

*~Resolution~*  
**of Support for the National Park System**

**WHEREAS**, America's National Park System is a living testament to our citizens' valor, our nation's hardships, our victories, and our traditions as Americans, and has been called "America's Best Idea;" and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, the National Park Service celebrated its centennial and currently manages 410 nationally significant sites and an invaluable collection of more than 75,000 natural and cultural assets that span 84 million acres across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories and insular areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Park Service's mission is to "...preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations..." and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, the National Park System had more than 331 million visits, including 1.1 million visitors to Fort Vancouver National Historical Site who spent more than \$63 million locally; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Park Service has the obligation to preserve our nation's history; promote access to national parks for all citizens; stimulate revenue to sustain itself and nearby communities; educate the public about America's natural, cultural and historical resources, and provide safe facilities and environs to enjoy these resources; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, the National Park Service estimated a deferred maintenance backlog of \$11.3 billion, which includes repairs to aging historical structures, trails, sewers, drainage, thousands of miles of roads, bridges, and tunnels, and other vital infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of Congress to maintain America's national parks to ensure our natural places and our history are preserved and documented for future generations, and for the adjacent communities that rely on the direct and indirect economic benefits generated by visits to national park sites.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Clark County Council strongly encourages Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System.

Signed this 24th day of April 2018

CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
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