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5 **A RESOLUTION**
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7 authorizing and directing the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture to change
8 the name of Lindbergh Park to Lucille Berrien Park and processing an appropriation
9 transfer request in the amount of \$9,750 from Org. Unit 1800-1945 – Appropriation for
10 Contingencies to Org. Unit 9000 – Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture to
11 update the signage at the park
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14 WHEREAS, Lindbergh Park is located near North 16th and West Nash Streets in
15 the Arlington Heights neighborhood in the City of Milwaukee; and
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17 WHEREAS, the park was conveyed to Milwaukee County by the City of
18 Milwaukee in 1936, and included in the property deed is a provision that the park “shall
19 bear the name, to wit: Lindbergh Park”; and
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21 WHEREAS, the park is named after Charles Lindbergh, an American aviator who
22 rose to prominence for making the first solo, non-stop flight between New York City and
23 Paris and briefly attended the University of Wisconsin—Madison; and
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25 WHEREAS, throughout his military career, Lindbergh was also known for his
26 anti-interventionist position during World War II and a 1939 article in Readers Digest, in
27 which he argued, amongst other anti-integration positions, for the preservation of the
28 white race and denounced “dilution by foreign races”; and
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30 WHEREAS, as part of his anti-interventionist sentiments, Lindbergh also made
31 anti-Semitic statements that blamed U.S. involvement in World War II on Jewish people
32 and claimed they were misleading the American public at the severity of Nazi Germany;
33 and
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35 WHEREAS, Lucille Berrien is a prominent and highly regarded individual in
36 Milwaukee by her neighbors, colleagues, friends, and family; and
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38 WHEREAS, Berrien was a supporter of the Open Housing movement in
39 Milwaukee beginning in 1962, aiming to eliminate segregation, and an activist for
40 supportive welfare programs and participated in the Welfare Mother’s March; and

41 WHEREAS, other Milwaukeeans looked up to Berrien and she held a captive
42 audience of other activists, inspiring them with speeches and demonstrations, including
43 after the Kent State shooting and police brutality incidents; and
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45 WHEREAS, Berrien was the first Black woman to run for Milwaukee mayor and,
46 although her run was not successful, she helped other Black woman ascend to elected
47 positions as an organizer for Shirley Chisholm’s campaign for the Democratic
48 presidential nominee; and
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50 WHEREAS, Berrien is a life-long activist; she has been on the Legal Action of
51 Wisconsin Board of Directors for over 40 years, the Black Health Coalition Board of
52 Directors, and has fostered over 120 children in her lifetime; and
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54 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, with
55 the support of Lucille Berrien, circulated a petition requesting the name of the park be
56 changed to Lucille Berrien Park to honor her activism, leadership, and prior residency
57 near the location of the park and, according to reports from the alliance, 60 percent of
58 residents in the area support the name change; and
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60 WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee’s Encyclopedia of
61 Milwaukee project describes how the percentage of Black residents in Milwaukee
62 expanded greatly beginning in 1940 and continuing through 1970 and the Statistical
63 Atlas project, using the latest information from the United States Census Bureau, found
64 that the Arlington Heights neighborhood where the park is located is now composed of
65 94.9 percent Black residents; and
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67 WHEREAS, renaming the park is contingent upon the City of Milwaukee
68 repealing the provision of the deed that requires the park be named Lindbergh Park;
69 and
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71 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County, in its efforts to become the healthiest county in
72 Wisconsin through the elimination of racial inequity, should honor Lucille Berrien for her
73 many contributions to our community and her neighborhood; and
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75 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County is committed to ensuring that its monuments,
76 including its parks, are named after those individuals or communities that represent our
77 highest and best values and the County’s dedication to racial equity; and
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79 WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks, Energy, and Environment, at its meeting of
80 June 15, 2021, recommended adoption of File No. 21-526 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,
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82 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby
83 authorizes and directs the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture to change the
84 name of Lindbergh Park to Lucille Berrien Park, contingent upon approval by the City of
85 Milwaukee to remove the legacy naming restriction on the property deed; and

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87 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Administrative Services –
88 Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget, in conjunction with the Office of the
89 Comptroller, is hereby authorized to process an appropriation transfer in the amount of
90 \$9,750 from Org. Unit 1800-1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies to an appropriate
91 account within Org. Unit 9000 – Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture for the
92 purchase and installation of a new park sign; and

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94 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Parks, Recreation, and
95 Culture and the Office of Corporation Counsel are hereby requested to work with the
96 relevant entities within the City of Milwaukee to revise the deed restriction to remove the
97 requirement that the name of park be Lindbergh Park, so that the name shall henceforth
98 be Lucille Berrien Park; and

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100 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director, Department of Parks,
101 Recreation, and Culture shall provide an informational report to the Milwaukee County
102 Board of Supervisors at the next committee cycle following approval by the City of
103 Milwaukee to remove the deed restriction, which shall also serve as concurrent
104 authorization to process the appropriation transfer and update the signage at the park.

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