Parks and Recreation Month

WHEREAS parks and recreation is an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Buncombe County; and

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

WHEREAS parks and recreation promotes time spent in nature, mental health and well-being, social interaction, and enhanced self-esteem through events and programs like fishing clubs, hikes, and campouts; and

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

WHEREAS Buncombe County offers river parks, sports complexes, and natural areas that ensure the ecological beauty of our community and allow residents to gather, celebrate, connect with nature, and recreate; and

WHEREAS Buncombe County Parks & Recreation staff and partners have worked to reopen and revive parks that were impacted by Tropical Storm Helene, removing countless downed trees and thousands of pounds of debris, repairing structures, and restoring damaged environments; and

WHEREAS our parks played a critical role as community hubs and community care stations during recovery efforts and Parks & Recreation staff served in vital positions during storm response; and

WHEREAS our residents have communicated the importance of our green spaces through a profound desire for stormed-impacted parks to be rebuilt; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS Buncombe County recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Buncombe County Board of Commissioners that July is recognized as **Parks and Recreation Month** in Buncombe County.

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Amanda Edwards, Chair

Buncombe County Board of Commissioners