

**Conservation Federation of Missouri  
2019 Resolutions**

**Committee:** Public/Private Lands Committee

**# 7 – Draft 2019**

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**Intended Recipients:** Dr. Choi, President of the University of Missouri System, Steve Ehlman, St. Charles County Executive.

**Halt Sale of Weldon Woods**

1       **WHEREAS**, an area known as Weldon Woods, a wild forestland adjacent to the Katy  
2       Trail and the Busch Greenway that was transferred to the University of Missouri by the  
3       US Department of Energy after World War II has remained, until now, a 200 acre natural  
4       green space with old growth forests and high bluffs along the Katy Trail,

5       **WHEREAS**, the University is well underway in the process of selling said tract to a local  
6       home builder for a large subdivision development which will result in much earthmoving  
7       and old growth tree removal to accommodate the current plan to erect several hundred  
8       single family homes and condominiums,

9       **WHEREAS**, the St. Charles County Council approved (despite intense opposition and  
10      lobbying from local residents) a development plan in June, 2018 to build approximately  
11      three hundred homes on the acreage.

12      **WHEREAS**, this development will forever destroy the wild character of the land along  
13      this part of the Busch Greenway and the Katy Trail and disrupt the delicate fauna and  
14      flora of the ecosystem.

15      **WHEREAS**, while selling this rare asset of undisturbed open suburban land to a  
16      developer may financially support the public university system for a time, it will result in  
17      the significant reduction of public land on which to recreate by hiking and nature study,

18      **WHEREAS**, the majority of the St. Charles County Council members disregarded their  
19      own Planning and Zoning commission recommendation to retain the land in agricultural  
20      zoning and instead approved the rezoning of the acreage to residential allowing for this  
21      unwise high-density development,

22       **WHEREAS**, other nearby hiking trails such as the Lewis and Clark Trail and the Lost  
23       Valley Trail, much like the ones that should be constructed in Weldon Woods, are very  
24       intensely used and more trails in the area are desperately needed to fill the demand of  
25       those seeking healthful outdoor recreation,

26       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conservation Federation of  
27       Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of  
28       March, 2019 asks Dr. Choi. President of the University of Missouri system, and St.  
29       Charles County Executive Steve Ehlman, to not allow this unwise sale to proceed.

Searchable Key words: Weldon Woods, University of Missouri, St. Charles County,  
development

**Expires:** March 10, 2024