

KEEP IT REAL-LY BEAUTIFUL RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO PRESERVE NIGHT SKIES

WHEREAS, Keep It Real-ly Beautiful (KIRB) recognizes Real County, the Frio Canyon and the surrounding Texas Hill Country for its rich cultural heritage and breathtaking scenic beauty, which include dark night skies with the visibility of abundant stars and other celestial objects; and

WHEREAS, the mission of KIRB is to “Educate and engage Real County residents and visitors to take responsibility for improving our communities and environment through litter prevention, waste reduction, and beautification”, and improving the darkness of night skies in Real County is relevant and important to the beautification of Real County; and

WHEREAS, light trespass from night lighting fixtures has been steadily on the rise, negatively impacting the natural environment and the quality of life of the people in the area by, among other things, reducing night sky visibility and enjoyment for citizens and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, in recent years greater focus has been placed on the economic and financial benefits of preserving the scenic beauty in Real County, the Frio Canyon and the surrounding Texas Hill Country in order to maintain the area's unique historic heritage and to enhance tourism; and

WHEREAS, the area is a significant destination for tourism, which is important to many community members, and preserving the starry night skies in and around Real County will enhance the area's attraction and appeal as a destination for tourism; and

WHEREAS, Keep It Real-ly Beautiful is committed to supporting practices that limit or minimize light trespass from night lighting fixtures in order to protect the beauty of the night skies and allow others the full benefit and use of their property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY KEEP IT REAL-LY BEAUTIFUL, that KIRB shall promote and encourage outdoor lighting practices and fixtures that follow up-to-date suggested guidelines for dark sky compliance, and use available technologies for efficient, cost effective, and non-intrusive lighting. KIRB will work with its members and partners to educate and encourage landowners, businesses, residential neighborhoods and public entities to join this commitment to reduce energy consumption, save money, reduce light trespass and sky glow, and preserve our starry night skies.

Adopted on May 5, 2016.

Mary S Gorman
ATTEST:

President, KIRB