

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2021 – 02 - 111

February 2, 2021

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WORK AND DEDICATION OF EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT'S FRONTLINE ESSENTIAL WORKERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY AND AN UNPRECEDENTED 2020 WILDFIRE SEASON

WHEREAS, since 1934, the East Bay Regional Park District has served the community by providing parks and open space where visitors can enjoy the natural wonders of the East Bay. A key part of this visitor experience are the professional employees who are dedicated to those whom they serve.

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic is a once-in-a-century event that has disrupted every aspect of life in the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS, the State of California and Alameda and Contra Costa counties Shelter-in-Place Orders have consistently recognized outdoor recreation as an essential activity; and

WHEREAS, as the pandemic has shut down access to most public spaces and forms of entertainment and recreation, parks and open space have become more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, usage of the parks has increased by more than 30% during the pandemic as an increasing number of East Bay residents seek refuge in nature, placing additional pressure on the East Bay Regional Park District's frontline essential workers and first responders; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the State of California and the East Bay Regional Park District experienced unprecedented wildfires; and

WHEREAS, frontline essential workers and first responders have performed courageously and tirelessly during the pandemic and wildfire events, providing essential recreation and respite for East Bay residents and protecting our parklands, the public, and staff from harm; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors recognizes the service and sacrifice of our frontline essential workers and first responders, including park rangers, park supervisors, park craft specialists, park service attendants, park services workers, gardeners, botanists, naturalists, sanitation crews, building and grounds aides, farmers, fleet maintenance, roads and trails crew, water utilities staff, stewardship staff, police officers, property & evidence staff, police services technicians, dispatchers, firefighters, lifeguard services, construction inspectors, surveyors, project managers, and the fuels crews; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors chooses to honor and show support for them and their essential work to keep the parks open and safe; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby recognizes and applauds the contributions of the Park District's frontline essential workers and first responders who have served their East Bay community during these unprecedented times; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents, and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director Lane, seconded by Director Wieskamp, and adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2021 by the following vote:

FOR: Colin Coffey, Ellen Corbett, Elizabeth Echols, Beverly Lane, Dee Rosario, Dennis Waespi, Ayn Wieskamp.

AGAINST: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: None.

  
Dee Rosario  
Board President

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Yolande Barial Knight, Clerk of the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No 2021-02-111 adopted by the Board of Directors at a regular meeting held on February 2, 2021

  
Yolande Barial Knight