

RESOLUTION NO. 69/2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CORTE MADERA CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF AND FULL FUNDING FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

WHEREAS, The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), established by Congress in 1964, is one of the most successful government programs in preserving our country's precious natural and cultural resources and improving equitable access to the outdoors in urban and rural communities, which is essential to California's health, culture, economic opportunity and the future of our children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, LWCF has been instrumental in creating opportunities for Californians in urban, suburban, and rural areas to get outdoors. It has been a critical tool in conserving national parks and historic sites; national wildlife refuges and monuments; watersheds; working forests; wildlife areas; and state and local parks, trails and ball fields; and

WHEREAS, LWCF is based on the simple premise that as we extract natural resources that belong to our nation – offshore oil and gas – we should in turn protect and invest in onshore resources for future generations; and

WHEREAS, LWCF takes a portion of royalties from offshore oil and gas development and invests that money in protecting America's important public lands for future generations – be that an iconic national park or an urban playground; and

WHEREAS, though LWCF is authorized to receive \$900 million annually, this cap has been met only twice during the program's nearly five decades of existence and, instead of being fully funded, nearly every year Congress diverts much of this funding to purposes other than conserving our most important lands and waters; and

WHEREAS, despite receiving only a fraction of its intended funding over the last 53 years, LWCF has led to the protection of land in every state and nearly every county, has improved access to these public lands, and has provided matching grants for the creation of more than 41,000 state and local park projects; and

WHEREAS, LWCF supports and maintains the economic asset that our federal, state and local public lands represent. Hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, paddling and other outdoor recreation activities contribute to California's economy and support jobs in our state.

WHEREAS, California has received more than 1,500 state side LWCF grants to local governments and state parks, totaling over \$2.4 billion and touching all of the state's counties; and

WHEREAS, over the last 53 years, LWCF funding has contributed \$371,525 towards the enhancement of local parks and recreational opportunities that are part of the fabric of the Town of Corte Madera; and

WHEREAS, the parks, trails, and recreation projects dependent upon LWCF funding are

green spaces that contribute to the health and well-being of Californian families; and

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Fund was initially authorized in 1965 by the President and Congress and expired on September 30, 2018; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Corte Madera expresses support for, and urges Congress to act swiftly to enact full funding for and permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund given the important contributions it makes to our nation's and California's health, well-being, economic opportunity and access to our nation's natural treasures; and.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the entire California Congressional Delegation to show support for the full funding and permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 18, 2018 by the following vote, to-wit:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Andrews, Bailey, Beckman, Kunhardt, and Ravasio

Noes: Councilmembers: - None -

Absent: Councilmembers: - None -



Bob Ravasio, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rebecca Vaughn, Town Clerk