

PROCLAMATION

PARK AND RECREATION MONTH – JULY, 2023

WHEREAS parks and recreation are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the **CITY OF THOMSON**; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promote health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people who live near parks; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promote time spent in nature, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and alleviating illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimer’s; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation encourage physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, tennis courts and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation are a leading provider of healthy meals, nutrition services and education; and

WHEREAS park and recreation programming and education activities, such as out-of-school time programming, youth sports and environmental education, are critical to childhood development; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation increase a community’s economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation are essential and adaptable infrastructure that makes our communities resilient in the face of natural disasters and climate change; and

WHEREAS our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS the **City of Thomson** recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**, on this Eighth day of June, 2023 that July is recognized as PARK AND RECREATION MONTH in the **CITY OF THOMSON**.

Kenneth L. Usry, Mayor

Alton Belton, Council Member

John Smalley, Council Member

Doris E. Johnson, Council Member

Scott Whittle, Council Member

Keryl Corley, Council Member