

Memphis City Council Summary Sheet

1. Description of the Item (Resolution, Ordinance, etc.)

A resolution to accept and appropriate \$50,000 that will be donated from Amazon to create safe tech and recreational youth spaces to be divided equally among four community centers.

2. Initiating Party (e.g. Public Works, at request of City Council, etc.)

Office of Youth Services

3. State whether this is a change to an existing ordinance or resolution, if applicable.

N/A

4. State whether this will impact specific council districts or super districts.

Yes - District 1 - Raleigh/District 4 - Glenview & Orange Mound/District 9 - Westwood

5. State whether this requires a new contract, or amends an existing contract, if applicable.

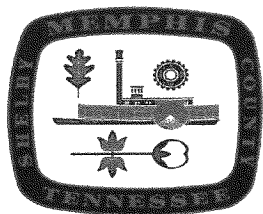
N/A

6. State whether this requires an expenditure of funds/requires a budget amendment

\$50,000 Grant from Amazon to be equally divided among four community centers stated above.

7. If applicable, please list the MWBE goal and any additional information needed

N/A



RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT \$50,000 FROM AMAZON TO CREATE SAFE TECH AND REC SPACES IN CITY OF MEMPHIS COMMUNITY CENTERS

WHEREAS, Amazon operates eight facilities in the City of Memphis, with more than 12,000 employees; and

WHEREAS, Amazon recognizes the needs of the City of Memphis as it relates to high crime and poverty rates; and

WHEREAS, Amazon is committed to partnering with the City of Memphis to invest in strategies that will strengthen the community and create safe spaces for youth in the City of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Youth Services conducted focus groups at multiple community centers across the City to develop ways for possible solutions to juvenile crime; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the outcome of such focus groups, Amazon has agreed to donate fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to assist in upgrading computer labs and recreation spaces for youth in community centers located in underserved neighborhoods as part of Amazon's community engagement pillar of meeting the needs of the community in which its employees live and work; and

WHEREAS, the initial community centers to be serviced as above include Westwood Community Center, Orange Mound Community Center, Raleigh Community Center and Glenview Community Center; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Memphis that the above funds are hereby approved to be accepted, obligated and expended for purposes as set forth herein.



Background

Amazon will make a \$50,000 donation to the City of Memphis to create 'Safe Tech and Rec Spaces' powered by Amazon for youth in four inner city community centers; Westwood Community Center, Orange Mound Community Center, Raleigh Community Center and Glenview Community Center. Recognizing the needs of these neighborhoods with high crime and poverty rates, Amazon is committed to partnering with the City of Memphis to invest in strategies that will strengthen the community and create safe spaces for youth.

According to Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County, juvenile crime has gotten worse with nearly 500 charges filed in juvenile court for crimes committed by youth between the hours of 3-7 pm in 2023. More specifically, the report shows that 65% of aggravated assault charges, 49% of aggravated robberies charges and 70% of carjacking charges in Memphis were all filed against youth in juvenile court. In March 2024, the new Mayor of the City of Memphis, Paul A. Young announced his key priorities and one of them was to reduce youth crime. The Office of Youth Services conducted focus groups at multiple community centers across the city to get feedback from youth on the root causes and possible solutions for reducing juvenile crime. Based on the feedback, one of the strategies that the Mayor specifically requested the private sector to partner with the city on is donating funds to upgrade computer labs and recreation spaces in 24 community centers in underserved neighborhoods for youth. This aligns with Amazon's community engagement pillar of meeting the right now needs of the community where Amazon employees live and work.

Amazon in Tennessee

Amazon has 12 fulfillment and sortation centers in Tennessee, along with eight delivery stations and 24,000 employees. In Memphis and the surrounding areas, Amazon operates eight facilities, with more than 12,000 employees. As an active member of the Greater Chamber of Commerce's Chairman Circle, Amazon is at the table with top companies in the city working diligently to make Memphis a safer place to live and work. Since launching its first fulfillment center in Memphis in 2018, Amazon has supported the City of Memphis through economic development, sponsorships, donations, community engagement and volunteerism.

- In 2022, Amazon adopted 20 Memphis Shelby County Schools and donated funding, time and resources including mentoring and tutoring students at their schools.
- In 2023, Amazon donated funding, supplies, food, laptops and furniture to Black Girls Code, United Way, Hungernomics, to name a few. Amazon also donated funding to build an Amazon storefront in the Junior Achievement 'Biztown' for middle schoolers to learn more about STEM programs and careers.
- In 2024, Amazon continued to provide supplies, food, clothing and other resources to numerous non-profit organizations including donating funding to build an indoor playground in the Memphis Dream Center to give kids a safe space to play and interact with other kids from different backgrounds.

Next Steps

Amazon Robotics Senior Leadership will attend a City Council meeting in September or October 2024 with the Chief Operating Officer, City of Memphis Special Assistant to the Mayor and Director of Youth Services and other city officials to officially announce the donation from Amazon to fund the renovation of the spaces. After gaining support from Mayor Paul Young and the Memphis City Council, Amazon Sr. Leadership will partner with the City of Memphis to design and renovate the 'Safe Tech and Rec Spaces' powered by Amazon in the four designated community centers aforementioned.

Amazon Point of Contacts

Memphis Amazon Robotics: Trina Bohanner, Sr. HR Leader, trinaboh@amazon.com

Memphis Amazon Robotics: Jeremy Johnson, Site Leader, jhjerem@amazon.com

Public Relations: Divina Mims, Public Relations Manager, divimims@amazon.com

Public Policy: Hannah Cowley, Public Policy Manager, hbcow@amazon.com

October 9, 2024

The Honorable Michalyn Easter-Thomas, Chairman
Personnel and Government Affairs
City Hall - Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:


Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Brandon Arrindell

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of February 7, 2025.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,


Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure
cc: Council Members

**MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Oath of Office Required
9 Member Board
3 Year Term**

Purpose:

The members of the transit authority board shall have authority to supervise the operation of the transit system.

		Term ends:
Vacancy	F/W	01-22-26
Vacancy	M/B	02-07-25
Vacancy	M/W	09-30-25
Vacancy	M/W	06-30-26
Vacancy	F/B	06-30-27
Vacancy	M/B	08-24-25
Vacancy	F/W	08-31-23
Vacancy	M/B	01-31-26
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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

Updated 101124

October 9, 2024

The Honorable Michalyn Easter-Thomas, Chairman
Personnel and Government Affairs
City Hall - Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:

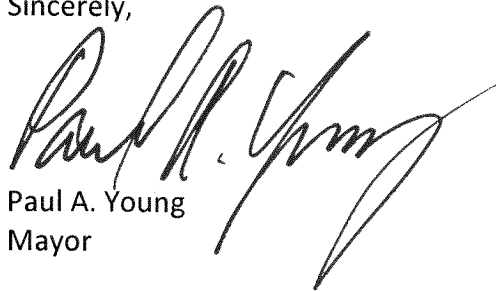
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Cynthia Bailey

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of January 31, 2025.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure

MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

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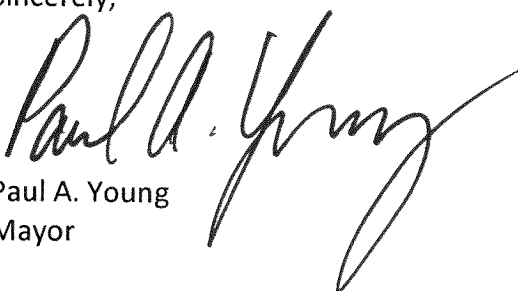
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Emily Greer

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of September 30, 2025.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure
cc: Council Members

MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Oath of Office Required
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3 Year Term

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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

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October 9, 2024

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City Hall - Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:

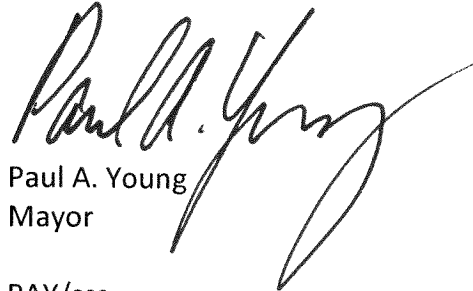
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Sandi Klink

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of January 31, 2026.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure

cc: Council Members

MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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3 Year Term

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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

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October 9, 2024

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City Hall - Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:

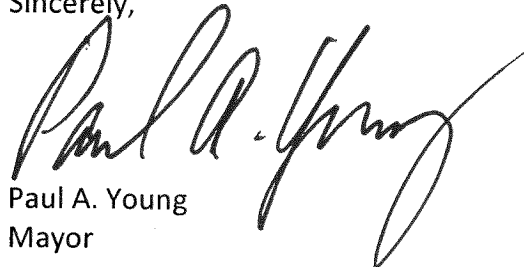
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Brian Marflak

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of June 30, 2026.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure
cc: Council Members

MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Oath of Office Required
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3 Year Term

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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

October 9, 2024

The Honorable Michalyn Easter-Thomas, Chairman
Personnel and Government Affairs
City Hall - Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:

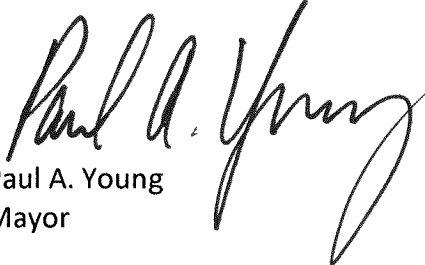
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Jackson McNeil

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of August 24, 2025.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,


Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure

cc: Council Members

MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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3 Year Term

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The members of the transit authority board shall have authority to supervise the operation of the transit system.

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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

October 9, 2024

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City Hall - Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:

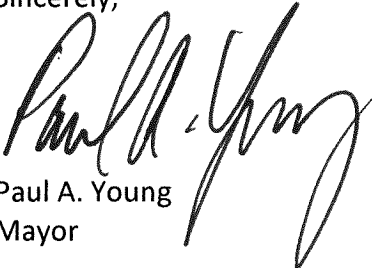
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Anna McQuiston

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of January 22, 2026.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure

cc: Council Members

MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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9 Member Board
3 Year Term

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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

October 9, 2024

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Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:

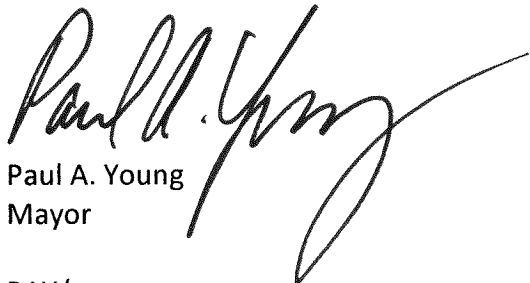
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Dana Pointer

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of August 31, 2026.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure
cc: Council Members

**MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Oath of Office Required
9 Member Board
3 Year Term**

Purpose:

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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

October 9, 2024

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City Hall - Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Chairman Easter-Thomas:

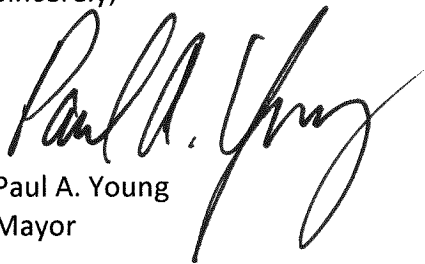
Subject to Council approval, I hereby recommend that:

Maya Siggers, Esq.

be appointed to the Memphis Area Transit Authority with a term expiration date of June 30, 2027.

I have attached biographical information.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Young
Mayor

PAY/sss

Enclosure
cc: Council Members

**MEMPHIS AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Oath of Office Required
9 Member Board
3 Year Term**

Purpose:

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2024 Council Liaison: Edmund Ford, Sr.

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT MATA SUBMIT ITS FINANCIALS AND BUDGET INFORMATION TO THE MEMPHIS CITY COUNCIL EACH QUARTER

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council believes in public transportation and acknowledges its benefits to the City of Memphis and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of public transportation may include reducing the cost and time of travel, increasing the mobility of some populations such as the disabled, elderly, or those who do not drive and those without vehicles, improving the quality of life for people who need transportation to participate in education, employment, worship, and leisure activities, and supporting a healthy environment for the City through reduction in air pollution, toxic gas/material emission, traffic congestion, and fuel consumption; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council takes seriously its responsibility as stewards of the taxpayers' dollars through cautious planning and preparation and intentional oversight, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMPHIS CITY COUNCIL, that MATA submit a financial and budgetary update each quarter to the Memphis City Council to ensure any continued funding from the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this amendment shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, and MATA and all relevant personnel are requested to implement the necessary changes to ensure compliance with this resolution.

Sponsor:
Jerri Green

Chairman:
JB Smiley, Jr.



Memphis City Council Summary Sheet

1. Description of the Item (Resolution, Ordinance, etc.)

Resolution regarding the Tourist Surcharge and Downtown Tourism Zone for the Sheraton Hotel.

2. Initiating Party (e.g. Public Works, at request of City Council, etc.)

City Attorney Division

3. State whether this is a change to an existing ordinance or resolution, if applicable.

N/A

4. State whether this will impact specific council districts or super districts.

Entire City

5. State whether this requires a new contract, or amends an existing contract, if applicable.

N/A

6. State whether this requires an expenditure of funds/requires a budget amendment

N/A--

7. If applicable, please list the MWBE goal and any additional information needed

N/A

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEMPHIS REGARDING
THE TOURIST SURCHARGE AND DOWNTOWN TOURISM ZONE FOR THE
SHERATON HOTEL**

WHEREAS, the Sheraton Hotel, located at 250 North Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, and adjacent to the Renasant Convention Center (“RCC”), has served as the primary convention center hotel for the RCC; and

WHEREAS, the City is purchasing the Sheraton Hotel in accordance with the **RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, REQUESTING THE MEMPHIS CENTER CITY REVENUE FINANCE CORPORATION TO ISSUE ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BOND IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$30,000,000) AND TO LOAN THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO THE CITY OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING A PORTION OF THE PROJECT AND FOR THE OTHER PURPOSES SET FORTH HEREIN; CONSENTING OTHER TERMS REGARDING THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BOND AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, TO ACCEPT SUCH BORROWING FROM THE MEMPHIS CENTER CITY REVENUE FINANCE CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH HEREIN; AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A TRUST INDENTURE, A LOAN AGREEMENT, A BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND ALL OTHER NECESSARY AGREEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FINANCING; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS AND ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE FOREGOING** (“Sheraton Resolution”), as approved by the Memphis City Council on October 1, 2024. (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Memphis Center City Revenue Finance Corporation (“CCRFC”) approved the issuance of its revenue bonds to effectuate the purchase and pre-development of the Sheraton Hotel in accordance with the Sheraton Resolution on October 8, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Convention Center and Tourism Development Financing Act of 1998, which is codified at TCA §7-88-101 et seq., (the “TDZ Act”), was enacted to provide a financing mechanism for the development of convention centers, tourist attractions, and other similar public use facilities that would attract and serve as major tourism destinations, thereby fostering economic benefits to the state, as well as to the hosting cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, the City of Memphis submitted its Application for Certification of the Downtown Tourism Development Zone (the “Application”) to the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration, the Application was approved by the Tennessee State Building Commission and the Downtown Tourism Development Zone (the “Downtown TDZ”) was established; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Amendment No. 4 to the Application the State Building Commission designated a 500-room hotel to be located across the Main Street Mall from City Hall as a “Qualified Public Use Facility” within the meaning of the TDZ Act (the “Hotel Qualified

Public Use Facility”)

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the Application be further supplemented pursuant to that certain Amendment No. 5 to Application for Certification (the “Supplement”) to change the location of the Hotel Qualified Public Use Facility to the Sheraton Hotel located at 250 Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Supplement and the change in location of the Hotel Qualified Public Use Facility shall be subject to certification by the State of Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration and the Comptroller of the State of Tennessee and approval of the Tennessee State Building Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City of Memphis administration finds that it is wise, necessary and advisable to seek the City Council’s adoption and approval of the Supplement to the Downtown Tourism Development Zone Master Plan (the “Master Plan Supplement”); and

WHEREAS, the TDZ Act contemplates the creation of a plan to ensure participation of statutorily defined minority-owned businesses in the financing, construction, leasing, equipping, renovation and acquisition, as applicable, of the qualified public use facility; and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the City allocate the TDZ revenues from the Hotel Qualified Public Use Facility (the “Hotel TDZ Revenues”) to CCRFC for the benefit of the Sheraton Hotel, in accordance with the TDZ Act; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Hotel TDZ Revenues, TCA §67-4-3003 authorizes the City of Memphis to charge a 5% Tourist Surcharge on the sale of certain goods and services within a full-service hotel of 250 rooms or more located within the Downtown TDZ (the “Tourism Surcharge”); and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the Bonds issued by CCRFC to finance the Project be payable in part from and secured by the revenues from the Tourism Surcharge (the “Surcharge Revenues”); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the designation of the Project as a Qualified Use Facility within the Downtown TDZ is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor or his duly appointed designee are hereby authorized to prepare the Master Plan Supplement in the form approved by the Mayor or his duly appointed designee and the Master Plan Supplement is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor or his duly appointed designee are hereby authorized to file with the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration the Master Plan Supplement pursuant to TDZ Act, seeking to move the location of the Hotel Qualified Public Use Facility to 250 North Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, and to request the State Building Commission to certify and approve the Project as a qualified public use facility within the Downtown TDZ.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State is hereby requested to direct all future payments of the Hotel TDZ Revenues generated by the Project to CCRFC, or its assignees, for use in accordance with the TDZ Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CCRFC is hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to enact the Tourist Surcharge, subject only to such further authorizations of the City as may be required by applicable law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all acts of the officials of the City which are in conformity with the purposes and intent of this Resolution and in furtherance of the issuance and sale of the Bonds and the financing of the Project funded thereby be, and the same hereby are, in all respects, ratified, approved and confirmed in all respects.

This resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of the City of Memphis requiring it.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2024