A Resolution

NO. ______

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT THE PLAN FOR CLOSURE AND RE-PURPOSING OF SYCAMORE CREEK GOLF COURSE INTO A COMMUNITY PARK BY OCTOBER 1, 2019 (COUNCIL DISTRICT 8)

WHEREAS, in 1977, the City of Fort Worth acquired Sycamore Creek Golf Course from J. C. Fincher; and

WHEREAS, the golf course consists of 66 acres, 30 acres owned by the City of Fort Worth and 36 acres leased from the Tarrant Regional Water District; and

WHEREAS, Sycamore Creek golf course has operated as a municipal golf course for more than forty years; and

WHEREAS, Sycamore Creek golf course is a nine-hole golf course with two sets of tees providing an 18 hole golf course experience with nine greens; and

WHEREAS, Z. Boaz golf course was closed in 2012 and land re-purposed into a community park and the Park and Community Services Advisory Board directed staff to review the feasibility of Sycamore Creek golf course by 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Worth Water Department has designed and planned for the construction and installation of a sixty six inch sewer line running through Sycamore Creek golf course beginning the end of 2019 and construction time 12 to 18 months; and

WHEREAS, Sycamore Creek golf course will be closed to the public for an extended period of time, staff was directed to evaluate and analyze if the golf course should be restored or re-purposed into a community park; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 a sixteen–member Sycamore Creek Study Committee was created and charged with evaluating the historical and financial data for Sycamore Creek golf course and make recommendations to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board for the continued operation or re-purposing into a Community Park; and

WHEREAS, the Sycamore Creek Study Committee considered the following three questions. 1) Do you agree the current golf course model is not sustainable? 2) Do you agree that investing more money into Sycamore Creek golf course most likely would not result in a financially sustainable golf course? And 3) Is there a better use of the land?; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2019, the Committee issued its recommendation to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, inclusive of closure and re-purposing of Sycamore Creek golf course into a community park; and
WHEREAS, the golf rounds produced at Sycamore Creek golf course average 12,500 rounds per year with a breakeven number of rounds established at 24,000; and

WHEREAS, the golf course has continually experienced a loss of revenues over twenty-five years (1994 – 2017) with an average loss of ($162,895) annually; and

WHEREAS, one public meeting and four Neighborhood Association Meeting were held to receive feedback from the community and the consensus was the citizens would be better served with a community park rather than a golf course; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2019 the Park and Recreation Advisory Board voted unanimously to re-purpose the Sycamore Creek golf course to a community park; and

WHEREAS, on June 14, 2019, staff made a presentation to the Fort Worth City Council regarding “Re-Purposing of Sycamore Creek Golf Course for Use as a Community Park” and presented the recommendations from staff, the Sycamore Creek Study Committee and the Park and Recreation Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, the City Council directed staff to prepare a resolution for Council consideration for the re-purposing of Sycamore Creek golf course as a community park; and

WHEREAS, re-purposing of the facility currently known as Sycamore Creek golf course is anticipated to improve the long-term viability of the Golf Program and to help the City to meet its goals of providing adequate community park facilities to meet the needs of all of its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS, THAT:

1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to develop and implement a plan for the closure of Sycamore Creek golf course no later than September 30, 2019; and

2. That the City Manager is further authorized to re-purpose the Sycamore Creek park property, hereafter to be known as Sycamore Creek Community Park, into a traditional community park for the use and enjoyment of the general public.

Adopted this 11th day of June 2019.

ATTEST:

By: _____________________________

Mary Kayser, City Secretary