

## RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTION

## NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION

RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03RR-NH: A RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTION OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO STUDY THE EFFECTS OF WHITE-TAILED DEER ON THE COMMUNITY AND TO CREATE A PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON THE DANGERS OF FEEDING DEER

WHEREAS, white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) populations grow rapidly in suburban areas of Texas due to the lack of natural predators, patchy habitats, abundant food sources, and increased offspring survival; and

WHEREAS, white-tailed deer are often viewed as an aesthetically pleasing addition to many homeowners, they can cause several problems when they become overabundant and unmanaged; and

WHEREAS, white-tailed deer can cause economic losses through consuming landscape and garden plants, automobile repairs, and medical expenses from deer-vehicle collisions; and

WHEREAS, white-tailed deer can cause health concerns to public service personnel who have to put down and dispose of wounded animals, the transmission of Lyme disease through the spread of deer ticks, and the spread of chronic wasting disease in the deer population; and

**WHEREAS**, the Neighborhood Commission has received a presentation from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department on the dangers of overabundant urban deer and possible control methods; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Commission has discussed various alternatives to controlling the urban deer population; and

**WHEREAS**, the feeding of deer has been shown to encourage them to remain in urbanized areas and to become reliant on non-native food sources that may not be sustainable or healthy causing a state of chronic malnutrition; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SAN MARCOS, TX ENCOURAGES THE SAN MARCOS CITY COUNCIL

TO STUDY THE EFFECTS OF WHITE-TAILED DEER ON THE COMMUNITY AND TO CREATE A PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON THE DANGERS OF FEEDING DEER.

Date of Approval: Sept. 18, 2024

Record of the vote: For: 8 - Darla Munoz, Robert Eby, Larry Mock, Bobbie Garza-Hernandez,

Michael Adams, Estell Enriquez, Michael Vernon, Jai C. Whiteside

**Against**: 1 – Jonathan Daniel Martinez

Absent: 2 - Cory Holland, Heidi Holliday Mckitrick

Attest:

(Staff or board/commission chair can sign)