



## PROCLAMATION 2026-02

### A Proclamation of the Town Council designating April 13 to April 20, 2026, as Dark Sky Week in the Town of Springdale

**WHEREAS**, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind; and

**WHEREAS**, the experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages a growing interest in science and nature, especially among young people and out-of-area visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution has scientifically documented economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts on the ecology and human health of all communities; and

**WHEREAS**, 80 percent of the world's population, including many people in Washington County, Utah, lives under a dome of light pollution and may never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark sky; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution represents a waste of resources amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year of wasted energy in the United States and contributes to diminished energy security; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Springdale and Zion National Park enjoy relatively dark night skies, and the Town has identified protection of the dark night sky resource as a priority goal in the General Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Springdale has adopted outdoor lighting ordinances, hosts dark sky education events, and promotes awareness of the dark night sky in order to preserve and protect the dark night sky; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Springdale has been designated as a Dark Sky Community by DarkSky International, confirming the Town's commitment to protecting the dark night sky; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town's 600 residents and five million annual visitors appreciate dark night skies in Springdale; and

**WHEREAS**, DarkSky International is the globally recognized authority on light pollution and has created International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of light pollution, and provide free education, resources,

and solutions to the public to encourage the protection of and enjoyment of dark skies and responsible outdoor lighting.

**Now Therefore, the Town Council of Springdale, Utah does hereby proclaim** that April 13 - 20, 2026 shall be DARK SKY WEEK in the Town of Springdale.

- The Council further invites each resident, business owner, and visitor to join us in observing and appreciating the dark night sky during this important week.
- The Council requests support from residents, business owners, and visitors in raising awareness and support for protecting our precious dark sky resources in Springdale, as well as nearby communities in the region.
- Because the dark night sky is a shared regional resource, the Council calls upon community leaders in other Southern Utah communities to support and advocate for the protection and preservation of the dark night sky in their communities.

Adopted this 8th day of April, 2026

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Barbara Bruno, Mayor

Attest:

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Robin Romero, Town Clerk