## RESOLUTION NO. 55 - 24

## A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING JULY AS NATIONAL PARK AND RECREATION MONTH

- WHEREAS, parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining a high quality of life in Colorado Springs, and promoting the health and wellness of all citizens; and
- WHEREAS, parks and recreation programming and education activities, such as out-ofschool time programming, youth sports, senior fitness, and environmental education, are critical to all our citizenry's well-being; and
- WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas preserve the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and
- WHEREAS, parks and recreation provide a connection to nature, which studies demonstrate relieves stress, strengthens interpersonal relationships, and improves mental health. In the United States, 92 percent of adults say they experience a positive mental health boost after spending time in their local parks; and
- WHEREAS, parks and recreation increase 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 strengthen community identity and belonging by providing facilities and services that reflect and celebrate community heritage, culture, history, and landscape.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

That City Council recognizes the immense value of the community's entire park system as well as the vital contributions of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services' employees and volunteers as July is designated Park and Recreation Month in the City of Colorado Springs.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this 25th day of June 2024.

Randy Helms, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk