1	RESOLUTION NO
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3	A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A TARGETED COMMUNITY
4	DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF
5	DEVELOPMENT IN STRATEGIC SECTIONS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE
6	ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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8	WHEREAS, there are areas in Ward 1, Ward 2, Ward 6 and Ward 7 that have suffered from a lack of
9	development; and,
10	WHEREAS, these neighborhoods suffer from substandard infrastructure, poor housing stock and low
11	home ownership, poverty and crime; and,
12	WHEREAS, these neighborhoods have a substantial amount of substandard rental properties with a
13	high rate of tenant turnover; and,
14	WHEREAS, the single-family homes in these neighborhoods are routinely appraised at lower property
15	values; and,
16	WHEREAS, these neighborhoods have a disproportionate number of food deserts and financial deserts;
17	and,
18	WHEREAS, these conditions have led to very different experiences for residents of our City who live
19	in these areas compared to our City overall and in fact has created two (2) Cities within one (1) City that
20	has led to marginalized families, youth and children and generational poverty; and,
21	WHEREAS, the efforts the City has enacted to address these conditions have been many over the
22	years, they have been ineffective in the neighborhoods in and around the South End of Ward 1, the 12th
23	Street Corridor, portions of Southwest Little Rock in Ward 2, in and around the John Barrow Road Corridor
24	in Ward 6 and portions of Southwest Little Rock in Ward 7. These conditions have led to an unfavorable
25	environment for private investors; and,
26	WHEREAS, the conditions that currently exist in these communities have existed for many years, and
27	will take time, paired with an intentional, concentrated and focused approach to rectify; and,
28	WHEREAS, the local governing authority has the authority to take the necessary action and allocate the
29	resources including staff support, necessary to bring the living conditions in these designated areas up to a
30	standard of living that is consistent with the rest of our City.
31	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY
32	OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:
33	Section 1. The City Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock:

(1) Seeks to improve the living conditions and overall appearance in the neighborhoods in the designated areas of the City outlined in this resolution.

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- (2) Seeks to improve the housing stock and infrastructure in the neighborhoods in the designated areas outlined in this resolution.
- (3) Seeks to stabilize these neighborhoods by improving the conditions of rental housing in the designated areas outlined in this resolution.
- (4) Seeks to improve the outcomes for marginalized families, youth and children by implementing programming using evidenced-based practices deployed into the designated areas outlined in this resolution, using City-owned, fixed assets that are in these neighborhoods.
- (5) Seeks to assist in the development of businesses in these designated areas by developing a Micro-Contracting Program designed to allow citizens to participate in City Contracts that will in turn help them grow their business and create generational wealth.
- (6) Calls on City Government to initiate policymaking and provide stimulus funding based upon funding availability and new funding that is created to achieve the outcomes detailed above with the stated goals: to enhance development and improve living conditions in the neighborhoods in and around the South End of Ward 1; the 12th Street Corridor and the southwest portion of Ward 2, in Ward 6, in and around the John Barrow Road Corridor and specific areas of Ward 7, in the amount of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) annually for five (5) years with the option to renew at the end of the first five (5) years after a review of the progress made in the efforts to improve the living conditions, appearance of neighborhoods and outcomes for marginalized families, youth and children. Upon review, the appropriate policy changes – if any --, programs, and procedures that have been implemented should be made and the funding renewed for an additional five (5) years. This process is to be repeated until the neighborhoods in the designated areas outlined in this resolution have stabilized and the appearance and living conditions have shown substantial improvement. The funding will be used as leverage to attract multiple funding sources including Federal and State Government, the private business sector and private foundations, to stimulate investment in these specific areas and create programming that will stabilize families.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors strongly encourages the Mayor and City Manager to establish a process within the next year to develop short, medium and long-term recommendations to specifically address the request identified in this resolution that aid in the creation of generational wealth and boost economic mobility and opportunity in the in neighborhoods in and around in the South End of Ward 1, the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor including the southwest portion of Ward 2, in and around the John Barrow Road Corridor in Ward 6 and specific areas of Ward 7.

1 Section 3. The Board of Directors fully supports its Community Programs Department and Housing 2 and Neighborhood Programs Department Staff and their work, and strongly encourages the Mayor and City 3 Manager to utilize their talents when forming policy and programs that will establish the creation of 4 generational wealth and address specific needs in the designated areas outlined in this resolution. 5 Section 4. The Board of Directors seeks to establish within the next year, a working group empowered 6 to make short, medium- and long-term recommendations that will make significant progress toward 7 meeting the stated goals of this resolution. The Targeted Community Development Initiative Working 8 Group will be comprised of members representing local institutions and community organizations. The 9 working group will be made up of seven (7) members who will be selected by members of Board of 10 Directors from Ward 1, 2, 6 and 7 with the remainder selected by the Mayor. The task of the Targeted 11 Community Development Initiative working group is to develop a strategic plan that will include specific 12 projects in the targeted areas identified in this resolution. Accountability for achieving the goals of this 13 resolution will be enforced by the Office of Executive Administration and its staff. The report and the 14 resulting budgetary and programmatic priorities may include, but not be limited to, increasing 15 homeownership and access to other affordable housing, increasing minority business development and 16 ownership and career opportunities, strategies to grow equity and generational wealth, closing the gaps in 17 health care, education, employment and pay, and neighborhood safety. 18 Section 5. The Board of Directors calls on the Mayor and City Manager to give, at minimum, a bi-19 annual update to the City Board on the progress of work performed pursuant to this resolution. 20 Section 6. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or 21 word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or 22 adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution on which shall remain in full force and 23 effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the 24 resolution. 25 Section 7. Repealer. All laws, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the 26 provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. 27 ADOPTED: October 6, 2020 28 ATTEST: **APPROVED:** 29 30 31 Susan Langley, City Clerk Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor 32 APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM: **SPONSOR:** 

Director Ken Richardson, Ward 2

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Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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SPONSOR:
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     Director Doris Wright, Ward 6
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