

A RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF EXPANSION OF THE PARIS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT OVERBURDEN EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND BALANCES THE RIGHTS OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS WITH THE PUBLIC’S ENJOYMENT OF THE PARK.

WHEREAS, Paris Mountain is one of the most recognizable icons in the Upstate and is the home of the 1700-acre Paris Mountain State Park which is accessible from its public entrance on State Park Road in Greenville County, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the storied Paris Mountain State Park is one of sixteen South Carolina state parks built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression and is recognized for harmonizing conservation and recreation with the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Paris Mountain State Park is one of South Carolina’s most popular state parks; however, the rising costs of real estate and financial pressure to subdivide large tracts of land has made it financially difficult to expand the Park’s footprint to meet the needs of a growing population; and

WHEREAS, years of work by conservation groups, landowners, and local and state governments have culminated in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to expand the historic Paris Mountain State Park; and

WHEREAS, Greenville County, through the Greenville County Historic and Natural Resources Trust, has an opportunity to financially participate in the acquisition of the 146-acre Shiloh Ridge tract on Paris Mountain that is subject to a conservation easement placed on the property by a prior landowner; and

WHEREAS, adding the Shiloh Ridge tract to the Paris Mountain State Park would leverage substantial state, federal, landowner contributions and investments towards the expansion of the Park; and

WHEREAS, Altamont Road is a narrow mountainous road with limited sight distance and serves as the main artery for longstanding private residences on Paris Mountain; and

WHEREAS, Paris Mountain residents are rightly concerned that Altamont Road cannot safely accommodate a new public park entrance or additional entry/access points of the park, and that a park entrance or access point poses substantial risk upon the quiet use and enjoyment of private property on Paris Mountain.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Greenville County Council supports the expansion of the Paris Mountain State Park using the existing entrance and internal network of roads and trails so as to not create public entry or access from Altamont Road or the residences thereupon.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

Willis Meadows, Chairman
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator