

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Sparks, Nevada; and

WHEREAS, our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the vital contributions of our employees and volunteers in parks and recreation who keep public parks clean and safe for visitors, provide events and programming for all ages and abilities, advocate for more open space and better trails, and ensure that parks and recreation facilities are safe and accessible places for all citizens to enjoy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor of the City of Sparks, Nevada, do hereby proclaim July, 2014 as:

"PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this 5th day of June, 2014.

GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor

ATTEST:

TERESA GARDNER, City Clerk