

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

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

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURSUE EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

WHEREAS, on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Independence City Council adopted Resolution 6902, which established the 2023-2024 City of Independence Action Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Action Plan Section 1.2 *Community Engagement* encourages the City of Independence to “[b]roaden and deepen engagement of the community in city government, innovating methods for inviting input from the community and stakeholders” by “restructure[ing] or combin[ing] City boards and committees to more effectively advise the City and engage the public.; and,

WHEREAS, a consolidated structure of the current City boards and commissions would keep all the function of the current boards, align functions to the Action Plan, while also making boards more effective and efficient overall; and,

WHEREAS, the goals for this work includes streamlining board work, increasing transparency in the function and role of boards, improving collaboration between staff, boards, and the City Council, making boards more equitable and inclusive to all community members, and modernizing the board structure to a more sustainable model; and,

WHEREAS, it is recognized that additional research and review is required to determine the best way to bring as many boards into the proposed structure as possible; and,

WHEREAS; City staff will continue to work within the requirements of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri, the Independence City Charter and Municipal Code, and other legislative requirements to ensure that board consolidation is completed appropriately;

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

SECTION 1. That, as directed by Section 1.2.a of the Action Plan, the City Manager shall utilize a process for recommending consolidating the City boards and commissions while empowering City boards and their functions.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager utilize seven key pillars to bring the work of current boards together in a collaborative and unified process. The pillars are:

- **Safe Community** - *Independence provides a safe and healthy place to live, work, learn, and play.*
- **Sustainability (Environmental, Social, Economic)** - *Independence cultivates a strong environmental ethic, protects clean air, water, outdoor spaces, climate, promotes environmentally sustainable business and lifestyles, and supports equitable opportunities for all to thrive.*
- **Parks and Open Space** - *Independence grows, maintains, and preserves the natural resources in the City for all those who live and visit the area.*
- **Transportation** - *Independence builds and supports a robust and efficient transportation network and system.*
- **Community Development** - *Independence consistently improves the community's quality of life*

*as it grows and changes, honors sense of place and neighborhood feel, and plans for a livable, affordable, more connected city.*

- **Cultural Services** - *Independence provides and expands access to diverse cultural and recreational amenities.*
- **Fiscal Oversight and Accountability** - *Independence creates long-term financial stability by using equitable and sustainable sources of funding for City services, and we deliver them in a lean and efficient manner.*

SECTION 3. That through an engagement process with all board Chairs, the City Manager will work to collect input and have boards identify the pillar that represents the functions and work currently conducted by the existing board.

SECTION 4. That the City Manager shall make recommendations to the City Council on consolidating boards and commissions by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

PASSED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, 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 - FORM AND LEGALITY:

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

REVIEWED BY:

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