

COMMUNITY RESOLUTION

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, INC., FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, THE FOUNDATION FOR THE MUSEUM OF BLACK HISTORY, AND THE WEST AUGUSTINE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FLORIDA MUSEUM OF BLACK HISTORY AND THE COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION PROPERTY IN WEST AUGUSTINE

WHEREAS,

Florida Memorial University Foundation, Inc. (“FMUF”) owns approximately 327 acres of property located in West Augustine, St. Johns County, Florida—historically significant as the former site of Florida Memorial College prior to its relocation to Miami Gardens in 1968; and

WHEREAS,

The FMUF property holds deep historical, cultural, and educational importance as a cornerstone of African American heritage in St. Johns County and the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS,

FMUF has allocated a portion of its property for the establishment of the **Florida Museum of Black History**, a state-supported initiative to honor, preserve, and interpret the rich and diverse contributions of African Americans to the history and culture of Florida and the nation; and

WHEREAS,

The State of Florida’s Florida Museum of Black History Task Force has recommended the site located within the FMUF property in West Augustine as the preferred location for the Museum, recognizing its unique historical and cultural significance; and

WHEREAS,

The FMUF, St. Johns County, the City of St. Augustine, and the West Augustine Redevelopment Agency share a mutual commitment to promote economic opportunity, community revitalization, and cultural enrichment through collaborative development initiatives that benefit local residents and the broader public; and

WHEREAS,

All parties acknowledge the importance of coordinated planning, infrastructure support, and long-term stewardship to ensure that the development of the Florida Museum of Black History

and the surrounding FMUF property serves as a catalyst for inclusive growth, educational advancement, and heritage tourism;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Joint Commitment to Collaboration:

The Florida Memorial University Foundation, Florida Memorial University, St. Johns County, the City of St. Augustine, the Foundation for the Museum of Black History, and the West Augustine Redevelopment Agency hereby affirm their shared commitment to work cooperatively in the planning, development, and implementation of the Florida Museum of Black History and the broader redevelopment of the FMUF property in West Augustine.

2. Shared Vision:

The parties embrace a unified vision to create a vibrant, sustainable, and historically respectful development that includes educational, cultural, residential, commercial, and recreational components consistent with community needs and the legacy of Florida Memorial College.

3. Establishment of a Joint Development Framework:

The parties agree to form a **Joint Planning and Development Advisory Committee**, composed of representatives from FMUF, FMU, St. Johns County, the City of St. Augustine, the Foundation for the Museum of Black History, the West Augustine Redevelopment Agency, and designated community stakeholders, to guide project coordination, land use planning, infrastructure improvement, and community engagement efforts.

4. Preservation of Historical Integrity:

The parties commit to preserving and interpreting the historical significance of the site, ensuring that the development reflects the enduring legacy of Florida Memorial College and its role in advancing education and civil rights.

5. Commitment to Equity and Inclusion:

The development shall prioritize equity, inclusion, and opportunity for residents of West Augustine and surrounding communities, including local workforce participation, small business engagement, and educational partnerships.

6. Public Safety and Environmental Stewardship:

St. Johns County and the City of St. Augustine shall collaborate with FMUF and the West Augustine Redevelopment Agency to ensure that the property is secured against unauthorized access, dumping, and hazardous conditions, and that future development adheres to environmental best practices and sustainable land use standards.

7. Economic and Cultural Impact:

The Florida Museum of Black History and the redevelopment of the FMUF property shall serve as a regional and statewide model for cultural preservation, education, tourism, and economic revitalization.

8. Commitment to Transparency:

All parties agree to maintain open communication and regular public updates to ensure community engagement and transparency throughout the planning and development process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The undersigned parties recognize that this Resolution symbolizes a historic partnership dedicated to honoring the past, enriching the present, and shaping a future of shared prosperity and cultural pride for all citizens of St. Johns County and the State of Florida.

Adopted this 23rd day of January 2026.

Signed,

For Florida Memorial University Foundation, Inc.

Horace Hord, Chairman

For St. Johns County, Florida

Joy Andrews, County Administrator

For the City of St. Augustine, Florida

Nancy Sikes-Kline, Mayor

For Florida Memorial University

William McCormick, President

For the Foundation for the Museum of Black History

Howard Holley, Chairman

For the West Augustine Redevelopment Agency

Robert Nimmons, President