

RESOLUTION NO. 35-2008

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ABILENE CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING THE MEMBERS OF THE 81ST LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS SUPPORT LEGISLATION THAT INCREASES FUNDING FOR THE TEXAS RECREATION & PARKS ACCOUNT LOCAL PARK GRANT PROGRAM AND THE TEXAS STATE PARK SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department ("TPWD") administers the Texas Recreation & Parks Account Local Park Grant Program ("TRPA") and manages 93 State parks and historical sites in Texas; and

WHEREAS, TPWD has a separate account in their general revenue fund referred to as the TRPA for the purpose of providing matching grants to political subdivisions for parks and recreation projects; and

WHEREAS, the matching grants provided by the TPWD are utilized for the planning, acquisition, and development of local park, recreation and open space areas to be owned and maintained by political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, funds granted to political subdivisions under the TRPA guidelines have funded 1,495 projects of the 2,913 submitted over 29 years delivering over \$792 million dollars to the local Texas economy; and

WHEREAS, political subdivisions throughout the State of Texas depend on grants from TPWD through the TRPA to stimulate the acquisition and development of parks and recreational areas for the benefit and enjoyment of their citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the TRPA and State parks are funded from sales tax on sporting goods and that the development of new parks stimulates the purchase of sporting goods; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance and improvements of State park and historic sites and the addition of new parks is a priority to Texans due to the State's expanding population and extensive tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the development of parks encourages and promotes public health, economic development, job creation, education; corporate relocations, an improved quality of life, and juvenile crime prevention; and

WHEREAS, funds are needed for major repairs at state parks and for the acquisition and development of parks and facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this City Council that a copy of this resolution with appropriate names affixed be presented to the Governor of Texas and the leadership of the 81ST Texas Legislature.

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

1. That members of the 81st Legislature of Texas seek passage of legislation maximizing the use of revenue from the sporting goods sales tax to increase funding for parks and recreation programs for both Local and State parks and that all TRPA funded park projects be subject to the established TPWD competitive scoring system.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Abilene on this the 9th day of October 2008.

APPROVED:



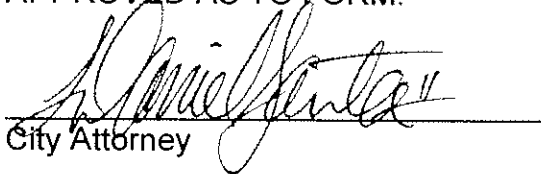
Norm Archibald
Mayor

ATTEST:



Charlette K. Deup
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Michael J. Gentry
City Attorney