

Proclamation

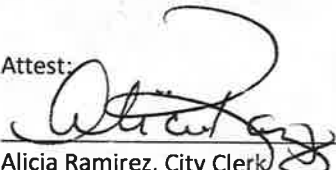
- WHEREAS,** preserving and promoting the rich historic heritage and starry night skies of the Buda area are important to its residents' overall well-being and to tourism; and
- WHEREAS,** light pollution, wasted light that performs no function or task and artificial light that goes where it is not supposed to go, is on the rise in our area; and
- WHEREAS** this light pollution obscures our night skies, squanders our natural resources, and is disruptive to animals; and
- WHEREAS,** solving the problem of light pollution involves making better use of outdoor lighting to direct light down to where it is needed instead of upward into the sky, putting outdoor lights on timers, and using outdoor lighting only where necessary; and
- WHEREAS,** Hill Country communities are increasingly dedicated to the preservation of the region's night skies, as evidenced by the designation of Dripping Springs and Wimberley Valley as International Dark Sky Places by the International Dark-Sky Association; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Buda's Sustainability Commission is actively working to help Buda become an International Dark Sky Place by recommending amendments to the City's lighting ordinance, completion of a public light audit, and through educational events and material; and
- WHEREAS,** Buda residents in the Hays County Chapter Texas Master Naturalists and Hays County Friends of the Night Sky have devoted many hours in Hays County to share the wonder of our night skies, and promote responsible lighting to help us see better at night; and
- WHEREAS,** this regional effort and the preservation and celebration of our night skies is worthy of a month-long celebration

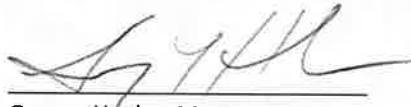
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the City of Buda, Texas:

1. That October 2020 shall hereafter be known as "Hill Country Night Sky Month" in Buda.
2. That the City of Buda encourages citizens to enjoy the night sky and to participate in events and programs celebrating the night sky and promoting the ways in which communities are working to preserve it.
3. That the City of Buda encourages citizens to learn about light pollution and why it matters, about night sky friendly lighting, and about lighting regulations, using this knowledge to implement practices and lighting improvements that will reduce light pollution, thereby preserving our night skies.
4. That the City Clerk is hereby instructed to post this Proclamation for Public Display and enter this document into the permanent records of the City of Buda.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Buda, Texas, this 7th day of October, 2020.

Attest:


Alicia Ramirez, City Clerk


George Haehn, Mayor