



Huntsville, Alabama

305 Fountain Circle
Huntsville, AL 35801

Cover Memo

Meeting Type: City Council Regular Meeting **Meeting Date:** 2/13/2025

File ID: 2025-90

Department: Parks and Recreation

Subject:

Type of Action: Approval/Action

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Resolution No.

Finance Information:

Account Number: N/A

City Cost Amount: N/A

Total Cost: N/A

Special Circumstances:

Grant Funded: N/A

Grant Title - CFDA or granting Agency: N/A

Resolution #: N/A

Location: (list below)

Address:

District: District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

Additional Comments:

Partnering to establish the Dr. Harriet Littlepage Little Free Library at the Lakewood Community Center located at 3601 Kenwood Drive, Huntsville, AL. 35810.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-80

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement by and between the City of Huntsville and Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Beta Sorority, Inc., on behalf of the City of Huntsville, a municipal corporation in the State of Alabama, which said agreement is substantially in words and figures similar to that certain document attached hereto and identified as "Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.," consisting of four (4) pages, and the date of February 13, 2025, appearing on the margin of the first page, together with the signature of the President or President Pro Tem of the City Council, an executed copy of said document being permanently kept on file in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Huntsville, Alabama.

ADOPTED this the 13th day of February, 2025.

President of the City Council of
the City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 13th day of February, 2025.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville,
Alabama

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE AND
DELTA OMEGA ZETA CHAPTER OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE AND DELTA
OMEGA ZETA CHAPTER OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC.

Witnesseth:

This Memorandum of Agreement is made and entered into on this 13th day of February 2025, by and between the City of Huntsville, a municipal corporation in the State of Alabama, hereinafter referred to as the “City,” and the Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., hereinafter referred to as “DOZ”.

WHEREAS, the Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, desires to establish a Little Free Library in partnership with the City of Huntsville at the Lakewood Community Center in Northwest Huntsville; and

WHEREAS, a Little Free Library is a free-standing, book-sharing box that invites anyone in the community to take books and other reading materials. The DOZ Little Free Library at Lakewood Community Center will be curated and maintained by DOZ Chapter members to continuously promote literacy, community health and wellness, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the inaugural Little Free Library at Lakewood Community Center will be named the “Dr. Harriet Littlepage Little Free Library”, to commemorate the life of a cherished Sorority member’s longtime support for literacy and community empowerment; and

WHEREAS, beyond its importance as a part of the right to education, literacy improves lives by expanding capabilities which in turn reduces poverty, increases participation in the labor market and has positive effects on health and sustainable development (UNESCO 2023); and

WHEREAS, in April 2023, Huntsville’s Desegregation Advisory Committee reported large gaps in Huntsville students’ test scores. Those gaps were largely by race, with 69% of Black 11th graders in Huntsville schools deemed “not proficient” in English in ALEA testing. (2022). HSC Superintendent Dr. Clarence Sutton acknowledged that improving these scores and outcomes for students will require holistic efforts from parents, students, schools and community organizations, including non-traditional, community-based alternatives to improve literacy among students; and

WHEREAS, Little Free Libraries are a visible, accessible, and versatile way to promote literacy in this community. However, of the nearly 50 Little Free Libraries in Huntsville, only one is located near Northwest Huntsville; and

**President of the City Council of the City of
Huntsville, Alabama**
Date: February 13, 2025

WHEREAS, the DOZ Little Free Library will offer perennial and seasonal opportunities to promote literacy, health and wellness, and civic education through books, brochures, stickers and othertakeaways; and

WHEREAS, free, multi-genre, multi-age level books will inspire new readers and avid readers to frequent Little Free Libraries and “be on the lookout for” new books, pamphlets and other reading incentives; and

WHEREAS, Little Free Libraries promote community health and wellness among African American and Hispanic populations in Northwest Huntsville. The DOZ Little Library will be an accessible, bilingual resource for information about health and wellness, such as vaccine and mental health information; and

WHEREAS, a partnership between Delta Omega Zeta Chapter and the City’s Lakewood Community Center will be a strong and dynamic partnership will include school and community-based engagements to serve Northwest Huntsville families.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. The City grants DOZ a license to install and maintain a Little Free Library at the Lakewood Community Center. The design and maintenance of the Little Free Library shall be subject to the approval of the City’s Director of Parks and Recreation, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
2. The City will assist DOZ with preparing the ground and installation of the Little Free Library in an amount and manner within the sole discretion of the City. All materials shall be provided by DOZ.
3. DOZ shall cooperate with the City on programming, special events and other initiatives to maximize Little Free Library utilization.
4. DOZ shall stock and maintain the DOZ Little Free Library with books, digital reading materials, health and wellness and community education for all ages and reading levels.
5. DOZ and Lakewood Community Center staff will cooperate on programming, special events, seasonal offerings and other initiatives to maximize literacy and community engagement through Little Free Library utilization.
6. DOZ will provide the City’s Director of Parks and Recreation a quarterly report of activities, book and information distribution through the DOZ Little Free Library.
7. The parties acknowledge and agree that the City is not responsible for the maintenance or security of the Little Free Library, and DOZ agrees to hold the City harmless for any loss or damage to the Little Free Library.
8. Either party may terminate this agreement by providing the other party thirty (30) days’ notice

of its intention to terminate this Agreement.

9. This Memorandum of Agreement shall not be altered, changed, or amended except by an instrument in writing executed by the parties hereto.

[Signatures follow on the next page.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereunto entered into this Memorandum of Agreement on the day first written above.

Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

By: Chenita Starks *Chenita Starks*
Its: President

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE
a municipal corporation
in the State of Alabama

Attest:

Shaundrika Edwards
Its: City Clerk

By: _____
Tommy Battle
Its: Mayor