

RESOLUTION NO. R-29-2023

CITY OF LAS VEGAS DESERT EDGE AND OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the outdoor recreation areas within the City of Las Vegas and Southern Nevada region provide numerous important economic, social, and environmental benefits, including cleaner air, access to low-impact enhanced public health, and increased property values; and

WHEREAS, Southern Nevada's natural environment and the Mojave Desert contain sensitive native plant species including Joshua Trees, Creosote, Mojave Yucca, and native animal species such as the Mohave Desert Tortoise, Mount Charleston Blue Butterfly, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and others that are protected under the Clark County Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP); and

WHEREAS, the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) allows the Bureau of Land Management to sell public land within a specific boundary around Las Vegas; a portion of the revenue from auctioned sales is eligible to fund development of parks, trails, natural areas, and other recreational and public purposes, conservation initiatives on Federal lands, and environmentally sensitive land acquisitions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan (Ordinance 6788, adopted by the City Council on July 21, 2021) includes a Natural Features section, which establishes short and long term goals to protect native endangered or threatened species and their habitats, restore and protect natural areas and arroyos along the "desert edge" where the built and natural environment transition, preserve and maintain existing open space and partner with outside organizations, agencies, and businesses on open space and park matters; and

WHEREAS, the Kyle Canyon, La Madre Foothills, Lone Mountain, and Nu Wav Kaiv areas of the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan designate goals to improve open space connections and to increase the amount of park space per resident; and

WHEREAS, the City is developing the Imagine LV Parks system plan as an expanded recreation and open space element of the 2050 Master Plan, which includes discussion on outdoor recreation and the definition of outdoor recreation reflected in this resolution, as well as opportunities to enhance outdoor activities and amenities for hikers, bikers, mountain bikers, mountain climbers, equine activities, as well as

1 existing and future opportunities for parks, open space, and outdoor recreation along the City's desert edge;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the City has constructed a number of parks and trails using SNPLMA and other funding
4 sources for locations along the desert edge, including Trigono Hills Park and Buckskin Cliff Shadows Park,
5 and plans to develop parks and open spaces at identified parcels in the City's northwestern areas, including
6 those that connect to Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area and Tule Springs Fossil Beds National
7 Monument; and

8 WHEREAS, the City has adopted a Hillside Protection ordinance as part of LVMC Title 19 (the
9 Unified Development Code) that establishes criteria for the development of properties within the hillside
10 areas on the western boundary of the City limits, and is intended to guide the design of development along
11 that boundary; and

12 WHEREAS, the 2050 Master Plan recognizes and supports the protection, enhancement and
13 restoration of the natural features and resources of the Mojave Desert, preserving and maintaining open space
14 as a balance to the built environment, improving access and connectivity to park spaces and outdoor
15 recreation, and strengthening recreation and cultural opportunities for residents and visitors; and

16 WHEREAS, the City Council finds it desirable to continue developing partnerships with the Bureau
17 of Land Management, the National Park Service, the Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation, the Las Vegas
18 Paiute Tribe, and other Federal and state regulatory agencies and regional and local bodies to preserve and
19 maintain sensitive natural desert areas, while providing high quality and accessible park space and outdoor
20 recreation opportunities to residents and visitors.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAS
22 VEGAS as follows:

23 1. The City reaffirms the relevant identified Natural Features goals, outcomes, and implementation
24 strategies of the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan, particularly those applicable to the "desert edge"
25 transition zone between built and natural environment near the City's northwestern boundaries, including the
26 following aspects:

- A. Reduction of the number of endangered species identified by the Clark County MSHCP.
- B. No net loss of endangered species habitat.
- C. No net loss of identified wetlands or desert areas.
- D. Protection of important ecological areas and incorporate such areas into the park and recreation system.
- E. Protection, enhancement and restoration of the natural features and resources of the Mojave Desert.
- F. Preservation and maintenance of open space as a balance to man-made development.
- G. Improvement of access to park spaces and connectivity between park spaces.

2. For purpose of this Resolution and its implementation, “outdoor recreation” includes any area of unimproved land that has been formally set aside for public use or enjoyment that includes activities traditionally associated with the natural environment, such as camping, hiking, biking, rock climbing, horseback riding, and other similar activities.

3. The City will work with the Bureau of Land Management’s Southern Nevada Field Office, National Park Service, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, the Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation, and local outdoor recreation industry groups and associations to identify and apply for funding sources and other opportunities to partner to protect the desert edge and provide City residents and visitors opportunities for outdoor recreation, including opportunities in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area and Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument.

4. The City, in connection with the implementation of Imagine Las Vegas Parks System Plan of the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan (23-0092-GPA1), will work to reserve parcels or acreage along the City limits for parks, open space and outdoor recreational opportunities, including, but not limited to:

- A. Northwest Regional Park
- B. Las Vegas and Tonopah railroad bed trail
- C. Iron Mountain/Jones
- D. Box Canyon

- E. Tropical/west of Shaumber
- F. La Madre Foothills (a regional park)
- G. Kyle Canyon/Rufus
- H. Kyle Canyon/Shamburger
- I. Centennial/Grand Canyon
- J. Sheep Mountain Parkway Regional Trail

5. In developing the Kyle Canyon, La Madre Foothills, Lone Mountain, and Nu Wav Kaiv Special Area Plans, the City will see that each Plan addresses, by means of a context-sensitive, detailed, strategic, and objective-based planning process, the interrelated matters of open space, trails and connectivity, transportation, parks and recreation accessibility, and ecological preservation.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

CITY OF LAS VEGAS

BY _____

CAROLYN G. GOODMAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

LUANN D. HOLMES, MMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Val Steed 6-1-23
Val Steed, Date
Deputy City Attorney