

RESOLUTION 2016-03

**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE
KANKAKEE RIVER WATER TRAIL AS A NATIONAL WATER TRAIL**

WHEREAS, a bi-state coalition has been formed to seek the designation of the Kankakee River from its headwaters near South Bend Indiana to its confluence with the Illinois River near Wilmington as a National Water Trail; and

WHEREAS, this coalition has already received nearly fifty letters of support from Indiana and Illinois municipalities and units of government along with other organizations such as Openlands, the Nature Conservancy, the Field Museum's Science Action Center, and other outdoor recreation and water resource groups; and

WHEREAS, the National Water Trail System was established to protect and restore America's rivers, shorelines, and waterways and conserve natural areas along waterways as well as to increase access to outdoor recreation on shorelines and waterways; and

WHEREAS, designation of the Kankakee River Water Trail as a National Water Trail will enhance the opportunities for the City of Wilmington to obtain technical assistance and funding for planning and implementing water trail projects, will provide positive economic impact from increased tourism, increase protection for outdoor recreation and water resources, and contribute to public health and quality of life by maintaining and restoring watershed resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Wilmington, that the City of Wilmington supports the designation of the Kankakee River Trail as a National Water Trail and that the Mayor be authorized to send a letter of support to the National Park Service evidencing the City's support.

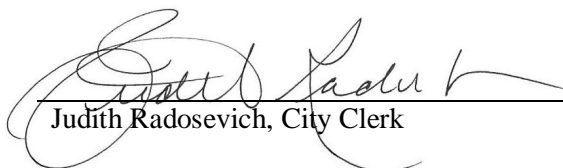
PASSED this 19th day of January, 2016 with 7 members voting aye, 0 members voting nay, the Mayor N/A voting, with 0 members abstaining or passing and said vote being:

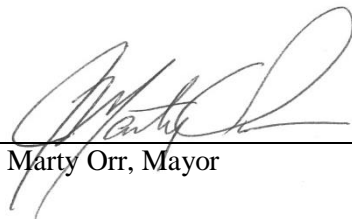
John Persic, Jr.	<u>aye</u>	Kevin Kirwin	<u>aye</u>
Larry Hall	<u>aye</u>	Kirby Hall	<u>aye</u>
Fran Tutor	<u>aye</u>	Joe VanDuynes	<u>aye</u>
Steve Evans	<u>aye</u>	Frank Studer	<u>absent</u>

Approved this 19th day of January, 2016



Attest:


Judith Radosevich, City Clerk


J. Marty Orr, Mayor