RESOLUTION NO. __________

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BYRNE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INNOVATION PROGRAM GRANT AWARDED TO THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK TO SERVE THE STUDENTS AT STEPHENS ELEMENTARY CENTER AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY, INCLUDING ENTERING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock (“City”) was awarded a One Million ($1,000,000.00) Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant by the United States Department of Justice to provide services at Stephens Elementary School, the Stephens Community Center and the community they serve (i.e., the area that is approximately bounded by Interstate 630, South University Avenue, Jones Street, and West Roosevelt Road (“Target Community”) over a three year (3)-period from 2022 through 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant is intended to help foster closer ties between the school, the surrounding community and the Little Rock Police Department and to help meet students’ needs, particularly behavioral health services and interventional services related to violence; and,

WHEREAS, in the course of implementing the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant, the City will work to 1) increase transparency and communication in violence prevention efforts within the Target Community; 2) grow the Community Schools Model as a hub for empowerment and engagement in the Target Community; and 3) align violence reduction resources to better meet the needs of the Target Community; and,

WHEREAS, in 2020, the City began a major initiative to implement the Community Schools Model, in partnership with the Little Rock School District (“LRSD”), according to which the responsibility for delivering high-quality teaching and learning employing a challenging curriculum is the responsibility of LRSD while the City will implement the Community Schools Model in support of those core educational endeavors by providing City assets, assisting in the pursuit of philanthropic, business, and nonprofit resources, and developing vibrant partnerships; and,

WHEREAS, the City will use some of the monies from the Community Schools Model to hire two (2) Social Workers who will work with students, their families, as well as community members in the Target Community, and,
WHEREAS, in order to implement this portion of the activities to be funded by the Community Schools Model, the City will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with LRSD.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. The Mayor and City Manager are authorized to execute any necessary documents and to take any actions, as approved by the City Attorney, necessary to implement all parts of the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program grant awarded by the United States Department of Justice to the City of Little Rock to provide services at Stephens Elementary School, the Stephens Community Center and the community they serve including, but not limited to, entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Little Rock School District to provide two (2) Social Workers for this project.

Section 2. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the resolution.

Section 3. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

ADOPTED: July 12, 2022

ATTEST: 

APPROVED:

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Susan Langley, City Clerk  Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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