

RESOLUTION

NO. R-21-149

CITY HALL: May 6, 2021

BY: COUNCILMEMBERS GIARRUSSO, BANKS, BROSSETT AND NGUYEN

WHEREAS, West End, New Orleans was originally built on land reclaimed from Lake Pontchartrain, and

WHEREAS, the West End originally served as a renowned resort built in the 1800s, but slowly developed into a hub of economic, cultural, and recreational activities, and

WHEREAS, this historic waterfront hosted restaurants, music venues, an amusement park, and national sailing competitions; and

WHEREAS, the West End served as a major economic focal point for Orleans and Jefferson parish communities; and

WHEREAS, families in the New Orleans metropolitan area enjoyed the amenities at West End; and

WHEREAS, the Hurricane Georges destroyed significant portions of West End in 1998, forcing several restaurants to relocate along the waterway; and

WHEREAS, many businesses returned after Hurricane Georges and rebuilt on piers overlooking Lake Pontchartrain; and

WHEREAS, West End was devastated by high winds and storm surge from Hurricane Katrina in 2005, forcing the permanent closure of most businesses; and

WHEREAS, West End served as a staging area for the Louisiana National Guard, Massachusetts National Guard, and U.S. Coast Guard as they rescued stranded residents; and

WHEREAS, much of the waterfront property sat vacant for years after the hurricane; and

WHEREAS, several restaurants, condominiums, boat slips, and boathouses have rebuilt along the waterfront, prompting a second life for this historic property; and

WHEREAS, Orleans Parish, together with Jefferson Parish, the State of Louisiana, and the U.S. Corp of Engineers, have partnered to re-establish this once-vibrant economic driver; and

WHEREAS, restoring West End has been an economic development goal for the last several years; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Parish Council officially approved a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, brokered with Orleans Parish and State officials, at their April 28, 2021 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Orleans has and continues to promote economic development across the City; and

WHEREAS, this CEA seeks to thoughtfully redevelop West End through continued partnership and public participation; and

WHEREAS, redevelopment efforts will proactively seek input from residents, business owners, developers, and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans City Council promotes and encourages economic and cultural development of underutilized public properties; and

WHEREAS, the Council understands the history of West End and recognizes the potential positive impacts of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the Council endorses all efforts made to develop West End into a hub of cultural, residential, economic, and recreational importance; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, That the City Council of New Orleans endorses the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Jefferson Parish, Orleans Parish, and the State of Louisiana to engage in redevelopment of West End.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.