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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, at its meeting of  
58 September 13, 2022, recommended adoption of File No. 22-980 as amended (vote 3-1);  
59 now, therefore,

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

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

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

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

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