

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Natural Bridge of Virginia was formed by the forces of God and nature; and

WHEREAS, The Bridge has been deemed sacred by all Americans throughout modern history, from native tribes to the present day inhabitants of Rockbridge county and the Cities of Lexington and Buena Vista, and by visitors from every corner of the Nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, The Bridge was owned by American Founding Father and President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, from 1774 until his death on July 4th, 1826; and

WHEREAS, President Jefferson believed that The Bridge should forever be available for public access; and

WHEREAS, The Bridge represents both a literal and symbolic image of the westward expansion of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, and as a result of its historic significance, The Bridge has been designated as a National Historic Landmark, a Virginia Historic Landmark, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, The County of Rockbridge was named in honor of this natural and historic treasure; and

WHEREAS, The Bridge is a source of pride and honor for Rockbridge County and its regional partners, the Cities of Lexington and Buena Vista; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of The Bridge as a destination for tourists and travelers provides significant economic opportunity to the entire region; and

WHEREAS, our Nation has been exceptionally fortunate that, subsequent to President Jefferson's ownership of The Bridge, a succession of owners has, since 1826, honored his vision by allowing public access and enjoyment of the natural splendor of The Bridge; and

WHEREAS, The Bridge and its surrounding properties are currently being marketed for public sale; and

WHEREAS, the Buena Vista City Council fully recognizes the importance of keeping The Bridge fully accessible for future generations, and that one sure way to guarantee perpetual public access is for The Bridge to be publicly owned.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Buena Vista encourages Leaders of our State and Nation to explore every possible avenue to ensure that The Natural Bridge of Virginia be forever preserved for the enjoyment of the citizens of, and visitors to, the United States of America.

Lawrence F. Hogan
Lawrence F. Hogan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dawn W. Moore
Clerk of Council

July 18, 2013
Date of Adoption