RESOLUTION NO. ________

A RESOLUTION TO STATE THE ADDITIONAL INTENDED USES OF A PORTION OF THE FIRST TRANCHE OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS’, ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, the United States Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which provides fiscal relief funds to State and Local Governments, and other program areas aimed at mitigating the continuing effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, ARPA is intended to provide support to local governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain COVID-19 in their communities, residents, and businesses; and,

WHEREAS, ARPA includes State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to support urgent COVID response efforts to decrease the spread of the virus; to replace lost public sector revenue to strengthen support for vital public services; to support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses; and to address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to unequal impacts of the pandemic on certain populations; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Treasury has adopted the interim final rule as guidance regarding the use of ARPA Funds; and,

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2021, the United States Department of Treasury deposited the City of Little Rock’s first tranche of funds, which is Eighteen Million, Eight Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred and 50/100 Dollars ($18,856,700.50); and,

WHEREAS, that as recipient, the City of Little Rock accepts award of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds allocation up to the maximum allowed by the terms and conditions of the ARPA; and,

WHEREAS, this resolution is intended as a statement of intent of the Board to expend a portion of the first tranche of the City’s ARPA Funds in addition to the primary intended uses outlined in Resolution No. 15,518 from August 3, 2021, and in accordance with Federal Law and Guidance, for the current critical needs and priorities for which there is consensus as set forth below.

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

Section 1. Subject to the provisions of Section 9 below, the Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk and any City signatories required to do so, are authorized to apply for, obtain, or otherwise assure authorization of the receipt or use of ACRA Funds as set forth in this resolution.
Section 2. As set forth more fully below, the Board expresses its intent to expend these funds for eligible, immediate needs within the categories below:

A. Expenditure of Lost Revenue on Governmental Services
B. Public Health Measures to Respond to COVID-19
C. Water and Sewer Infrastructure
D. Address Negative Economic Impacts of COVID-19
E. Indirect Costs

Section 3. Expenditure of Lost Revenue on Governmental Services. It is the intent of the Board of Directors that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended for governmental services as follows:

A. Software and IT Upgrades for Purchasing and Planning -- estimated total of Eight Hundred Twenty-One Thousand Dollars ($821,000.00).
B. Install Broadband at East Little Rock Community Center and Hot Spots at Various Parks -- estimated total of Three Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars ($337,000.00).

Section 4. Expenditures for Public Health Measures to Respond to COVID-19. It is the intent of the Board of Directors that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended for public health measures as follows:

A. Equipment for Use at Public Meetings to Address Operational Needs in Pandemic -- estimated total of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.00).

Section 5. Expenditures for Water and Sewer Infrastructure to Respond to COVID-19. It is the intent of the Board of Directors that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended for public health measures as follows:

A. Drainage Projects -- estimated total of Three Million Dollars ($3,000,000.00).
B. Infrastructure to Support Future Affordable Housing Sites -- estimated total of Two Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars ($240,000.00).

Section 6. Expenditures to address Negative Economic Impact of COVID-19. It is the intent of the Board of Directors that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended for public health measures as follows:

A. Investments to Affordable Housing & Efforts to Decrease Homelessness -- estimated total of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,500,000.00).

Section 7. Expenditures Related to Indirect Costs. It is the intent of the Board of Directors that indirect costs be provided for in an amount not to exceed 5.5% of total costs of each of the expenditures listed above for an estimated total of Three Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred Ninety Dollars ($329,890.00).
Section 8. **Compliance with the American Rescue Plan Act.** The City will ensure compliance with prevailing Federal Guidance at the time the funds are committed for expenditure.

Section 9. Nothing in this resolution shall be construed as taking the place of any action otherwise required by the Board of Directors to authorize the City Manager to enter into requisite contracts associated with expenditures outlined above.

Section 10. **Severability.** In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the ordinance.

Section 11. **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: August 17, 2021

ATTEST:          APPROVED:

__________________________________________  ______________________
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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