

There came on for consideration at a duly constituted meeting of the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, held on the 16th day of June 2020, the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2020 -

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HATTIESBURG,
MISSISSIPPI SUPPORTING THE RELOCATION OF THE FORREST COUNTY
CONFEDERATE MONUMENT LOCATED AT THE FORREST COUNTY
COURTHOUSE.**

Whereas, the City of Hattiesburg serves as the county seat of Forrest County, Mississippi;

Whereas, located at the Forrest County Courthouse (630 Main St. Hattiesburg, MS), is the Forrest County Confederate Monument, which is situated on property owned and maintained by Forrest County, Mississippi - thus, the Forrest County Board of Supervisors is the governing body of the entity which owns the Forrest County Confederate Monument.

Whereas, on Wednesday, October 12, 1910, the Forrest County Board of Supervisors accepted the gift of a confederate monument from the Hattiesburg Chapter No. 22 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy;

Whereas, the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi and Forrest County, Mississippi have a complex history in regard to injustice and race that has negatively impacted individuals and continues to shape the collective story of our community;

Whereas, the City of Hattiesburg strives to be the premier city in the Gulf South. As a city government we aim to embody the values of diversity, social responsibility, accountability, quality customer service, hard work, teamwork and continuous improvement;

Whereas, Hattiesburg is home to The University of Southern Mississippi and William Carey University. Both higher education institutions state a creed or list of values that align with the goals and values of the City of Hattiesburg. William Carey University was built upon 11 values that include, "We value each individual as a creation of God with unique abilities and aspirations. We value a free, democratic society and affirm that an educated populace is the best safeguard against tyranny." The University of Southern Mississippi's creed states, "I will appreciate the value of differences among people, customs and viewpoints and oppose hatred, bigotry and bias toward others.";

Whereas, the City of Hattiesburg strives to listen to the opinions, ideas, and concerns of its citizens ensuring safety, respect, and equality for all;

Whereas, relocating a monument does not erase history – rather, it acknowledges, preserves, and demonstrates progress;

Whereas, pursuant to 55-15-81 (2) of the Mississippi Code, the governing body of the entity which owns any of the items described in subsection (1) of such code section “may move the memorial to a more suitable location if it is determined that the location is appropriate to display the monument”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI:

The City Council of Hattiesburg, Mississippi hereby affirms its strong support for the relocation of the Forrest County Confederate Monument from its current location in Downtown Hattiesburg to a suitable location that provides appropriate contextual value and preserves the history of the monument.

The above and foregoing Resolution, after having been first reduced to writing, was introduced by Council Member _____ seconded by Council Member _____, and was adopted by the following vote, to wit:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the Council members present, the President declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted, on this the **16th** day of **June 2020**.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

ADOPTED:

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

The above and foregoing Resolution having been submitted to and approved by the Mayor, this the **16th** day of **June, 2020**.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR