

**CITY OF KERRVILLE, TEXAS
RESOLUTION NO. 81-2022**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CITY'S INTENT TO
BECOME CERTIFIED AS A DARK SKY COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, Kerrville recognizes the importance of its location in the Texas Hill Country and the resulting rich cultural heritage and breathtaking scenic beauty, including visible starry night skies; and

WHEREAS, Schreiner University has built and maintains its Loftis Observatory and offers star parties to the public, where participants are able to view planets, nebulae, stars, galaxies, and other celestial objects in the Hill Country sky in a domed observatory containing a 16-inch telescope; and

WHEREAS, light trespass from 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; and

WHEREAS, a number of Hill Country cities, such as Fredericksburg, Junction, Blanco, Johnson City, Llano, Mason, and Dripping Springs, have adopted outdoor lighting ordinances to preserve the night skies around their cities, and

WHEREAS, the City's Comprehensive Plan (*Kerrville 2050*) recognizes the significance of night skies with respect to the City's parks and open spaces and downtown area; and

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

WHEREAS, City Council 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 for the full benefit and use of our residents' property; and

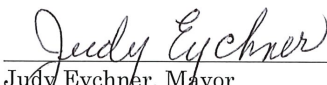
WHEREAS, by the adoption of this Resolution, City Council is expressing its intent to become certified as a Dark Sky Community;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF KERRVILLE, KERR COUNTY, TEXAS:**

SECTION ONE. City Council, in accordance with Section 3000.002 of the Texas Government Code ("Section 3000.002"), establishes its intent to become certified as a Dark Sky Community by the International Dark Sky Association as part of the International Dark Sky Places Program.

SECTION TWO. Pursuant to its action taken in Section One, City Council directs the City Manager to submit an outdoor lighting ordinance to the City Council for Council's consideration and possible adoption. The ordinance, pursuant to Section 3000.002, shall not regulate outdoor lighting in a manner that is more restrictive than the prohibitions or limitations required to become certified as a Dark Sky community.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON this the 13 day of December A.D., 2022.



Judy Eychner, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Michael C. Hayes, City Attorney

ATTEST:



Shelley McElhannon, City Secretary

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