

## RESOLUTION NO.: 2023-069

Supporting the Effort to Host the 2024 NUSA Conference in Columbia, South Carolina and Richland County

WHEREAS, Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) hold its Annual Conference on Neighborhood Concerns which attracts attendance from participants across the United States and from around the globe the week before Memorial Day at a host location chosen by its 21-member Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, such conferences have been held as far away as Anchorage, Alaska and as close as Roanoke, Virginia where attendance usually numbers more than 600 and just less than 2000 participants of dedicated individuals from across the United States dedicated to building stronger communities, and

WHEREAS, the annual NUSA conference has never been held in South Carolina, nor the Carolinas for that matter, but the organization does attract attendees for the conference from our local community and across from the state of South Carolina, and has been well served on the board by its members on the board to come from our city and state, and

WHEREAS, NUSA has not yet chosen a host location for its 2024 conference after holding a successful conference this May in the City of El Paso, Texas which attracted well more than 600 participants, and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia and Richland County, South Carolina have demonstrated its support of Neighborhoods USA by its past status as local government members, its previous attempts in 2013 and 2015 to host the NUSA conference, and the implementation of programs and initiatives locally that were learned about at previous conferences and from networking relationships originating from past conferences, and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia and Richland County are dedicated to its community of neighborhoods and recognizes how vital neighborhoods are to the success and well-being of both the city and county, and the two local governments are dedicated to attracting diverse dedicated community leaders all across the nation to come to the Midlands Region of South Carolina for its annual conference in May 2024; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023 that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia support the bid submission from the Local Organizing Committee of NUSA 2024 Columbia Richland County originating from the Richland County Neighborhood Council to bring the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual National NUSA Conference on Neighborhood Concerns to Columbia and Richland County, South Carolina in May 2024.

Assistant City Manager Gentry

Approved by:

City Manager

Approved as to form:

ATTEST:

City Attorney

City Attorney

City Clerk

Introduced: 8/15/2023 Final Reading: 8/15/2023