

## **Recognizing the West Chicago Park District's 50-Year Anniversary**

**WHEREAS**, the residents of West Chicago approved the formation of the West Chicago Park District on May 20, 1972 by a vote of 800 ballots for the District and 292 against; and

**WHEREAS**, the West Chicago Park District began with the operations of the leased Reed-Keppler Park and its swimming pool, and officially began its expansion in 1973 with the purchase of the 12-acre site on Geneva Road, now known as Don Earley Park; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1972, the West Chicago Park District has made the commitment to creating an enhanced quality of life in West Chicago through effective programs, progressive facilities and preservation of parks and natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the West Chicago Park District has developed and now maintains over 400 acres including Reed-Keppler Park known as "the heart of the community," eight additional parks, two dog parks, athletic fields, playgrounds, ponds, and trails; and

**WHEREAS**, the West Chicago Park District has developed and now manages multiple facilities including a community recreation center known as the ARC Center, an indoor playground known as the Treetop Escape, an outdoor waterpark known as the Turtle Splash Water Park, an outdoor entertainment venue known as The Shell, and an indoor athletic facility known as ZONE250; and

**WHEREAS**, the West Chicago Park District has developed and now annually offers multiple seasonal special events and abundant recreational programs for participants of all ages and abilities, athletics, aquatics, early childhood, performing arts, before and after school, and summer camp; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of West Chicago values its intergovernmental partnership with the West Chicago Park District and supports the District's commitment and efforts towards creating an enhanced quality of life in West Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of West Chicago celebrates the achievement and accomplishments of the West Chicago Park District.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, together with the West Chicago City Council, I, Ruben Pineda, Mayor of the City of West Chicago do hereby extend our congratulations to the West Chicago Park District in recognition of 50 years of excellent service to the West Chicago community.

Proclaimed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022.

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Mayor Ruben Pineda

