

TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN

RESOLUTION NO. 170-2016

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMUNITY OF MOORESTOWN, NJ EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RANCOCAS CREEK NATIONAL WATER TRAIL: A WATER TRAIL IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY THAT RUNS FROM THE PINE BARREN HEADWATERS TO THE DELAWARE RIVER TIDEWATERS THAT INSPIRES EXPLORATION, ENHANCES UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE AND ELEVATES THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE NATURAL TREASURE THAT IS THE RANCOCAS CREEK

WHEREAS, westward flowing from headwaters of the Pinelands National Preserve to the Delaware River, the Rancocas Creek has been a vital and historic part of Burlington County, the State of New Jersey, the Greater Delaware Valley and our Nation since the 1600s; and

WHEREAS, the Rancocas Creek (tidal and non-tidal) and/or its tributaries and headwaters fall within and connect the boundaries of our great communities along the Rancocas Creek; and

WHEREAS, volunteerism, citizen awareness, grass-root activities and the Clean Water Act of 1972 has made the water quality of the Rancocas Creek the cleanest since colonial times; and

WHEREAS, local residents, parks, governments, businesses and visitors enjoy discovering multi-use recreation on the Rancocas Creek and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, such uses are significantly increasing; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Interior, National Park Service is considering designating the Rancocas Creek as a National Water Trail; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Parks and Forest endorse the Rancocas Creek National Water Trail; and

WHEREAS, Rancocas Pathways, Inc., a non-profit organization, was formed to develop and manage the application process of the Rancocas Creek National Water Trail and also that of an interactive website, social media platform and connected heritage portal that will be used as a template by water trails around the country; and

WHEREAS, both formal and informal partnerships, collaborations and associations among a diverse coalition of local, community and statewide organizations are encouraged; and

WHEREAS, it is known that many drops form a single water drop; and

WHEREAS, the Rancocas Creek National Water Trail steering committee promotes Conservation, Stewardship; Diversity of Recreational Opportunities; Safety; Active Kids and Families in Healthy Communities; Respect, Science, Cultural Heritage; and

WHEREAS, this resolution supports the Rancocas Creek as an instrument of economic vitality and inexpensive fun.

THEREFORE, let it be known that the Rancocas Creek National Water Trail nomination promotes volunteer and community-centric Water Trail Maintenance and Water Trail Management Best Management Practices that enhance water quality as one of the many drops that forms the Vision of the Rancocas Creek National Water Trail as an Adventure Inside Our Local Communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Moorestown Township Council, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, that we support the designation of the Rancocas Creek as a multi-use National Water Trail.

VOTE:

DELGADO
GARWOOD
JORDAN
NAPOLITANO
PETRIELLO

Certified to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Council at its meeting on September 12, 2016.

Patricia L. Hunt, Township Clerk