

## JOINT RESOLUTION

### **JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY AND THE OKLAHOMA CITY PUBLIC PROPERTY AUTHORITY COMMITTING TO NECESSARY ACTIONS REQUIRED TO STAGE CANOE SLALOM AND SOFTBALL COMPETITIONS DURING THE OLYMPICS GAMES LOS ANGELES 2028 IN OKLAHOMA CITY.**

**WHEREAS**, the modern Olympic Games are the premier sporting event in the world and are a unifying global event that transcends sports and brings together the people and nations of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the Summer Olympics, held every four years, are the most-viewed and observed sporting events on the planet; and

**WHEREAS**, the Summer Olympics have been held in the United States on four previous occasions—St. Louis (1904), Los Angeles (1932), Los Angeles (1984) and Atlanta (1996), and will be staged once more in the United States in Los Angeles in 2028; and

**WHEREAS**, Oklahoma City’s investment in softball, including a nearly \$30 million project approved by voters in 2017 to upgrade the stadium at 2801 Northeast 50<sup>th</sup> Street, which is now the largest in the world and hosts the premier annual U.S. event, the Women’s College World Series, has established Oklahoma City as the “softball capital of the world”; and

**WHEREAS**, Oklahoma City’s investment in canoe slalom, including a \$45 million MAPS 3 whitewater facility approved by voters in 2009 adjacent to the Oklahoma River, which is the only such facility in the western half of the United States and will host the 2026 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships, has established Oklahoma City as a world capital for paddle sports; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 21, 2024, LA28, the host committee for the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028, announced its proposal to stage the canoe slalom and softball events in Oklahoma City in their entirety; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 28, 2025, the Los Angeles City Council unanimously approved the venues proposal by LA28; and

**WHEREAS**, Oklahoma City now has the unique and special opportunity to stage these two sports in their entirety, from July 14-30, 2028, drawing athletes, fans and the eyes of the world to Oklahoma City, creating an enormous economic impact and a historic legacy for our community that will reverberate for decades to come; and

**WHEREAS**, Oklahoma City’s staging of these events will provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our city’s residents, for all Oklahomans, and for millions of Americans from this region of the country to directly experience the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028; and

**WHEREAS**, Oklahoma City is proud of its longtime connections to the Olympic movement, including our hosting of the United States Olympic Festival in 1989, our ties to some of the greatest Olympians of all time, including Jim Thorpe, who is honored today by a museum, statue, and honors across Oklahoma City, and serving as the home of official Olympic and Paralympic training sites and previous Olympic trials in numerous sports; and

**WHEREAS**, Oklahoma City is deeply grateful for the partnerships that have made this opportunity possible, including our relationships with the City of Los Angeles, the International Olympic Committee, the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, LA28, the International Canoe Federation, the American Canoe Association, the World Baseball Softball Confederation, and USA Softball; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of Oklahoma City is collaborating with the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber and Team OKC to stage this special event, and is grateful for the Chamber's work to finalize this opportunity; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of Oklahoma City, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber and Team OKC will further collaborate with the operators of the venues, the RIVERSPORT Foundation and USA Softball; and

**WHEREAS**, though the venues represent the greatest investments, and these investments have already been made, there will be other obligations and commitments for our community as we collectively stage these events in 2028, and The City of Oklahoma City fully acknowledges these obligations and affirms its commitments; and

**WHEREAS**, this Joint Resolution between The City of Oklahoma City ("the City") and the Oklahoma City Public Property Authority ("OCPPA") demonstrates to all interested parties the support of the City and OCPPA for staging these events in Oklahoma City and their commitment to fulfilling all necessary obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, these commitments include the use of existing city facilities, including but not limited to the whitewater facility and its surroundings, the softball facility and its surroundings, the Oklahoma City Convention Center, Scissortail Park, Paycom Center, and other City of Oklahoma City facilities and properties as needed; and

**WHEREAS**, these commitments include necessary maintenance and improvements to the whitewater and softball facilities, in coordination with the facility operators and all appropriate governing bodies and partners; and

**WHEREAS**, as maintenance and improvements are performed at the venues, the City and OCPPA commit to use best efforts to ensure that such maintenance and improvements comply with standards for accessibility, as provided in the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

**WHEREAS**, these commitments include the provision of city services in conjunction with the events that will include but are not limited to security, public safety, police, fire and EMS services, transit and transportation, traffic management, and sanitation services; and

**WHEREAS**, these commitments include a financial guarantee with appropriate partners in the sum of \$34,500,000 to be paid to LA28 only in the event that the commitment to stage these events in Oklahoma City is not kept; and

**WHEREAS**, these commitments include the adoption as necessary of regulations, ordinances and/or enforcement thereof, within the city's legal authority, as necessary to regulate vendors and advertising in the vicinity of the venues, and gambling in general, in keeping with all requirements requested by the relevant partners and governing bodies; and

**WHEREAS**, these commitments include the adoption of all necessary agreements, contracts, leases, ordinances or any other legal or contractual actions required to stage these Olympic Games LA28 events; and

**WHEREAS**, this includes the commitment to abide by all requirements relative to Olympic and LA28 trademarks; and

**WHEREAS**, this includes the City's full commitment to oppose any form of discrimination in the hosting of these events, as well as the City's full commitment to sustainability; and

**WHEREAS**, it is understood that available financial sources necessary to fulfill these commitments may include but are not limited to sales tax and hotel tax proceeds from existing tax levies, bond issue proceeds, private philanthropy, state government funds or resources, and federal government funds or resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by The City of Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma City Public Property Authority, that the City and the OCPPA wholly support and commit to all reasonable actions necessary for the staging of the canoe slalom and softball events to be held as part of the Olympic Games LA28 in Oklahoma City.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The City of Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma City Public Property Authority make the following specific commitments:

- A. To provide use of the necessary city venues as described previously in this resolution; and
- B. To continue to maintain both the canoe slalom and softball venues and to provide necessary maintenance and improvements as described previously in this resolution; and
- C. To ensure that maintenance and improvements comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act; and
- D. To provide necessary city services in relation to the events as described previously in this resolution; and

- E. To secure a financial guarantee with appropriate partners of \$34,500,000 to be paid to LA28 if Oklahoma City does not fulfill its commitment to stage these events; and
- F. To provide regulation, ordinances and enforcement necessary, within the City's legal authority, to meet all requirements for staging these events, as described previously in this resolution; and
- G. To adopt all agreements, contracts, leases, ordinances or any other legal or contractual actions, within the City's legal authority, necessary to stage these events; and
- H. To respect Olympic and LA28 trademarks; and
- I. To prioritize anti-discrimination and sustainability; and
- J. To take any other reasonable actions necessary to stage these canoe slalom and softball events in Oklahoma City as part of the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The City of Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma City Public Property Authority do hereby direct the City Manager to take all actions necessary to secure the financial guarantee described in Section E above, and to pursue necessary approvals.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The City of Oklahoma City does express its deepest gratitude to the partners who have made this opportunity possible, including the City of Los Angeles, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, Team OKC, the International Olympic Committee, the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, LA28, the International Canoe Federation, the American Canoe Association, the World Baseball Softball Confederation, USA Softball and the RIVERSPORT Foundation.

**ADOPTED** by the City Council and **SIGNED** by the Mayor of The City of Oklahoma City this 8TH day of APRIL, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

**THE CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY**

Amy K. Simpson  
City Clerk



David Holt  
MAYOR

**ADOPTED** by the Trustees and **SIGNED** by the Chairman of the Oklahoma City Public Property Authority this 8TH day of APRIL, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

**OKLAHOMA CITY  
PUBLIC PROPERTY AUTHORITY**

Amy K Simpson  
Secretary



David Holt  
CHAIRMAN

**REVIEWED** for form and legality.

Walter Bell  
Deputy Municipal Counselor