

## RESOLUTION NO. 2023-32

### A RESOLUTION OF THE FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL, IN SUPPORT OF CALLS FOR PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN TO CREATE BAAJ NWAAVJO I'TAH KUKVENI GRAND CANYON NATIONAL MOUNMENT IN NORTHERN ARIZONA

#### RECITALS:

WHEREAS, Grand Canyon area has been a special spiritual and cultural place for 11 North American Indigenous Tribes from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Havasupai Tribe, the Hopi Tribe, the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, the Las Vegas Band of Paiute Indians, the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians, the Navajo Nation, the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Pueblo of Zuni, and the Yavapai-Apache Nation all have ancient ties to the Grand Canyon and the lands and waters around it; and

WHEREAS, the origin stories of these tribes go back directly to the Grand Canyon and for millennia their people have utilized and continue to access these lands for ongoing cultural and religious practices; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Canyon, which President Theodore Roosevelt declared a National Game Preserve in 1906 and a National Monument in 1908, and which Congress made an 800,000-acre National Park in 1919, is a special place for people around the world, who visit it in throngs annually; and

WHEREAS, Grand Canyon National Park is a significant economic asset for Arizona and the Southwest since it is one of the most visited parks in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Kaibab Plateau that surrounds Grand Canyon also contains numerous sites sacred to Native American tribes; and

WHEREAS, the springs and seeps of the Kaibab Plateau watershed that feed Colorado River flows through the Grand Canyon are essential water sources for a plethora of unique and sensitive plants and animals of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Kaibab Plateau is habitat for iconic wildlife such as mountain lions and mule deer as well as critical for endangered species such as the California condor and desert tortoise; and

WHEREAS, critical habitat connections between Grand Canyon National Park and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah are in the Kaibab Plateau; and

WHEREAS, the viability of the Kaibab Plateau watershed is under threat from uranium mining, logging, and other resource-extractive industries; and

WHEREAS, 1,102,501 acres of National Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands around Grand Canyon National Park deserve and need protection from these threats; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Canyon affiliated tribes have formed the Grand Canyon Tribal Coalition

for a national campaign urging President Joe Biden to use his authority under the Antiquities Act to designate these watershed lands around Grand Canyon National Park as the Baaj Nwaanjo l'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument.

**ENACTMENTS:**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. Support the calls for President Joe Biden to designate more than 1 million acres of federal land around Grand Canyon National Park as the Baaj Nwaanjo l'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument.

SECTION 2. Effective Date.

This resolution shall be immediately effective upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 6th day of June, 2023.

---

MAYOR

ATTEST:

---

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

---

CITY ATTORNEY