

Town of Chapel Hill

Proclamation

WHEREAS, William "Bill" Webster began working with the Town of Chapel Hill in 1980 and has since dedicated his career to the betterment of Chapel Hill's parks and greenways; and

WHEREAS, during Bill's 39 years with Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation, he has coordinated two comprehensive department master plans and three greenways master plans; and has led the development of three community parks, an aquatics center, a new gymnasium, new playgrounds, a neighborhood park, the nation's first municipally-owned indoor climbing wall and more; and

WHEREAS, after earning his Master's In Public Administration at UNC-Chapel Hill, Bill's thesis paper became the foundation for the Town of Chapel Hill's long-range greenway trail development plan; and

WHEREAS, based on this plan and under Bill's leadership, the Town expanded from one mile of trail in the 1970s to 10 trails with a combined length of 15.5 miles (and growing); and

WHEREAS, over the years, Bill has helped write enabling legislation in the Town's development ordinances that allows the Town to expand its ability to require payments-in-lieu of providing on-site recreation and to extend open space purchases outside of the town limits; and

WHEREAS, he has worked closely with the Town Council to protect and dedicate almost 800 acres of open space including the very special 100 acre Morgan Creek Preserve; and

WHEREAS, Bill was key to the development of a unified Town Mobility & Connectivity Plan which lays out a framework for connecting all forms of non-motorized transportation within the Town in order to reduce the Town's carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, he was founder of the Friends of Chapel Hill Parks, Recreation and Greenways and has served as staff liaison for 31 years; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Bill has been an active member of the North Carolina Recreation and Park Association, serving as a leader, teacher and life-long learner; and

WHEREAS, Bill has also volunteered with many recreation-based organizations across North Carolina, recently working to advance the public use of climbing areas through land preservation, acquisition, policy and climber education; and

WHEREAS, Bill's passion, commitment, and vision for the future has paved a way for future generations to enjoy our many precious outdoor resources and preserve them for years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE we the Chapel Hill Town Council wish to thank and celebrate

Bill Webster

for his many contributions to outdoor recreation, multi-modal connectivity and healthy living in Chapel Hill.



**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF
CHAPEL HILL ON THIS THE THIRTIETH DAY OF OCTOBER IN
THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN**

Pam Hemm