

RESOLUTION NO. 20220505-035

WHEREAS, each year, nearly two billion birds travel through the state of Texas; and

WHEREAS, this number represents between a quarter and a third of all birds migrating throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, migratory birds are some of the most easily observed wildlife in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, these migrant species also play an important economic role in the Austin community, controlling insect pests and generating millions in recreational dollars statewide; and

WHEREAS, migratory birds and their habitats are declining throughout the Americas, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter homes; and

WHEREAS, public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation; and

WHEREAS, the Bird City Texas program is a certification created by a partnership between Audubon Texas and Texas Parks and Wildlife with criteria for cities to enhance and restore habitats, native plant coverage, and public awareness to support bird conservation; and

WHEREAS, since 1993 World Migratory Bird Day (formerly International Migratory Bird Day) (WMBD) has become a primary vehicle for focusing public attention on birds that travel between nesting habitats throughout North America and their wintering grounds in South and Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and the southern United States; and


WHEREAS, a resolution recognizing WMBD will assist local organizations such as the Travis County Audubon Society and the Parks and Recreation Department in acquiring a Bird City Texas designation for Austin, elevating Austin's profile for conservation and catalyzing birding tourism; and

WHEREAS, while WMBD is annually recognized on the second Saturday of May, planners and City staff are encouraged to schedule activities and events on dates throughout the year best suited to the presence of migratory bird conservation; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

City Council recognizes Saturday, May 14, 2022, and every second Saturday of May annually, as World Migratory Bird Day in the City of Austin, Texas and supports the pursuit of local certification with the Bird City Texas Program.

ADOPTED: May 5, 2022 **ATTEST:**


Myrna Rios
City Clerk