

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE DESIRE OF THE INEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL TO ENGAGE THE CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI IN FREQUENT, CLEAR, AND MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE REGARDING THE FUTURE PLANS FOR THE TRUMAN SPORTS COMPLEX.

WHEREAS, the Jackson County Sports Complex Authority was established in 1967 as a political subdivision of the State of Missouri to serve as the landlord between Jackson County and the Kansas City Royals and the Kansas City Chiefs; and,

WHEREAS, construction began in the fall of 1970 on the Harry S. Truman Sports Complex, the nation's first ever side-by-side sports complex, and,

WHEREAS, for over four decades the Truman Sports Complex has been the iconic home of the Kansas City Royals and the Kansas City Chiefs with millions of fans celebrating and being entertained each and every year; and,

WHEREAS, opened as Royals Stadium on April 10, 1973, Kauffman is recognized throughout baseball as one of the game's most beautiful ballparks; and,

WHEREAS, Arrowhead Stadium has been certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as one of the world's loudest open-air stadiums, and only the Green Bay Packers have played more consecutive seasons at their current stadium; and,

WHEREAS, the complex has hosted two MLB All-Star games, three World Series, Chiefs playoffs (including four straight AFC Championship games), Big 12 Championship football, the 2015 American Royal BBQ, multiple concerts, plus countless other activities; and,

WHEREAS; on April 4, 2006, Jackson County voters approved a 0.375% sales tax increase to fund plans to renovate the Truman Sports Complex; and,

WHEREAS, the Jackson County Sports Complex Authority, the Kansas City Royals and Kansas City Chiefs continue to invest so the complex remains the nation's premiere sporting and entertainment venue; and,

WHEREAS, reports have been circulating in local media outlets indicating that the Kansas City Royals are reviewing sites for a new downtown ballpark, potentially moving from Kauffman Stadium in 2026; and,

WHEREAS, on August 12, Kansas City Royals Vice President of Communications Sam Mellinger was quoted in a statement regarding the new downtown site being considered that the Kansas City Royals remain in an exploratory phase with multiple sites; and,

WHEREAS, Chiefs owner Clark Hunt has indicated he wants the team to stay put at Arrowhead Stadium, but has also said he cannot rule out going elsewhere; and,

WHEREAS, on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, the Kansas City Star reported the City of Kansas City City Manager Brian Platt notified City Councilmembers he would hire an owners representative to oversee the effort to move the Royals downtown, as well as any upgrades in facilities needed for the 2026 World Cup; and,

WHEREAS, the geographic location of the Truman Sports Complex has a positive economic impact on many industries located within Independence, including hoteliers, restaurants, grocers, retailers, and tourist sites; and,

WHEREAS, the debate over the stadiums is simply too important to exclude the City of Independence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the Independence City Council encourages Mayor Quinton Lucas, City Manager Brian Platt, and other interested parties to fully disclose their plans, if any, for the sports franchises.

SECTION 2. That the Independence City Council further encourages Mayor Quinton Lucas, City Manager Brian Platt, and other interested parties to give thoughtful consideration to a redevelopment plan for the Truman Sports Complex so as to not abandon this area and promote blighted conditions to manifest themselves along the municipal boundary of Independence.

SECTION 3. That the Independence City Council expresses its desire to foster frequent, clear, and meaningful dialogue with Mayor Quinton Lucas, City Manager Brian Platt, and other interested parties regarding the future of the Truman Sports Complex and hereby calls for such conversations to begin in earnest.

PASSED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2022, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the City Council of  
the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Counselor

REVIEWED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager