

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SENSE OF THE BOARD TO PROTECT CITY  
OF STAMFORD PARKS AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the City of Stamford has grown to the second largest City in the State of Connecticut and much of that growth is concentrated south of I-95;

WHEREAS, the City of Stamford, the Board of Education, and the Long-Term Facilities Committee are tasked with addressing the current school building stock, and developing a long-term plan that may involve renovation, rebuilding, or new construction of school buildings;

WHEREAS, access to neighborhood parks, open space, and recreational resources are imperative to the quality of life of City residents;

WHEREAS, the City of Stamford has a limited amount of public open space and parkland;

WHEREAS, Cove Island, other waterfront and inland parkland are valuable community park resources that provide critical open space to underserved areas and are well utilized and loved by Stamford residents;

WHEREAS, Cove Island Park offers sensitive and irreplaceable habitat to 287 migratory bird species, two threatened species, one species of special concern, and other critical flora and fauna;

WHEREAS, the City's waterfront parks are subject to flooding during high tides, full moon cycles, and storm events;

WHEREAS, climate change and sea level rise can be expected to increase flooding events at the City's waterfront parks, therefore strengthening the importance of preserving inland parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the 31st Board of Representatives that City parkland should be removed from consideration as potential future school locations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Representatives will not authorize new appropriations for design development, engineering, or construction of a new school on City parkland; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a future school site should:

1. Avoid impacting public parkland, open space, and recreational resources;
2. Be located on a street that is well served by sidewalks and public transportation, and has the roadway capacity to meet the anticipated peak hours of school generated traffic;
3. Be located on a site that is not subject to frequent flood events and is resilient to climate change;

4. Avoid sites that are substantially encumbered by wetlands, floodplains, and sensitive habitat areas; and
5. Consider the adaptive reuse or redevelopment of an existing school site or underutilized municipal, institutional, or commercial property.