

RESOLUTION 2021-94

WHEREAS, many of South Sioux City's businesses and its citizens are involved in or otherwise depend on industries that utilize and/or depend upon the private ownership of land and its resources, including, but not limited to, livestock grazing, agricultural and horticultural activities, recreational industries, hunting and other outdoor recreation;

WHEREAS, these industries are important components of the Nebraska economy, and are major contributors to the economic and social wellbeing of South Sioux City and its citizens;

WHEREAS, on January 27th, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. issued Executive Order 14008 entitled Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad (86 Fed. Reg. 7,619);

WHEREAS, in Section 216 of Executive Order 14008, President Biden directed the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and other senior officials, to develop a program to conserve at least 30 percent of the lands and water in the United States by 2030 which is called the '30 x 30" program;

WHEREAS, under the 30 x 30 program, approximately 680 million acres of our Nation's lands would be set aside and permanently preserved in its natural state, preventing the productive use of these lands and their resources;

WHEREAS, there is no constitutional or statutory authority for the President, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, or any other federal agency to set aside and permanently preserve 30 percent of all land and water in the United States, and no such authority is referenced in Executive Order 14008;

WHEREAS, placing private lands into permanent conservation status will cause dramatic and irreversible harm to the economies of many states, including Nebraska,

WHEREAS, the 30 x 30 program, if implemented will conflict with the plans, policies and programs of South Sioux City as expressed in the City's Comprehensive Plan,

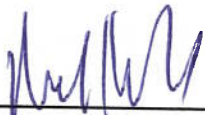
WHEREAS, conversion of land from private ownership to federal ownership typically results in removal of said land from the tax rolls of the applicable taxing entity, whereby diminishing the pool of total tax revenue available, and causing a potential for the burden of increased taxation for the remaining owners of privately held land;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 14008 directs the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with other relevant federal agencies, to "submit a report to the Task Force within 90 days of the date of this order recommending steps that the United States should take, working with State, Local, Tribal, and territorial governments, agricultural and forest landowners, fishermen, and other key stakeholders, to achieve the goal of conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of South Sioux City Nebraska, as follows:

1. The City opposes the 30 x 30 program, including its objective of permanently preserving 30 percent of the Nation's land in their natural state by 2030, or any similar program that will set aside and prevent the productive use of millions of acres of our lands.
2. The City supports the continued private ownership of land in the County, recognizing the Nation's need for domestic sources of mineral, energy, timber, food, and fiber.
3. The City recognizes and supports the State of Nebraska 's water rights system, including the doctrine of prior appropriation and other state laws and programs governing water rights and water use, and opposes any federal designation of waters and watercourses within the County that would impair or restrict water diversion and uses authorized under Nebraska law.
4. The City supports reasonable national, regional, and global greenhouse gas emissions policies and goals that are comprehensive, practical, cost effective, and do not unnecessarily single out specific industries or activities, but opposes the use of global climate change as a justification to set aside large tracts of land as preserves or open space to fulfill the 30 x 30 program's objectives.
5. The City also maintains that any lands or other rights that are acquired to fulfill the 30 x 30 program's objectives should be acquired only from willing landowners and for the payment of full and fair market value for all rights and interest acquired, and not through regulatory compulsions on the wellbeing, health, safety, welfare, economy, and culture, it businesses, and its citizens.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 23rd DAY OF AUGUST, 2021



MAYOR

ATTEST:

