

## RESOLUTION NO. 2025-41

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL, REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE BAAJ NWAAVJO I'TAH KUKVENI GRAND CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT AND EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO SHRINKING THE BOUNDARIES OR REPEAL OF THE MONUMENT**

#### **RECITALS:**

WHEREAS, on August 8, 2023, President Joe Biden signed proclamation 10606 to protect 917,618 acres of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management land north and south of Grand Canyon National Park as the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of Grand Canyon National Monument; and

WHEREAS, the lands within the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of Grand Canyon National Monument are sacred to Tribal Nations and Indigenous people and the Grand Canyon Tribal Coalition, including members of the Havasupai Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Kaibab Paiute Tribe, Las Vegas Band of Paiute Tribe, Moapa Band of Paiutes, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Navajo Nation, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, Yavapai-Apache Nation, Pueblo of Zuni, and the Colorado River Indian Tribes requested and supported establishment of the national monument; and

WHEREAS, the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of Grand Canyon National Monument contains significant objects of historic and scientific interest that need the protection a monument designation provides; and

WHEREAS, the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of Grand Canyon National Monument contains numerous sites sacred to Indigenous people and Tribal Nations, including Red Butte; and

WHEREAS, Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of Grand Canyon National Monument includes a diverse ecology of plants and animals, including mule deer and mountain lions and endangered California condors, and includes migratory corridors for hundreds of bird and mammal species; and

WHEREAS, a December 2024 poll found that 80% of Arizona voters support Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado College State of the Rockies Project 2025 Conservation in the West poll found that 88% of Arizonans “believe that existing national monument designations from the last decade should be kept in place”; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2023, the Flagstaff City Council passed resolution 2023-32 in support of and calling on President Biden to establish the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2025, media reported that the Trump Administration is proposing to shrink the size of several national monuments, including the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument, to open these areas to resource extraction; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2025 the Department of Justice’s Office of Legal Counsel issued a legal opinion that presidents have the authority to revoke national monument designations made by previous presidents.

**ENACTMENTS:**

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

SECTION 1. The Flagstaff City Council reaffirms its support for the designation of the Baaj Nwaavjo l’tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument.

SECTION 2. The Flagstaff City Council concludes that the Baaj Nwaavjo l’tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument and all designated National Monuments deserve to be safeguarded and retained as proclaimed under the 1906 Antiquities Act.

SECTION 3. The Flagstaff City Council expresses its strong opposition to any shrinking of the boundaries or repeal of the Baaj Nwaavjo l’tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument.

SECTION 4. The Flagstaff City Council directs the city's federal lobbyists to take the necessary measures to communicate the City of Flagstaff’s opposition to the shrinking of boundaries or repeal of the Baaj Nwaavjo l’tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument and the subsequent opening of areas within the monument to resource extraction, mining exploration, and potential development.

SECTION 5. Copies of this resolution will be sent to the members of the Arizona Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Arizona, and the relevant federal land management agencies.

SECTION 6. Effective Date.

This resolution shall be immediately effective upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 1st day of July, 2025.

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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CITY ATTORNEY