

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DEED TRANSFER TO NORTH CAROLINA
AGRICULTURE AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY OF CITY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, World War Memorial Stadium (WWMS), was built in 1926 as an outdoor sports venue and gifted to the City of Greensboro by the Summit Ave. Building Company; and

WHEREAS, WWMS is also a memorial dedicated to all of the Veterans who lost their lives fighting in what is known as World War I; and

WHEREAS, the WWMS is a 14± acre tract of land near downtown Greensboro on Yanceyville Street which includes the existing WWMS, tennis courts, ticket booth, storage and equipment sheds and parking lots; and

WHEREAS, in its earliest years, the primary function of WWMS was to serve local amateur school athletics teams in track and field, football and baseball competitions. This included area colleges, recreational leagues, and semi-professional athletic teams such as North Carolina A&T State University's semi-professional football club which began utilizing the stadium in 1927; and

WHEREAS, in 1930, WWMS was upfitted with lights and a steel grandstand canopy in order to serve as the home field to Greensboro's professional minor league baseball team and would remain so off and on until Newbridge Bank Ballpark opened in 2004; and

WHEREAS, over the course of seven decades, WWMS has undergone a series of minor upgrades, re-configurations and renovations; however, the original fabric of the historic stadium has never been altered significantly from the 1926 design; and

WHEREAS, due to its historical and cultural significance, residents successfully nominated WWMS to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001; and

WHEREAS, WWMS is in need of further restoration, preservation and rehabilitation to continue to honor its intent as a veteran's memorial, and to become the permanent home for North Carolina A&T State University baseball, the primary occupant since 2004 ; and

WHEREAS, the City, through its Parks & Recreation Department, has been working with North Carolina A&T State University to develop a strategy that will benefit stakeholders and allow the City's available funding to be leveraged with additional needed funding; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina A&T State University has committed to accept ownership of the WWMS and will allocate the City's funding toward historic preservation repairs and invest additional funding toward remaining renovation needs, without jeopardizing its status on the National Register of Historical Places; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure the preservation and rehabilitation of the historic structure, the conveyance of the property to the State of North Carolina for use by North Carolina A&T State University will be subject to a Declaration of Historic Covenants.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That the City Council hereby: (1) Directs the City Manager and staff to enter into negotiations and execute the deed transfer of the World War Memorial Stadium site as described above and pursuant to Section 160A-274 of the North Carolina General Statutes; (2) Authorizes the City Manager and staff upon execution of the deed transfer and acceptance of covenants to make available and transfer an amount not to exceed \$1,320,736 from the City's 2008 War Memorial Stadium Obligation Bonds (462.5001-01.5931), \$35,964 from the City's 2006 Parks and Recreation Facilities General Obligation Bonds (453-5010-01.5931) and \$143,300 from the City's General Capital Improvement Fund (410-5017-04.5931).