

TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Ann Robb, Director, Library and Recreation Services
SUBJECT: California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights
DATE: April 15, 2008

Needs: For the City Council to consider adopting a resolution of support for the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

Facts:

1. Studies document that children who are active outdoors do better in school, have better social skills, and lead more fulfilled lives. Outdoor activity and play is also a key component in counteracting childhood obesity.
2. The California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights (attached) is a state-wide initiative to encourage children's participation in outdoor recreational and heritage activities.
3. The California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights mission, objective and Life List is consistent with numerous goals, plans, policies and strategies that City Council has adopted:
 - a. Expand Recreational Opportunities (City Council Adopted Goals)
 - b. Promote Health and Wellness (City Council Adopted Goals/Economic Strategy)
 - c. Livable Communities promoting walking, bicycling, recreation, and increased quality of life (Economic Strategy/General Plan)
 - d. Preserve, enhance and provide access to key natural places (Economic Strategy/General Plan)
 - e. Promote Paso Robles' unique heritage (Economic Strategy)
 - f. Optimize use and development of parks and recreation facilities (General Plan)
4. The Department of Library and Recreation Services offers an array of opportunities for children to encounter the outdoors. Youth sports, fishing derby, kite fest, snow trips, Community Walk Day, and aquatics programs develop and enrich children's exposure to the outdoors. City Council endorsement of the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights will encourage area children to participate in existing programs.
5. Recognizing that no one organization can provide all outdoor experiences to all children, Library and Recreation Services works with other community partners to broaden and deepen the reach of outdoor experiences. Informal and formal relationships with community partners (i.e. YMCA, area schools, First Tee Central Coast, Girl Scouts, Heritage Oaks Bank Family Fun Run, North County Aquatics, State and County Parks and others), augment city programs.

6. At their March 11, 2008 meeting, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend support of the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.
7. The California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights has also been recognized by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, California State Park and Recreation Commission, and numerous cities, counties, and districts across the state.

Analysis and
Conclusion:

The California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights supports activities that lead to health and enrichment for children through 14 years of age. The mission, objective, and Life List in the Bill of Rights are consistent with City Council policy and direction. Upon adoption, Library and Recreation Services will promote targeted activities, and work with other organizations to supplement city programs. City Council endorsement will fulfill the mission of the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights of encouraging children to participate in the various outdoor activities. Council endorsement will be emphasized throughout 2008 in the Activity Guide and other marketing and promotional materials.

Policy

Reference: City Council Adopted Goals, Economic Strategy, General Plan

Fiscal

Impact: None.

Options:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 08-xxx supporting the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.
- b. Amend, modify, or reject above option.

Attachments: California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights



California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

Mission: To encourage California's children to participate in outdoor recreational activities and discover their heritage.

Objective: That every child in California, by the completion of their 14th year, has the opportunity to participate in each of the activities listed within the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.

The California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights provides that every child should have the right to:

- Discover California's past
- Splash in the water
- Play in a safe place
- Camp under the stars
- Explore nature
- Learn to swim
- Play on a team
- Follow a trail
- Catch a fish
- Celebrate their heritage

The California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights was developed by the California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism – a volunteer group comprised of public, private and non-profit organizations from the federal, state and local levels.

Web Address: www.calroundtable.org

RESOLUTION NO. 08-XXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
EL PASO DE ROBLES IN SUPPORT OF THE
CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S OUTDOOR BILL OF RIGHTS

WHEREAS, studies document that children who are active outdoors do better in school, have better social skills and self-image, benefit in areas of physical health and lead more fulfilled lives; AND

WHEREAS, positive emotional and physical health and well-being and the full unbridled experience of the natural world and understanding our heritage are of benefit to all of society; AND

WHEREAS, outdoor physical activity is a key component in counteracting childhood obesity; AND

WHEREAS, support of children's outdoor activities speak to a number of City Council adopted goals, plans, policies and strategies; AND

WHEREAS, the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights is an initiative that states that children should have the opportunity to participate in outdoor recreational activities and discover their connection to California's story, AND

WHEREAS, the City of el Paso de Robles Department of Library and Recreation provides programs for all children to experience the outdoors and their culture, including the Oak Park recreation program, youth basketball and baseball, youth camps, summer swim program, Fishing Derby, Taco Bell Track Meet, Community Walk Day and more; AND

WHEREAS, at their March, 2008 meeting the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend support of the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights; AND

WHEREAS the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights has received formal support by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, California State Park and Recreation Commission, California State Parks, and numerous cities and counties around the state;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles is proud to support and promote the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights and encourages children and families to take advantage of opportunities to experience the excitement and wonder of the outdoors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles this 15th day of April, 2008, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Frank Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

Deborah Robinson, Deputy City Clerk