

RESOLUTION
Supporting the Preservation of our Night Skies

WHEREAS, Fredericksburg residents recognize the importance of the city and the surrounding Texas Hill Country for their rich cultural heritage and breathtaking scenic beauty, including starry night skies; and

WHEREAS, our heritage of starry night skies has rapidly been eroding and generations are growing up never having seen the wonders of the Milky Way; 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 city by, among other things, reducing night sky visibility and enjoyment for citizens and visitors alike.

WHEREAS, some of Fredericksburg's neighboring cities such as Blanco, Dripping Springs and Junction have already, or are in the process of, adopting outdoor lighting ordinances to preserve the night skies around their cities, and

WHEREAS, in recent years greater focus has been placed on the economic and financial benefits of preserving the scenic beauty in and around the city in order to maintain the city's unique historic heritage and enhance tourism; and

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

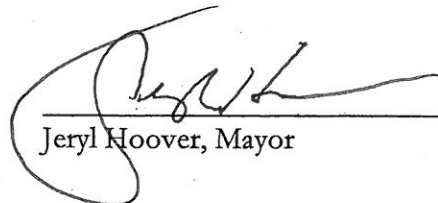
WHEREAS, preserving the rich historic heritage and starry night skies of Fredericksburg is important to its citizens in order for the city to remain unique from other large Texas urban areas where unnecessary and inefficient lighting has turned night into day; and

WHEREAS, inexpensive night lighting fixtures are readily available that are designed to direct light only where it is needed, distribute light more efficiently and effectively and thereby reduce glare, power consumption and cost, and

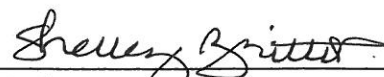
WHEREAS, the city of Fredericksburg is committed to supporting practices that limit or minimize light trespass from night lighting fixtures in order to protect the beauty of the night skies and allow others the full benefit and use of their property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS, that the city shall promote and encourage outdoor lighting fixtures and practices that follow up-to-date suggested guidelines and use available technologies for efficient, cost effective, non-intrusive lighting and will endeavor 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 preserve our starry night skies.

Adopted this the 18th day of March, 2013.



Jeryl Hoover, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Shelley Britton, City Secretary