

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO PARTNER WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT) FOR THE HIGHWAY 70 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Act 1 of the 90th General Assembly’s Third Extraordinary Session established the Arkansas Highway Improvement Plan of 2019, which provides funding to help address highway construction needs of the State; and

WHEREAS, a portion of Act 1 funding includes twenty-five percent (25%) of State Surplus funds; and

WHEREAS, the amount of State Fiscal Year 2019 State Surplus funds exceeded projections, which resulted in additional funding being made available for highway improvements beyond what was anticipated; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Highway Commission (AHC) passed Minute Order No. 2020-004 in February 2020, authorizing the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) to dedicate up to \$15 million in Act 1 Surplus Funding received by ARDOT to be used to support projects that promote economic development and economic competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) requested that ARDOT release \$809,000.00 of the Act 1 Surplus Funds to support infrastructure improvements that will be needed to safely and efficiently handle increased traffic volumes associated with a new economic development known as Project Fire; and

WHEREAS, AHC Minute Order No. 2022-034 authorized ARDOT’s Director to release up to \$809,000.00 from the State Fiscal Year 2019 State Surplus funds for construction of this project; and

WHEREAS, the City will be responsible for any construction costs beyond the \$809,000.00 of Act 1 Surplus Funds provided by ARDOT; and

WHEREAS, the City is handling the necessary design, environmental clearance, right of way acquisition, utility relocation, and construction inspection for the project; and

WHEREAS, the City hereby agrees to advertise and award the project for construction, pay the contractor, and then be reimbursed by ARDOT up to \$809,000.00; and

WHEREAS, ARDOT will assist with any coordination with State and Federal agencies as necessary for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That the City will participate in accordance with its designated responsibilities as described above.

SECTION 2: The Mayor, or his designated representative, is hereby authorized and directed to execute all appropriate agreements and contracts necessary to expedite construction of this project.

SECTION 3: That the City pledges its full support and hereby requests that the Arkansas Department of Transportation initiate action to assist in implementation of this project.

SECTION 4: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

APPROVED:

Mayor Terry C. Hartwick

SPONSOR:

ATTEST:

Terry C. Hartwick
Mayor Terry C. Hartwick *by AF*

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Amy Beckman Fields
Amy Beckman Fields, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/kt

FILED	<u>11:00</u>	A.M.	_____	P.M.
By	<u>City Atty Amy Fields</u>			
DATE	<u>10-17-23</u>			
Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector North Little Rock, Arkansas				
RECEIVED BY	<u>K. Thomas</u>			