



PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF HORSESHOE BAY

DECLARING APRIL 15–22, 2023 AS “INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK” IN HORSESHOE BAY

WHEREAS, the experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages a growing interest in science and nature, especially among young people and out-of-area visitors within the local communities; and

WHEREAS, light pollution has scientifically-established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts to the ecology and human health of all communities; and

WHEREAS, light pollution represents a waste of natural resources amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year of wasted energy in the United States and contributes to diminished energy security; and

WHEREAS, Texas is home to hundreds of nocturnal wildlife species who rely on undisturbed night environments to hunt, migrate and thrive; and

WHEREAS, star gazing is much valued in the community of Horseshoe Bay and residents choose the city to escape the traffic and light pollution of larger cities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Horseshoe Bay, Texas has been recognized as a designated Dark Sky Community since November 2015 based on its exemplary efforts to preserve its naturally dark nighttime conditions; and

WHEREAS, during the week of April 15–22, 2023, citizens are encouraged to learn more about light pollution and the simple solutions that are available to mitigate it. Information and resources are available on the International Dark Sky Association website at www.darksky.org.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Cynthia Clinesmith, do hereby proclaim:

1. April 15 – 22, 2023 shall hereafter be known as “International Dark Sky Week” in Horseshoe Bay.
2. The City calls upon the citizens of Horseshoe Bay to recognize this week by appreciating the values of a dark sky initiatives including astronomy, wildlife, energy efficiency, safety, and human health.
3. Support the City’s efforts to ensure preservation of our night sky.
4. The City Secretary is hereby instructed to post this proclamation for public display and enter this document into the historical records of the municipality.

Issued this, the 1st day of April, 2023

Cynthia Clinesmith, Mayor