

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY COMMUNITY

Whereas, the residents of the City of Fredericksburg recognize the importance of a clear view of the starry night skies as part of our rural heritage and of the breathtaking natural beauty of the Fredericksburg area; and

Whereas, the influx of people into the region and accompanying light trespass from area lighting fixtures has been steadily on the rise, and these factors have impacted the natural environment and quality of life of the people of this region; and

Whereas, the historical view of the night skies has been eroding in many nearby areas and generations are growing up with limited, if any, view of the wonders of the universe; and

Whereas, several Hill Country communities and parks have received International Dark Skies distinctions, including Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, South Llano State Park, and Dripping Springs; and

Whereas, preserving the rich historic heritage that is embodied in the starry night skies of Fredericksburg is a significant part of preserving our history and enhancing tourism; and

Whereas, the City of Fredericksburg, has shown its commitment to supporting practices that limit or minimize light trespass from night lighting fixtures in order to protect the beauty of the night skies by adopting the Resolution Supporting the Preservation of our Night Skies, on March 18, 2013 (the Resolution); and

Whereas, the City of Fredericksburg has continued in its commitment to protect the beauty of the night skies by enacting an outdoor lighting ordinance in August 2014 at Ord. No. 24-014, 8-18-2014 (the Outdoor lighting Ordinance);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS that:

1. The City Council of the City of Fredericksburg continues to support the use of outdoor lighting fixtures and practices that preserve and restore our historic starry night skies as described in the Resolution and as reflected in the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance.
2. The City Council of the City of Fredericksburg supports the application to the International Dark-Sky Association for the City of Fredericksburg to obtain the designation as an International Dark Sky Community.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 15th OF MAY, 2017, BY THE CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG CITY COUNCIL.

Linda Langerhans, Mayor

Charlie Kiehne, Council Member

Gary Neffendorf, Council Member

Jerry Luckenbach, Council Member

Bobby Watson, Council Member

ATTEST:

Shelley Britton, City Secretary