

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 22

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 11, 2022 AS ARBOR DAY

WHEREAS, in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees. This holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska and is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day reminds us of the importance of planting and caring for trees in our city, and also serves a larger purpose in providing an opportunity for all Americans to learn more about the vital function that trees have in our world today; and

WHEREAS, trees promote all that is best in humanity through their beauty, abundance, and capacity to inspire, and in recognition of the inherent value and sovereignty of the natural world; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs Forestry Department manages a living infrastructure of approximately 300,000 urban street trees and 20,000 park trees. They prune, remove, plant, inspect City trees for optimal health of our urban forests; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs' urban forest canopy includes trees on public and private properties. This living infrastructure shades over 17% of the community and provides economic, environmental, and aesthetic benefits: \$100 million annually in air filtration, \$900,000 in stormwater retention, \$2 million in carbon sequestration, and *incalculable moments of beauty and serenity*. Our legacy of trees is 150 years old and still growing; and

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

Section 1. The City Council recognizes May 11, 2022 as Arbor Day in Colorado Springs, and urge all citizens to plant and care for trees to strengthen our urban forest and promote a positive quality of life for present and future generations.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 10th day of May, 2022.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk