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4 **AN AMENDED AND ENGROSSED RESOLUTION**

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6 Authorizing and directing the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture to
7 collaborate with the Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance and the Office of
8 Corporation Counsel to petition the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office to
9 nominate and register the Mitchell Park Domes on the National and State Register of
10 Historic Places
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13 WHEREAS, the Mitchell Park Domes (“the Domes”) were designed in 1955 by
14 Milwaukee Architect Donald L. Grieb and construction began in 1959; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Show Dome was the first Dome to be completed in December
17 1964, the Tropical Dome in February 1966, and the Desert Dome in October 1967, and
18 in 1965 First Lady Mrs. Lydon B. (Lady Bird) Johnson dedicated the Mitchell Park
19 Domes; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Domes are a historical landmark in the City of Milwaukee that
22 attracts over 250,000 visitors annually and preservation of the Domes is one of the
23 highest priorities of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture; and
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25 WHEREAS, since 2014, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture has
26 made efforts to restore, repair, and preserve the Domes by installing protective nettings
27 (File No. 16-200), heating, venting, and air conditioning (HVAC) installation (File No. 21-
28 461), conducted a feasibility study, structural inspections, and more; and
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30 WHEREAS, additionally, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted
31 File No. 16-200 establishing the Domes Task Force to recommend and evaluate long-
32 term options for the future sustainability of the Domes; and
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34 WHEREAS, at the March 19, 2019, meeting of the Committee on Parks, Energy,
35 and Environment, an informational report (File No. 19-55) was presented and discussed
36 relating to the usage of historic tax credits at the Domes; and
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38 WHEREAS, according to the report, the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation
39 Office has determined that the Domes are eligible to be listed on the National Register
40 of Historic Places maintained by the National Park Service; and

41 WHEREAS, listing the Domes on the National Register of Historic Places is the
42 gateway towards eligibility for National Park Service administered federal preservation
43 tax credits, which has previously funded programs such as Save America's Treasures
44 and Preserve America; and

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46 WHEREAS, nomination to the National and State Registry of Historic Places
47 would allow the Domes access to federal grants, federal and state historic tax credits,
48 qualification for federal and state charitable income tax deductions for the donation of
49 historic preservation easements, and eligibility for the official State Registry of Historical
50 Places plaque; and

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52 WHEREAS, additionally nominating the Domes to be placed on the Wisconsin
53 State Historic Preservation Register and the National Register of Historic Places could
54 potentially lead to, preservation assistance, increased tourism, formation of public and
55 private partnerships, and attract new donors; and

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57 WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks and Culture (P&C), at its meeting of
58 September 13, 2022, recommended adoption of File No. 22-980 as amended (vote 3-1);
59 and

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61 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board), at its
62 meeting of September 22, 2022, adopted File No. 22-980, as amended by the County
63 Board (vote 15-3); and

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65 WHEREAS, the County Executive, Office of the County Executive, vetoed
66 File No. 22-980; and

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68 WHEREAS, the County Board, at its meeting of November 1, 2022, referred
69 File No. 22-980 to the Committee on P&C (vote 15-1); and

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71 WHEREAS, the Committee on P&C, at its special meeting of November 10,
72 2022, recommended adoption of File No. 22-980 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

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74 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
75 hereby requests the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) to
76 collaborate with the Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance, and the Office of
77 Corporation Counsel to nominate the Mitchell Park Domes for the National and State
78 Registers of Historic Places; **and**

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80 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board does not at this time**
81 **authorize application for, nor receipt of, Federal or State of Wisconsin historic tax**
82 **credits relating to the Mitchell Park Domes; and**

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84 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board hereby resolves to as soon**
85 **as practicable adopt a plan for addressing the future and capital needs of the**
86 **Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, its home in the Mitchell Park Domes,**
87 **and Mitchell Park prior to any creation and/or recognition of a third-party entity**
88 **which may eventually oversee operations of the Mitchell Park Domes and all or**
89 **part of Mitchell Park; and**

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91 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPRC shall continue to explore additional**
92 **actions intended to protect and invest in the long-term prosperity of Mitchell**
93 **Park.**

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96 11/10/22

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