

By: Frullo

H.R. No. 1141

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The City of Lubbock and its citizens are coming
2 together to create a memorial to commemorate the community's
3 rebirth after the devastating natural disaster that struck the city
4 on May 11, 1970; and

5 WHEREAS, On that evening, two tornados tore through Lubbock,
6 and one of them carved a two-mile path of devastation in the heart
7 of the city, causing almost \$200 million in damage to homes,
8 businesses, and infrastructure; the storm took 26 lives, ranging
9 from a nine-month-old baby to an 88-year-old, and another 255
10 people were seriously hurt, while more than 1,500 suffered minor
11 injuries; and

12 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the disaster, the community
13 pulled together under the leadership of mayor Jim Granberry, city
14 manager Bill Blackwell, and police chief J. T. Alley; in August
15 1970, a bond proposal was overwhelmingly passed which provided for
16 millions of dollars to rebuild the city, a project that included
17 such new facilities as the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, the Mahon
18 Public Library, and 15 city parks; and

19 WHEREAS, In April 2017, the Lubbock City Council designated a
20 four-acre site at Glenna Goodacre Boulevard and Avenue Q as the
21 location for a new memorial park to tell the story of the tornado,
22 honor those who lost their lives, and celebrate the vision and
23 fortitude of the people who rebuilt Lubbock; budgeted at \$4.5
24 million, the park will include a granite memorial wall, a water

1 feature, trees and green space, and parking, and it will also serve
2 as a gateway to the newly energized downtown cultural arts
3 district; and

4 WHEREAS, This striking memorial represents a fitting tribute
5 to the city's recovery from one of its greatest trials and to those
6 hardworking and steadfast individuals who joined forces to rebuild
7 their beloved community, brick by brick; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the Tornado Memorial Gateway and
10 extend to the city and citizens of Lubbock sincere best wishes for
11 the successful completion of this impressive project.