

2
3
4 **AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**

5
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
11

12
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
15

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
20

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
24

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
29

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
33

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
37

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

45
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

51
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

56
57 WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks and Culture, at its meeting of
58 September 13, 2022, recommended adoption of File No. 22-980 as amended (vote 3-1);
59 now, therefore,

60
61 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby requests
62 the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture to collaborate with the Office of
63 Strategy, Budget, and Performance, and the Office of Corporation Counsel to nominate
64 the Mitchell Park Domes for the National and State Register of Historic Places.; **and**

65
66 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and**
67 **Culture shall continue to explore additional actions intended to protect and invest**
68 **in the long-term prosperity of Mitchell Park.**

69
70
71 09/13/22
72 s:\committees\2022\september\p&c\resolutions\22-980 domes historic register amended.docx