

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE DESIGNATING THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, AS “THE PURPLE MARTIN CAPITOL OF NORTH TEXAS,” AND REQUESTING THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE TO DESIGNATE THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, AS “THE PURPLE MARTIN CAPITOL OF NORTH TEXAS”; MAKING OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

- WHEREAS,** the Purple Martin is a member of the swallow family of birds, is dark purplish-blue in color, and is universally admired both for its color and the easy grace of its flight, and,
- WHEREAS,** the Purple Martin has been called America’s most wanted bird because of its acknowledged voracious appetite as a predator of harmful insects, and,
- WHEREAS,** because the Purple Martin prefers to nest in large birdhouses specially constructed for their use, natural gourds or man-made super gourds, they are favorites among birdwatchers who enjoy observing the Martins’ communal activities and social relationships, and,
- WHEREAS,** the Texas House of Representatives by a Resolution in April 2003 recognized the Purple Martin Landlords of North Texas, headquartered in Grand Prairie, as promoters of the conservation of this bird species by sponsoring educational programs and workshops and by supporting research efforts by such organizations as the Purple Martin Society, NA and the Purple Martin Conservation Association, and were recognized for playing an important role in conserving the natural heritage of the Lone Star State, and,
- WHEREAS,** one of the largest outdoor scenic murals in the USA (I-30 and Beltline Road intersection in Grand Prairie, Texas) features Purple Martins, and,
- WHEREAS,** State Highway 161 now being constructed through Grand Prairie, Texas features two Purple Martins in the bas-relief design on each pillar, and,
- WHEREAS,** Purple Martins are being included in major outdoor locations in Grand Prairie such as Johnny Stanton Garden Mural which features probably the largest Purple Martin ever painted, and,
- WHEREAS,** Purple Martin housing has been placed and maintained at several city locations including municipal golf course, Safe Side City, a children’s safety training park, and the Kirby Creek Science Center, where each year thousands of students pass through.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That because of the acknowledged benefits and contributions of Purple Martins, for their beauty, grace in flight and acknowledged ecological benefits as well as being a favorite among bird watchers in Grand Prairie, Texas and especially because of the large Purple Martin population Grand Prairie, Texas, the City Council of the City of Grand Prairie, Texas, hereby declares the City of Grand Prairie, Texas as the Purple Martin Capitol of North Texas.

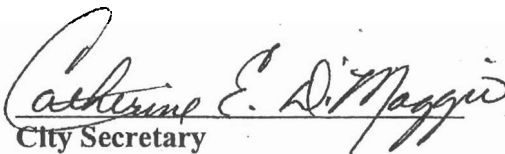
SECTION 2. That the Texas Legislature is hereby requested to officially declare and designate the City of Grand Prairie, Texas, as the Purple Martin Capitol of North Texas.

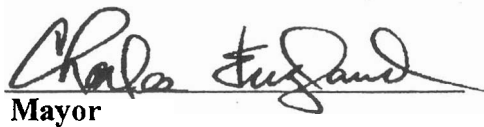
SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, THIS 19th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2006.


ATTEST:

APPROVED:


Catherine E. DiMaggio
City Secretary


Chala Fuzand
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney