



RESOLUTION 21-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ENDORSING AND SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF THE CALUMET NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA BY CONGRESS.

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) is the Council of Local Governments comprised of the communities of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties; and

WHEREAS, communities within the Calumet Region, bookended by the Indiana Dunes National Park and the Pullman National Monument, share nationally-significant natural, industrial, labor, and cultural heritage assets; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Park Service, National Heritage Areas are places where historic, cultural, and natural resources combine to form cohesive, nationally important landscapes; and

WHEREAS, there are 55 designated National Heritage Areas throughout the United States but Indiana has no such designation; and

WHEREAS, National Heritage Areas are created by Act of Congress; and

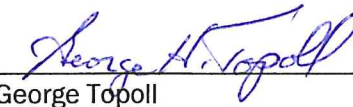
WHEREAS, National Heritage Areas have a demonstrable and studied economic impact and return on investment, including tourism and job creation, and do not affect private property rights; and

WHEREAS, National Park Service staff found in 2018 that the Feasibility Study for the Calumet National Heritage Area, developed with extensive public input, met all ten feasibility study assessment criteria; and

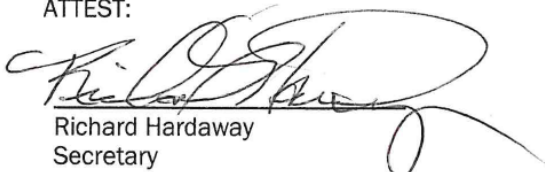
WHEREAS, a Management Plan for the Calumet Heritage Area was completed in April of 2021 by multiple regional partners, stressing collaboration for regional impact, heritage development, and connecting residents and visitors more strongly with the region's extraordinary natural and cultural resources;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission endorses and supports the creation of the Calumet National Heritage Area by Congress.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this 16th day of September 2021.


George Topoll
Chairperson

ATTEST:


Richard Hardaway
Secretary