Resolution



STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 5th day of September, 2023, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by <u>Dr. Elba Garcia</u>, <u>Commissioner of District 4</u>, the following Resolution was adopted:

- WHEREAS, The mission of the Dallas County Department of Health and Human Services is to protect the health of the citizens of Dallas County through disease prevention and intervention, and through promotions of a healthy community and environment; and
- WHEREAS, The International Day of Clean Air for blue skies is commemorated annually on the 7th of September in recognition of the fact that clean air is important for the health and day-to-day lives of people. We recognize that respiratory diseases are on the rise, this year's theme of "Together for Clean Air" that focuses on the need for stronger partnerships, increased investment and shared responsibility to overcome air pollution makes it imperative that Dallas County draw attention to this growing problem; and
- WHEREAS, North Texas received a failing grade on ozone pollution according to the American Lung Association's State of the Air 2021 report. People who work or exercise outside, those with asthma or COPD, anyone over the age of 65, and children and teens are particularly vulnerable to ozone pollution, the American Lung Association said. The pollution itself can cause immediate breathing problems or premature death when levels are high; and
- WHEREAS, Air pollution is the single greatest environmental risk to human health and one of the main avoidable causes of death and disease globally, with some estimated 6.5 million premature deaths (2016) across the world attributed to indoor and outdoor air pollution. According to WHO, almost everyone (99 % of the global population) breathes polluted air and air pollution disproportionately affects women, children and older persons; and
- WHEREAS, Given the transboundary nature of air pollution, all have a responsibility to protect the earth's atmosphere and ensure healthy air for everyone. Working together, across borders and boundaries, between sectors and beyond silos, will help reduce air pollution, leverage finance and investments towards air quality measures and solutions, and provide many benefits. This International Day of Clean Air for blue skies, we call upon everyone, from governments and corporations to civil society and individuals to come together to overcome air pollution; and
- WHEREAS, Everyone has a part to play in cleaning our air and protecting our health, and everyone can benefit from it: a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, including clean air, is integral to the full enjoyment of a wide range of human rights. Actions such as working from home, using mass transit, reducing your waste by recycling, conserving energy and using alternative energy, carpooling or bicycling make a difference in improving air quality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dallas County Commissioners Court acknowledges September 7th as International Day of Clean Air and stresses the importance of and urgent need to raise public awareness at all levels and to promote and facilitate actions to improve air quality.

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 5th day of September, 2023.

Commissioner, District 3

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel Commissioner, District 1

John Wiley Price

Dr. Elba Garcia Commissioner, District 4

Andrew Sommerman

Commissioner, District 2