CITY COUNCIL TRANSPARECNY IN TRAVEL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council has a responsibility to the citizens of Memphis to ensure that scarce tax dollars are utilized in the most efficient and effective manner possible; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council also recognizes that the various city divisions require adequate funding to successfully serve citizens; and

WHEREAS, at times it may be necessary for employees to attend out of town seminars, conferences or meetings as technology and methods of operating change over time; and

WHEREAS, during the recent budget hearings the Administration and City Council was reluctant to reduce this expenditure significantly; and

WHEREAS, $452,184 has been authorized in travel for the 2010 budget, which is a great sum of money; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council believes the City of Memphis and her tax payers should derive great value from the expenditure of these scarce and precious funds spent on such travel; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council has already taken a leadership role on this issue, by writing a summary of the benefits to the City of Memphis when members travel to the National League of Cities Conference; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Memphis City Council requests that when a trip is completed that is funded by tax payer funds, that the traveler submit a one page executive summary detailing the reason for the travel and the benefit to the City of Memphis and her citizens, and also attach a copy of the expense report. Such documentation shall be submitted to the Memphis City Council Audit committee chair for all travel conducted before the 20th of each month by the end of the current month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all travel conducted after the 21st of each month will be included in the next month's report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should the Administration or City Council fail to submit the required information by the end of each month, the item will be added to the Audit Committee agenda for the 1st meeting of the next month.

KEMP CONRAD
Council Member