

IN RECOGNITION OF EVERGLADES DARK SKY MONTH

APRIL 2024

- WHEREAS,** THE BEAUTY AND WONDER OF A NATURAL NIGHT SKY IS A SHARED HERITAGE OF ALL HUMANKIND THAT INSPIRES FEELINGS OF WONDER AND AWE, AND ENCOURAGES INTEREST IN THE SCIENCES, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS AND MATH (STEAM); AND
- WHEREAS,** WITHIN THE GREATER EVERGLADES, TWO INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY PLACES (BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE AND KISSIMMEE PRAIRIE PRESERVE STATE PARK) EARNED THEIR DESIGNATIONS IN 2016 AND ARE FACING THE THREAT OF LOSING THEIR NATURAL NIGHTS TO SKYGLOW AS BROWARD'S CITIES HAVE SPRAWLED WITH INCREASINGLY MORE EXCESSIVE ARTIFICIAL LIGHT SOURCES; AND
- WHEREAS,** NIGHTTIME LIGHT IMPACTS MANY WILDLIFE SPECIES IN OUR REGION, INCLUDING SEA TURTLES NESTING ALONG OUR COASTLINES, BIRDS MIGRATING THROUGH THE ATLANTIC FLYWAY, FIREFLIES TWINKLING WITHIN THE EVERGLADES AND BATS FORAGING IN DARK AREAS THAT STILL REMAIN IN SOUTH FLORIDA; AND
- WHEREAS,** THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (FWS) HAS RECOGNIZED THAT DUE TO THE "LOSS OF NIGHT SKY QUALITY", THE NIGHT SKY RESOURCE HAS BECOME "NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT"; AND
- WHEREAS,** PROTECTING THE NIGHT SKY AND QUALITY OF THE NOCTURNAL ENVIRONMENT PROVIDES MANY BENEFITS TO COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING QUALITY OF LIFE AND ACCESS TO NATURE; AND
- WHEREAS,** IMPROVEMENT IN THIS REALM REQUIRES EDUCATING GOVERNMENTS, COMMUNITIES, BUSINESSES, AND CITIZENS; AND ENCOURAGING NEIGHBOR AND ECOLOGY FRIENDLY LIGHTING BEST PRACTICES THAT ARE EFFECTIVE IN PRESERVING THE NATURAL NIGHT SKY; NOW
- THEREFORE,** JOSH LEVY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AND THE HOLLYWOOD CITY COMMISSION, HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL AS:

EVERGLADES DARK SKY MONTH

SIGNED THIS 17TH DAY OF
APRIL 2024, AT
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

MAYOR JOSH LEVY
VICE MAYOR LINDA HILL ANDERSON
COMMISSIONER CARYL SHUHAM
COMMISSIONER TRACI L. CALLARI
COMMISSIONER ADAM GRUBER
COMMISSIONER KEVIN BIEDERMAN
COMMISSIONER IDELMA QUINTANA