31ST BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD

President
JEFF CURTIS
Clerk of the Board
MEGAN COTTRELL

Majority Leader NINA SHERWOOD Minority Leader MARY L. FEDELI

RESOLUTION NO. 4348 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF STAMFORD SUPPORTING THE ZONING OF CITY PARKS AS DEDICATED PARKLAND

WHEREAS, the City of Stamford is committed to the preservation, protection, and enhancement of its public parks and green spaces for the enjoyment and well-being of its residents and future generations; and

WHEREAS, public parks provide essential recreational opportunities, promote environmental sustainability, and contribute to the physical and mental health of the community; and

WHEREAS, zoning city parks specifically as "parkland" ensures their long-term protection from development or use inconsistent with their intended purpose; and

WHEREAS, designating parks with appropriate zoning aligns with the City of Stamford's goals of maintaining open spaces and supports the city's park strategic plan to ensure every resident has access to a quality park within walking distance, and

WHEREAS, ensuring that city parks are zoned appropriately will safeguard these vital community resources, fostering trust and confidence among residents in the city's commitment to public spaces; and

WHEREAS, clear zoning designation provides a strong legal framework that prevents the unauthorized conversion of parkland to other uses without proper public oversight and decision-making.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford that it supports the initiation of all necessary procedures to zone existing and future city parks as "parkland," ensuring their status as protected public assets.

NOW, **THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, that the 31st Board of Representatives urges the administration to allocate the \$100,000 needed in capital funds to achieve this goal and urges the Board of Finance to approve the appropriation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be transmitted to the Mayor, the Planning Board, and the Zoning Board, requesting their collaboration and action to incorporate this protective zoning measure into the city's zoning ordinances.

This resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda at the regular monthly meeting of the 31st Board of Representatives held on January 6, 2025

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Jeff Curtis President

31st Board of Representatives

Megan Cottrell, Clerk

31st Board of Representatives

cc: Mayor Caroline Simmons

Thomas Cassone, Esq., Law Department

Lyda Ruijter, Town & City Clerk

Elda Sinani, Director of OPM

Benjamin Barnes, Director of Administration

Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations

Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff

Leah Kagen, Director of Economic Development

Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare

Frank Petise, Transportation Bureau Chief