

TOWN OF EAST BEND NORTH CAROLINA
KEY TO THE CITY POLICY

Introduction. The granting of the Key to the City is a symbolic presentation which represents the highest honor that a city can confer on an individual or organization. The Key to the Town of East Bend may be bestowed by the Town Council upon distinguished persons and honored guests of the Town.

The tradition of the Key to the City dates to the Middle Ages, when many cities were enclosed by fortifications. The Key granted the recipient the freedom to enter the city without challenge at any time.

The Key to the Town of East Bend is presented by the Mayor at a civic ceremony to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of an individual or organization to the Town or public. As this is a high honor, the granting of a Key should be rare and restricted to instances of exceptional service or contribution. A Key will not be issued in recognition of ideological, political or religious beliefs.

Procedure. The Key to the Town of East Bend may be awarded to an individual or organization to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of an individual or organization to the Town or public.

A Key to the Town of East Bend may be requested by a Mayor, Council member, or other individual or organization by written request to the Town Clerk. With the approval of the Mayor, the nomination will be placed on the published meeting agenda.

The Town Council may award the Key to the Town upon Motion and affirmative vote at a duly called meeting of the Council. Upon the award, the Town will prepare a document declaring the honor, bearing the Mayor's signature, and affix its seal.