

# *City of Sealy, Texas*



## *Resolution in Support of Stephen F. Austin State Park*

### RESOLUTION NO. 2016-\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SEALY, TEXAS, IN SUPPORT OF AND ENCOURAGING EFFORTS BY THE STATE OF TEXAS AND THE TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT TO REHABILITATE AND ADD FACILITIES TO STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE PARK AND EXPEDITE RE-OPENING OF STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE PARK AFTER CLOSING AS A RESULT OF RECENT FLOODS.**

**WHEREAS**, the floods during May 2016 significantly damaged 100% of the Stephen F. Austin State Park and resulted in the Park's closure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Park's closure has resulted in a significant negative impact on outdoor recreational activities for the region; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the 2016 closure, average annual visitation for to Stephen F. Austin State Park for the years 2013-2015 averaged nearly 64,000, with approximately two-thirds of those visitors being overnight visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, during September 2015 – April 2016, visitation reached 48,739 and is indicative that total visitation for the year would have exceeded 73,000; and

**WHEREAS**, annual expenditures by non-local visitors to Stephen F. Austin State Park exceed three-quarters of a million dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, the total economic impact of Stephen F. Austin State Park on the Austin County economy exceeds \$2 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued non-reopening of Stephen F. Austin State Park has a significant negative impact on the local economy in the form of business income, jobs, and tax revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stephen F. Austin State Park has had to turn away school groups and Scout groups due to the lack of resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Department of Transportation has begun an expansion project of Interstate Highway 10, which will significantly increase visitation to the local area, to include to Stephen F. Austin State Park; and

**WHEREAS**, Stephen F. Austin State Park holds a significant place in Texas history, being located in San Felipe, the Colonial Capital of Texas and the central point of the Austin Land Grant and the "Old 300".

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEALY, TEXAS THAT:**

**Section 1.** That the City of Sealy encourages the State of Texas and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to:

- Obtain FEMA declaration of the Stephen F. Austin State Park as a disaster area; and
- Convert all 30 amp electrical outlets at campsites to 50 amp so as to accommodate modern recreational vehicles; and
- Rehabilitate and upgrade the “dining hall” to be a multi-purpose venue to accommodate a wide variety of events, such as the 15-20 weddings per year that use the facility; and
- Rehabilitate and upgrade the lodge to accommodate overnight visitors using the multi-purpose venue; and
- Add necessary waste water treatment system upgrades; and
- Improve all campsites to accept the growing diversity of visitors and equipment; and
- Expand the capabilities and accommodations at the Stephen F. Austin to meet the needs and desires of the rapidly growing population in the region.

**Section 2.** That a copy of this resolution shall be mailed to all the addresses listed after the signature block.

**PASSED AND APPROVED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary

**Distribution:**

**The Honorable Greg Abbott**  
Governor of Texas  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, TX 78711-2428

**The Honorable Dan Patrick**  
Lieutenant Governor of Texas  
P.O. Box 12058  
Austin, TX 78711

**The Honorable Joe Strauss**  
Speaker, Texas House of  
Representatives  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, TX 78768-2910

**The Hon. Lois Kolkhurst**  
Texas Senatorial District 18  
P.O. Box 12068  
Capital Station  
Austin, TX 78711

**The Hon. Leighton Schubert**  
Texas House District 13  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, TX 78768-2910

**The Honorable Glenn Hegar**  
Texas Comptroller of Public  
Accounts  
P.O. Box 13528  
Capital Station  
Austin, TX 78711-3528

**The Hon. Michael McCaul**  
Texas 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
131 Cannon House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515

**Brent Leisure**  
Director of State Parks  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Department  
4200 Smith School Rd  
Austin, TX 78744

**Justin Rhodes**  
Region 4 Director  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Department  
14200 Garrett  
Houston, TX 77044

**Tom Shaughnessy**  
President, The Friends of  
Stephen F. Austin State Park  
P.O. Box 463  
San Felipe, TX 77473

**Lee Marshall Bass**  
Chairman Emeritus  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
201 Main Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

**Jeanne W. Latimer**  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
7801 Broadway, Suite 100  
San Antonio, TX 78209

**Dick Scott**  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
P.O. Box 2489  
Wimberley, TX 78676

**Carter Smith**  
Executive Director, Texas  
Parks and Wildlife Department  
4200 Smith School Rd  
Austin, TX 78744

**Russell Fishbeck**  
Deputy Director of State Parks  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Department  
4200 Smith School Rd  
Austin, TX 78744

**Mark Wolfe**  
Executive Director  
Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, TX 78711

**John M. Gosdin**  
President  
Texans for State Parks  
5304 Suburban Dr.  
Austin, TX 78745

**Anna B. Galo**  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
1202 E. Del Mar Blvd, Suite 3  
Laredo, TX 78041

**James H. Lee**  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
1330 Post Oak Blvd, Ste 1550  
Houston, TX 77056

**Kelcy L. Warren**  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
8111 Westchester, #700  
Dallas, TX 75225

**Anne Brown**  
Executive Director, Texas  
Parks and Wildlife Foundation  
2914 Swiss Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75204

**Tim Hogsett**  
Recreation Grants  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Department  
4200 Smith School Rd  
Austin, TX 78744

**T. Dan Friedkin**  
Chairman, Texas Parks and  
Wildlife Commission  
1375 Enclave Parkway  
Houston, TX 77077

**Ralph H. Duggins**  
Vice-Chairman, Texas Parks  
and Wildlife Commission  
600 W. Sixth, Suite 300  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

**Bill Jones**  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
100 Congress Ave, Ste 2000  
Austin, TX 78701

**S. Reed Morian**  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Commission  
300 Jackson Hill  
Houston, TX 77007

**Copy to:**

**The Honorable Tim Lapham**  
Austin County Judge  
One East Main Street  
Bellville, TX 77418

**The Honorable Joe Ed Lynn**  
Mayor of Bellville  
30. S. Holland  
Bellville, TX 77418

**The Hon. Charles Kalkomey**  
Mayor of Brazos Country  
316 Pecan Grove Rd  
Sealy, TX 77474

**The Hon. Mabel Meyers**

Mayor of Industry  
P.O. Box 190  
Industry, TX 78944

**The Honorable Bobby Byars**

Mayor of San Felipe  
P.O. Box 68  
San Felipe, TX 77473

**The Hon. Clark Main, Jr.**

Mayor Pro Tempore of Wallis  
P.O. Box 190  
Wallis, TX 77485

**The Hon. Carbett "Trey" J.  
Duhon, III**

Waller County Judge  
836 Austin St, Suite 203  
Hempstead, TX 77445

**The Honorable Eric Scott**

Mayor of Brookshire  
4029 Fifth St.  
Brookshire, TX 77423

**The Hon. Fabol R. Hughes**

Mayor of Katy  
P.O. Box 617  
Katy, TX 77493

**Martha Garcia**

Park Superintendent  
Stephen F. Austin State Park  
P.O. Box 125  
San Felipe, TX 77473-0125