RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL CERTIFY AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EA-EIR-2020-045), ADOPT ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS, ADOPT A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS AND ADOPT A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FOR THE INGLEWOOD BASKETBALL AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTER.

(EA-EIR-2020-045)

SECTION 1.

WHEREAS, Murphy’s Bowl, LLC (Project Sponsor) seeks the development of the Inglewood Basketball and Entertainment Center (IBEC) that includes an arena calculated to promote the enjoyment and recreation of the public by providing access to the City’s residents in the form of spectator sports, specifically basketball, with up to 18,000 fixed seats to host National Basketball Association games, and with up to 500 additional temporary seats for other events such as family shows, concerts, corporate and community events, and other sporting events; an up to 85,000-square foot team practice and athletic training facility; up to 71,000 square feet of LA Clippers office space; an up to 25,000-square foot sports medicine clinic; up to 63,000 square feet of ancillary and related arena uses including retail and dining; an outdoor plaza adjacent to the arena; parking facilities; relocation of a City of Inglewood groundwater well; and various circulation, infrastructure, and other ancillary uses (the Project). The Project will also include a limited-service hotel. The area of the IBEC Project is shown in Exhibit A; and

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WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq. (CEQA) requires preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analyzing the potential environmental impacts of the Project prior to approval of the Project; and

WHEREAS, on February 20, 2018, the City circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) that described the Project and potential environmental impacts. The NOP was published and was distributed to local, regional, and State agencies. The NOP stated that the City would prepare an EIR to evaluate the potentially significant impacts of the Project; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2018, the City held a Public Scoping Meeting and public comment was taken on the Project and potential environmental impacts of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the City prepared a Draft EIR to assess the environmental impacts of the Project taking into account the comments received by the City on the NOP and at the Public Scoping Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the City filed and distributed a Notice of Completion and Availability for the Draft EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2018021056) on December 27, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Draft EIR was circulated for public review and to the appropriate agencies and interested parties from December 27, 2019 to March 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA, the City prepared a Final EIR (June 2020), which included responses to comments received on the Draft EIR and edits to the Draft EIR. The Final EIR consists of the Introduction, Response to Comments, Revisions to the Draft EIR, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP); and

WHEREAS, the Final EIR does not include significant new information requiring recirculation of the Draft EIR; and
WHEREAS, the Draft EIR and Final EIR are incorporated herein by reference and together constitute the EIR for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the EIR was set for a duly-noticed public hearing before the Planning Commission in the City Council Chambers, Ninth Floor, of the Inglewood City Hall, on the 17th day of June, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the EIR was transmitted to the Planning Commission prior to the hearing; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2020, the Planning Commission conducted the hearing at the time and place stated above and afforded all persons interested in the matter of the EIR, or in any matter or subject related thereto, an opportunity to be heard by the Planning Commission and to submit testimony or evidence in favor of or against the EIR and Project; and

WHEREAS, after taking public testimony and fully considering all the issues, the Planning Commission determined that EIR should be recommended for certification to the City Council as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission determined that the Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations (CEQA Findings) and the MMRP, attached to this Resolution as Exhibit B and Exhibit C, should be recommended for adoption to the City Council.

SECTION 2.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Inglewood Planning Commission, based on the entirety of the materials before the Planning Commission, including without limitation, agenda reports to the Planning Commission, the EIR and all appendices thereto and supporting information: this Resolution and its attached exhibits, all plans, drawings, and other materials submitted by the Project Sponsor; minutes, reports, and public testimony and evidence submitted as part of the City Council’s duly-noticed meetings regarding the IBEC Project; the record of proceedings prepared in connection with AB 987
pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21168.6.8; and all other information contained in the City's administrative record concerning the Project (collectively, the Record), which it has carefully reviewed and considered, the Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. That the foregoing Recitals are true and correct and made part of this Resolution.
2. That all procedural requirements for the Planning Commission to recommend to the City Council certification of the EIR have been followed.
3. That the EIR, as prepared for the Project, complies with CEQA and the State and local environmental guidelines and regulations.
4. That the Planning Commission has independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the EIR, including the written comments received during the EIR public review period and the oral and written comments received at the public hearings, prior to making its recommendation.
5. That the EIR reflects the City's independent judgement and analysis on the potential environmental impacts of the Project. The EIR adequately discloses information to the decisionmakers and the public related to the environmental impacts of the Project.
6. That the EIR adequately describes the Project, its environmental impacts, mitigation measures and a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project.
7. That the public review period provided all interested jurisdictions, agencies, organizations, and individuals the opportunity to submit comments regarding the Draft EIR.
8. That the mitigation measures which have been identified for the Project were identified in the EIR. The final mitigation measures are described in the MMRP. Each of the mitigation measures identified in the MMRP, and contained in the EIR is incorporated into the Project. The impacts of the Project
have been mitigated to the maximum extent feasible by the mitigation measures identified in the MMRP and contained in the EIR.

9. That the Responses to Comments in the Draft EIR, as set forth in the Final EIR, are adequate and complete.

10. That the Final EIR contains additions, clarifications, modifications and other information in its responses to comments on the Draft EIR and also incorporates minor revisions to the Draft EIR based on information obtained since the Draft EIR was issued.

11. That, as described in the CEQA Findings and MMRP attached as Exhibit B and C, which are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein, the EIR identifies certain significant environmental impacts of the Project, many of which can be reduced to a level of less than significant based on feasible mitigation measures identified in the EIR and as set forth in the CEQA Findings and MMRP. However, as further described in Exhibit B, a Statement of Overriding Considerations has been prepared for certain impacts of the Project that remain significant and unavoidable even after the adoption of all feasible mitigation measures specified in the EIR and the MMRP.

12. That the MMRP identifies the significant impacts of the Project, corresponding mitigation measures, and designates the City department responsible for implementation and monitoring of the required mitigation measures.

13. That any changes and additional information in the Final EIR are not considered significant new information as that term is defined under CEQA such that recirculation of the Draft EIR would be required. (See CEQA Guidelines, § 15088.5.) Any changes and additional information do not indicate that any new significant environmental impacts not previously evaluated in the Draft EIR would result from the Project nor do they reflect a substantial increase in the severity of any previously identified environmental impact. Further, no feasible
mitigation measures considerably different from those previously analyzed in the Draft EIR have been proposed that would clearly lessen the significant environmental impacts of the Project, and no feasible alternatives considerably different from those analyzed in the Draft EIR have been proposed that would clearly lessen the significant environmental impacts of the Project. Accordingly, the Planning Commission hereby finds and determines that recirculation of the EIR for further public review and comment is not required under CEQA.

SECTION 3.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the foregoing recitations and findings the Planning Commission of the City of Inglewood, California, hereby recommends that the City Council:

a. Certify the EIR based on the facts and findings set forth in this Resolution;
b. Approve and adopt the CEQA Findings including a Statement of Overriding Considerations, for those Project impacts that remain significant and unavoidable after the adoption of all feasible mitigation measures specified in the EIR and the MMRP, as attached to this Resolution as Exhibit B.
c. Approve and adopt the MMRP attached to this Resolution as Exhibit C.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Planning Commission is hereby instructed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Project Sponsor and to the City Council as a report, with the findings and recommendations of the Planning Commission pertaining to the Environmental Impact Report (EA-EIR-2020-45) and to forward a certified copy of all related files, data and instruments.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution recommending certification of the Environmental Impact Report (EA·EIR·2020·45), adoption of CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations, and adoption of the MMRP, is passed, approved and adopted this 17th day of June 2020.

Larry Springs, Chairperson
City Planning Commission
Inglewood, California

ATTEST:

Evangeline Lane, Secretary
City Planning Commission
Inglewood, California