

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR EXPANDED PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITHIN SOUTHWESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY AND FUNDING FOR THE COST OF TENANT IMPROVEMENTS TO CREATE AN EXPANDED PRESENCE FOR CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS AT THE MT. SAN JACINTO COLLEGE CAMPUS IN TEMECULA VALLEY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lake Elsinore, California, ("City") is located in Southwestern Riverside County, with a population of 71,563 (2021) projected to grow to 111,600 by 2045; and

**WHEREAS**, within our city and the greater region there presently is not a full-fledged four-year public university, thereby forcing students pursuing higher education seeking to begin a four-year education after graduating from high school to leave this geographic area or to commute great distances; and

**WHEREAS**, the commute time to the nearest four-year public universities is upward of one to two hours, exacerbated by the lack of public transportation to access those schools; and

**WHEREAS**, this region is projected to grow through 2060 without pause, making it one of the fastest-growing geographic areas in California and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the region presently has a lower than statewide average percentage of population that has completed a four-year university education; and

**WHEREAS**, the region is working strategically and earnestly to attract higher-paying jobs to increase social mobility and to help reduce significant workforce commuting to other regions, which not only causes massive freeway congestion and contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, but also greatly impacts the quality of life, including physical and mental health, for those commuters and their ability to be active contributors to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, California State University, San Marcos (CSUSM) reports that about one-quarter of their student population come from this geographic area, which equates to approximately 4,000 students; and

**WHEREAS**, CSUSM also reports that they have a large number of students from the area that do not finish their Bachelor's degrees there; and

**WHEREAS**, enrollment at Mt. San Jacinto Community College (MSJC) is up 50-60% over pre-pandemic enrollment; and

**WHEREAS**, considering vehicle mileage, fuel cost, and the expense of time waiting in traffic, the absence of a four-year university in this region creates a real barrier to personal growth and professional development, as well as economic growth of this region.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** Access to public higher education opportunities is critically important to economic growth within the region.

**Section 2.** The CSUSM Temecula Valley campus is an important link to expand public higher education in this region and the symbiotic relationship of this campus to regional economic development goals and needs.

**Section 3.** The City strongly supports regional efforts to advocate for funding for the expansion of public higher education in Southwestern Riverside County.

**Section 4.** The City requests its legislative representatives consider this need and assist in the advocacy efforts for the necessary funding to complete the tenant improvements for the CSUSM Temecula Valley campus expansion, and four-year education in Southwest Riverside County.

**Passed and Adopted** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lake Elsinore, California, this \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

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Steve Manos  
Mayor

Attest:

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Candice Alvarez, MMC  
City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA     )  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE    ) ss.  
CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE    )

I, Candice Alvarez, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Lake Elsinore, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2024-\_\_ was adopted by the City Council of the City of Lake Elsinore, California, at the Regular meeting of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 and that the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

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Candice Alvarez, MMC  
City Clerk