its use carries significant economic, operational, and ethical implications for private property owners, businesses, employees, and the broader business climate.

The Carteret County Chamber of Commerce affirms that the use of eminent domain should be considered only under exceptional circumstances and must be approached with the highest standards of transparency, due process, and meaningful public engagement. Such action should occur only when a clearly defined and substantial public benefit demonstrably outweighs the economic and operational impacts to affected property owners and businesses.

A predictable and transparent environment is fundamental to business confidence, capital investment, and workforce stability. Actions that create uncertainty, displace operating businesses, or are pursued without robust public input pose long-term risks to economic vitality and community trust.

The Chamber supports growth and development initiatives that strengthen Carteret County's economy while respecting the rights and investments of businesses and property owners. This policy position applies consistently across all jurisdictions, projects, and future considerations.

Adopted by the Carteret County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors January 27th, 2026