



MEMO

TO: Bert Lumbreras, City Manager
FROM: Drew Wells, Director of Parks and Recreation
DATE: April 7, 2021
RE: **Veteran Affairs Advisory Committee
Recommendation Resolution 2021-01RR**

SUMMARY:

The attached Recommendation Resolution was passed by the Veteran Affairs Advisory Committee on March 17, 2021 supporting the Military Order of the Purple Heart – National Purple Heart Trail Program and seeking designation as a Purple Heart City on said trail.

BACKGROUND:

The Purple Heart Trail program began in 1992 at Mt. Vernon, Virginia. The goal was to make the public aware of the Purple Heart Medal and what the medal represented. Roads, bridges, highways, and trails were designated as a part of the Purple Heart Trail. As the Purple Heart Trail grew so did the request from businesses, colleges, universities, cities, towns, sports teams, airports, buildings, and many others.

The Purple Heart designation is an “Outward expression of an internal desire to recognize and Honor recipients of the Purple Heart”. The Purple Heart is presented to men and women of all military services that have been injured or killed in action against an enemy of the United States.

The Veteran Affairs Advisory Committee set a goal in 2020 to obtain designation as a Purple Heart City on the National Purple Heart Trail. This designation would be the first in Hays County.

The Key Points within the Recommendation Resolution include

- Request Permission from City Council to seek designation as a “Purple Heart City”.
- Annually Proclaim August 7th as “National Purple Heart Day” in San Marcos.
- Recommend appropriation of funds to purchase and install signage to indicate to residents and visitors that San Marcos is a “Purple Heart City”.

The Veteran Affairs Advisory Committee adopted the attached Recommendation Resolution 2021-01RR unanimously of the members that were present (5-0), 3 members were absent.

STAFF NEXT STEPS

Staff will coordinate with the Chair of the VAAC to present at a future City Council Meeting.

END