RESOLUTION NO. 2012-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUDSON OAKS, TEXAS, ENCOURAGING VOLUNTARY CESSATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL DEER AND OTHER WILDLIFE FEEDING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson Oaks, Texas (the "City") is a Type A general-law municipality located in Parker County, Texas, created in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Local Government Code and operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, at its October 2012 Council meeting, the City Council received a presentation from a Texas Parks and Wildlife representative on issues pertaining to the supplemental feeding of deer and other wildlife by citizens of the City and the impact of such supplemental feeding on deer and wildlife herds and population; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that the increasing deer population in the City poses a potential hazard to motorists, poses a risk for the spread of rabies, lime disease, and other diseases, causes a reduction in native plant life and causes damage to landscaping installed by residents and commercial land owners of the City; and

WHEREAS, the feeding of deer and other wildlife has been shown to increase the concentration of these animals in the area of the feeding, thereby increasing the likelihood of collisions between vehicles and such animals, and increasing damage to vegetation and landscaping in the area; and

WHEREAS, the feeding of deer and other wildlife has been shown to attract these animals to remain in an urbanized area and that a voluntary reduction in the feeding of deer and other wildlife would discourage the influx of additional deer and wildlife, and best protect the property values, health, safety and general welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of prohibiting such supplemental feeding by ordinance, at this point the City Council desires to bring awareness of these issues to its citizens and encourage voluntary cessation of such supplemental feeding of deer and wildlife in the City; and

WHEREAS, in the event such voluntary compliance is ineffective, the City Council shall consider an ordinance prohibiting such supplemental feeding in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUDSON OAKS, TEXAS:

SECTION 1.

The City Council of the City of Hudson Oaks hereby strongly urges and encourages the citizens of the City of Hudson Oaks to cease all supplemental feeding of deer and other wildlife

in the City. Supplemental feeding includes the placing, depositing, distributing, or leaving of any fruit, grain, corn, vegetable, mineral, salt, or other food of any kind or nature, or providing water, with the intent to attract or feed white-tailed deer or other wildlife on any public or private lands in the City. Supplemental feeding in this context does not include the placement of food, mineral blocks or salt licks for authorized domestic livestock, or the provision of seed for birds. Supplemental feeding further does not include naturally growing plants or materials such as crops or gardens.

SECTION 2.

This resolution shall be effective upon its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 29th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2012.

ATTEST:

City Secretary

Mayor