Town of Camp Verde Proclamation Declaring October 6, 2018 as Camp Verde's Official Day of Celebration of its International Dark Sky Community Designation

WHEREAS, dark skies are a valuable natural feature that contributes positively to human and ecosystem health, and are an increasingly rare community asset throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Camp Verde citizens and visitors alike enjoy and appreciate being able to observe our community's wondrous dark night sky, including the Milky Way Galaxy, visible to only 20 percent of North Americans; and

WHEREAS, dark skies are an increasingly important community development and economic asset in an over-lighted world; and

WHEREAS, preservation of dark skies in Arizona supports the work of professional astronomers at Lowell and other Arizona observatories that contribute well over \$250 million annually to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, Camp Verde's dark sky initiatives began in August 2000 with enhancement of the Town's lighting ordinance and continued with more than a five-year [per Steve's calculation] concerted effort by the Town to qualify as an International Dark Sky Community; and

WHEREAS, the Town strongly supports the use of fully-shielded, downward-pointing, yellow-amber lighting, and is committed to enforcing dark sky lighting requirements on its own properties, as well as in residential and business areas; and

WHEREAS, the International Dark Sky Association approved Camp Verde as the state's sixth International Dark Sky Community and 20th in the world on June 9, 2018.

Now, Therefore, the Mayor of the Town of Camp Verde, along with our partners who made this designation possible, urge all citizens to support our commitment to preserving our dark skies.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona, this 6th day of October, 2018.

Charles German, Mayor

ATTEST:

Judy Morgan, Town Clerk