



RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO PRESERVE NIGHT SKIES

WHEREAS, Hays County residents recognize the importance of the Texas Hill Country for its diverse ecosystems, rich cultural heritage, and breathtaking scenic beauty; and

WHEREAS, the influx of people into the region over the years and accompanying light trespass from area lighting fixtures and billboards has been steadily on the rise, and these factors have impacted the natural environment and the quality of life of the people of this region by, among other things, reducing night sky visibility and enjoyment for residents 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 Hays County to maintain its unique historic heritage and beauty; and

WHEREAS, the Hays County Commissioners Court recognizes that preserving the rich historic heritage and stary night skies of Hays County is important to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, outdoor 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, Hays County is committed to supporting practices that limit or minimize light trespass, glare, and skyglow from outdoor lighting to protect the beauty of the night skies and allow others the full benefit and use of their property; and

WHEREAS, the Hays County cities of Dripping Springs, Wimberley and Woodcreek are designated as Dark Sky Communities by the International Dark Sky Association.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Commissioners Court of Hays County, Texas, encourages outdoor lighting fixtures and practices that follow up-to-date guidelines and use available technologies for efficient, non-intrusive lighting and will endeavor to educate and encourage landowners, businesses, residential neighborhoods, and public entities to join in this commitment to reduce energy consumption, save money, reduce light trespass and preserve our stary night skies.

ADOPTED THIS THE 13th DAY OF AUGUST 2019

Ruben Becerra
Hays County Judge

Debbie Gonzales Ingalsbe
Commissioner, Pct. 1

Mark Jones
Commisssioner, Pct. 2

Lon A. Shell
Commissioner, Pct. 3

Walt Smith
Commissioner, Pct. 4

ATTEST:

Elaine Cardenas
Hays County Clerk

