



RESOLUTION #14

TITLE:

Encouraging cities to integrate nature and become wilder places



WHEREAS

1. The majority of the world population lives in cities; and
2. In the urban millennium it's time to reconcile the development of cities with nature and to recognize the importance of green infrastructure for humans and biodiversity; and
3. Biologically diverse habitats in and around cities, along with its wildlife and their ecosystem services, are valued and very important for their contribution to global biodiversity, and to human well-being; and
4. The long-term protection of diverse ecosystems depends upon strong public appreciation; and
5. Communication and education for sustainable development are indispensable components of an urban strategy to embrace nature in cities; and
6. Citizens of the world are the trustees of nature, and public participation is essential to the development of biodiverse cities, and the protection of nature beyond metropolitan areas; and
7. The WILD Cities initiative was launched at WILD10 and aims to achieve: (1) continued and expanded ecosystem services to urban areas; (2) quantity and quality wildlife habitat and biodiversity within cities and the watershed; (3) enticing opportunities for recreation, and health and economic benefits from open and green spaces in the city confines and beyond; (4) educational opportunities; and (5) revenue generation (jobs, property values, tourism income) and public cost savings (avoiding environmental remediation and storm recovery) for cities.

THEREFORE

We the undersigned delegates of the 10th World Wilderness Congress support the concept of a global designation that endorses the important role of metropolitan areas and their citizens and their authorities in the protection of biodiversity, and

RESOLVED

To develop best practice guidelines for nature enhancement in municipal planning as well as for citizen involvement; and

To develop a WILD Cities special designation providing validation that would attract positive international attention to designated WILD Cities.

PROPOSER

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