

RESOLUTION 16-014

**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF SECTIONS
OF THE JOHN WAYNE TRAIL.**

ADOPTING A COMMUNIQUE' FROM THE CITY OF KITTITAS TO STATE REPRESENTATIVE MARY DYE, STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOE SCHMICK, THE WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE, REGIONAL CITY COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Kittitas, Washington, does hereby find as follows:

WHEREAS, Washington State Representative Mary Dye and Washington State Representative Joe Schmick have communicated to member of the Tekoa City Government their intentions to introduce legislation in the 2016 legislative session that would close a large section of the John Wayne Trail/State Park from Malden, Washington to Lind, Washington.;

WHEREAS, State Representative Mary Dye and State Representative Joe Schmick serve as representatives in the Washington State Legislature;

WHEREAS, the entire length of the John Wayne Trail/State Park is important to the City of Kittitas's economy, culture and identity;

WHEREAS, the John Wayne Trail/State Park is the only state wide trail crossing in Washington and is actively used by hikers, bikers, horse riders, and other outdoor enthusiasts across its entire length;

WHEREAS, permanent loss of the only state wide trail in Washington would be detrimental to not only to the current economies of communities all along the trail, but would forever end any opportunity for future economic development of what could become a vital job producer across the state;

WHEREAS, we fail to see any reason worthy to take the highly unusual and extreme step of closing a Trail/State Park without a study of use, public hearings, or any open discussion for trail enthusiast to comment at;

WHEREAS, we feel rather than close the John Wayne Trail/State Park the state and region would be better served by enhancing the trail to make it more user friendly and therefor encourage more regional tourism,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the City Council of the City of Kittitas, WA that recipients of this communique please make every attempt to fulfill where applicable;

Section 1. The City of Kittitas strongly objects to any attempts by any of its legislative representatives to introduce any legislation that would jeopardize the continued use of the John Wayne Trail and its accessibility to the residents of the State of Washington.

Section 2. The City Council for the City of Kittitas strongly encourages legislative representatives to aggressively seek funding to enhance the accessibility of use of the John Wayne Trail as opposed to introducing legislature to close the John Wayne Trail;

Section 3. Those cities that would be affected by the closure of the John Wayne Trail/State Park pass similar resolutions;

Section 4. That the entire body of the Washington State Legislature be aware of the concerns of the City of Kittitas, Washington.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of August 2016.

APPROVED: Lon Whitford
Mayor Whitford

ATTEST: Debbie Lee
Debbie Lee Clerk/Treasurer