

## Proclamation

### Designation of July as Park and Recreation Month

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation is an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the City of Smithville; and

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

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation promotes 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 encourages physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, swimming pools and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation is 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 increases 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 is fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation is 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 Smithville recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** I, Damien Boley, Mayor of the City of Smithville, and the Board of Aldermen recognize July as Park and Recreation Month in the City of Smithville.

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Damien Boley, Mayor