RESOLUTION NO. 18-2017

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS, TEXAS EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO CONSTRUCTION OF A BORDER WALL IN THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

This Resolution was introduced and submitted to the City Council for passage and adoption. After presentation and discussion of the Resolution, a motion was made by Councilmember Mendez that the Resolution be finally passed and adopted in accordance with the City’s Home Rule Charter. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Munoz and carried by the following vote:

Mayor Polo Narvaez
Councilmember Yolanda H. Cruz
Councilmember Swain Real
Mayor Pro-tem Javier Mendez
Councilmember Bibi Garza
Councilmember Juan Munoz

X For ___ Against ___ Abstained
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WHEREAS, there is a proposal to build a wall along the entire U.S.-Mexico border;

WHEREAS, additional wall in the Rio Grande Valley will bisect business corridors, and hinder trade relationships with Mexico from which Los Fresnos will be affected economically;

WHEREAS, additional walls will be built in the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, National Butterfly Center, Bentsen Rio Grande Valley State Park, Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Nature Conservancy Brownsville Preserve, and Sabal Palm Sanctuary that preserve the remaining 5% of native habitat essential for the survival of endangered species unique to the Rio Grande Valley;

WHEREAS, additional walls will limit or block access to preserved lands that are core sites of the eco-tourism industry that generates nearly 500 million dollars annually from which Los Fresnos benefits economically;

WHEREAS, the billions of dollars to build additional wall and billions more to maintain additional wall can instead be invested in community programs, job development, after school programs, education, health care, and other needs of Los Fresnos and the Rio Grande Valley;

WHEREAS, the existing border wall has caused substantial environmental damage fragmenting of critical wildlife habitat, and disrupts wildlife migration patterns;

WHEREAS, Los Fresnos values inclusiveness, tolerance, diversity, and welcomes all those that wish to build a life and raise a family;
WHEREAS, Lois Fresnos encourages modern strategies that incorporate bi-national community planning that foster bi-national citizen collaboration and business partnerships honoring cultural heritage and benefiting bi-national opportunities unique to our border region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS, TEXAS:

That the City Council of the City of Los Fresnos express opposition to any structure referred to as, but not limited to, a wall, fence, or levee-wall, that is designed to further bisect our international community via a physical barrier along the border.

Passed and approved this 12th day of December, 2017.

ATTEST:

Pam Denny, City Secretary

Polo Narvaez, Mayor