

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR PRESERVING THE HISTORIC GRAND
CAROUSEL AND ZIPPIN PIPPIN ROLLERCOASTER AS WORKING RIDES
FOR THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN OF MEMPHIS

WHEREAS, the historic park located at the former Libertyland site has been closed, resulting in the loss of 500 summer jobs for youth; and

WHEREAS, the local effort to preserve this site has resulted in the preservation of Memphis' historic Grand Carousel and Zippin Pippin rollercoaster; and

WHEREAS, both rides are almost a century old, unique in design, widely regarded as high-value historic structures, and priceless parts of Memphis' historical and cultural legacy; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Carousel is on the National Register of Historic Places, and the Pippin has recently been recommended for placement on the National Register by the State Review Board of the Tennessee Historic Commission; and

WHEREAS, the recently passed state legislation authorizing a Tourism Development Zone for the Fairgrounds area specifically requires that local governments implementing such a Zone give consideration to the preservation of historic structures on the Fairgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the existing site described herein is ideally located as an enclosed, centralized gathering-place for surrounding residential neighborhoods and the City of Memphis as a whole; and

WHEREAS, a number of options are available for preserving both rides, involving either their current location or other locations in Memphis, while having them operated by various private entities; and

WHEREAS, utilizing rare and unique attractions like the Grand Carousel and Zippin Pippin for purposes of recreation and summer programs for youth would help remedy the loss of youth and family services created by the closure of the Libertyland venue; and

WHEREAS, the Shelby County Commission has recently passed a resolution expressing support for the preservation of both rides, and pledging to support any effort the City of Memphis undertakes to preserve the Zippin Pippin rollercoaster by matching City expenditures up to \$100,000;

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that, barring extraordinary and prohibitive expense, the City of Memphis wishes to preserve the Grand Carousel and Zippin Pippin rollercoaster so as to provide the opportunity for them to be used as working rides in Memphis for the benefit of families and children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to this end, the City should preserve both rides in their current condition pending the current study process for redevelopment of the Fairgrounds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any Request For Proposals issued by the City of Memphis to redevelop the fairgrounds require that respondents include as alternatives proposals which incorporate these two historic structures in accordance with this Resolution.