RESOLUTION NO. 20170126-022

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council supports the Parks and Recreation Department's Austin Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights (Exhibit A) to increase opportunities for children to learn and play in nature.

ADOPTED: <u>January 26</u>, 2017

ATTEST

Jannette S. Goodall

City Clerk

AUSTIN CHILDREN'S OUTDOOR BILL FREE BILL FREE

WHEREAS: Studies show that children who learn and play in nature are healthier, happier and perform better in school.

WHEREAS: Children who have safe access to parks, zoos, nature centers, lakes and rivers, and other public outdoor spaces are more resilient, have higher self-esteem, are more confident, are better problem solvers and are more creative.

WHEREAS: All children of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities should feel welcome at all of Austin's parks, pools, trails, waterways and open spaces.

WHEREAS: Communities in disadvantaged areas with access to nature benefit from greater health equity with lower rates of mortality and disease.

WHEREAS: Children who develop a positive relationship with nature are more likely to become tomorrow's stewards of our natural heritage.

WHEREAS: Through its parks, trails, waterways, open spaces, and other natural spaces, Austin provides a wide variety of quality outdoor opportunities.

THEREFORE: We support this Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights in which children of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities have the right to:

Climb a tree • Catch a fish • Picnic in a park • Hike a trail • Ride a bike

Play in the sand and mud • Gaze at the night sky • Chase a firefly
Plànt a seed and watch it grow • Harvest and eat a fruit or vegetable.



Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin