

BILL NO. 23-62

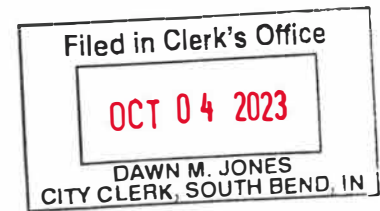
City of South Bend Common Council

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October 4, 2023



Sharon L. McBride
President

Sheila Niezgodski
Vice-President

Canneth Lee
Chairperson, Committee
of the Whole

Canneth Lee
First District

Henry Davis, Jr.
Second District

Sharon L. McBride
Third District

Troy Warner
Fourth District

Eli Wax
Fifth District

Sheila Niezgodski
Sixth District

Karen L. White
At Large

Rachel Tomas Morgan
At Large

Lori K. Hamann
At Large

Chairperson Karen White
Residential Neighborhoods Committee
South Bend Common Council
4th Floor, County-City Building
South Bend, IN 46601

RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA CALLING FOR EQUITY AND DISAGGREGATION IN ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dear Chairperson White:

I am submitting this resolution for the purpose of working towards a better system. The resolution is to spark reasonable discourse and support for a community hampered by inadequate funding and support over several decades.

The Lasalle Park area has in recent years received support but much more is needed to grow the area. I am asking for discussion as we move forward on this matter and other issues related to our neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration.

Council at the full Council meeting later that evening.

Thank you for your consideration.

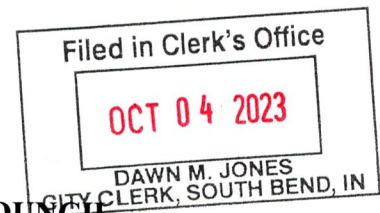
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry Davis, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Henry Davis, Jr., South Bend Common
Council Second District

BILL NO. 23-62

RESOLUTION NO. 5059-23



**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA CALLING FOR EQUITY AND
DISAGGREGATION IN ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend commissioned Urban3—a private consulting firm specializing in land value economics, property tax analysis and community design—to conduct a financial analysis which uncovered that a compounded history of racial segregation, racist redlining practices and divestment from Black and low-income neighborhoods led to the loss of roughly a billion dollars in property value from South Bend relative to what existed in 1930; and

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2023, the South Bend Common Council adopted a resolution announcing and providing information about the formation of a Reparatory Justice Commission to study the issue of reparatory justice in South Bend; and

WHEREAS, the South Bend Common Council charged the Reparatory Justice Commission with presenting its findings and recommendations to the South Bend Common Council for consideration; and

WHEREAS, in February 2023, 2nd District Councilman Henry Davis and community members authored a resolution calling for American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding provided by the federal government to be appropriated for reparatory justice aims in order to uplift African American neighborhoods impacted by a history of racial segregation, divestment and environmental contamination; and

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2023, South Bend Mayor James Mueller indicated during a public forum hosted by the *South Bend Tribune* that American Rescue Plan funds support existing programs that fit within a reparatory justice “framework”; and

WHEREAS, according to Mayor James Muller, the City of South Bend appropriated part of the American Rescue Plan funds “to make historic investments in equity” so as to make progress “on these accounts”; and

WHEREAS, according to Mayor James Muller, the City of South Bend will allocate American Rescue Plan funds to make investments in neighborhoods that have experienced disinvestment over many decades; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend appropriated American Rescue Plan funds to establish an “opportunity fund” to support Black- and minority-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend will spend American Rescue Plan funds on a city plan to boost Black homeownership rates in neighborhoods that have experienced disinvestment over many decades; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend and the South Bend Common Council recognize that American Rescue Plan funds represent an opportunity to make historic and “once-in-a-generation” investments in historically underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend considers itself to be a “data-driven” city.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of South Bend, Indiana, as follows:

Section I. The South Bend Common Council hereby recommends as good practice that going forward the City of South Bend provide semi-annual data reports on how existing city programs funded by the American Rescue Plan impact historically underserved communities until said American Rescue Plan funds are completely spent down.

Section II. The South Bend Common Council hereby recommends as good practice going forward that the City of South Bend provide semi-annual data reports on how existing city programs in the Department of Community Investment, the Department of Public Works and Venues, Parks and Arts impact historically underserved communities.

Section III. The South Bend Common Council hereby recommends as good practice going forward that the City of South Bend disaggregate data included in these respective semi-annual reports by census block group, census tract, gender, racial and ethnic demographics in order to monitor trends and measure equitable investment and subsequent impact.

Section IV. This resolution shall become effective upon the date of passage.

Approved this 09th day of October 2023

Sharon McBride, Council President
South Bend Common Council

Attest:

Dawn M. Jones, City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk

Presented by me, the undersigned Clerk of the City of South Bend, to the Mayor of the City of South Bend, Indiana on the _____ day of _____, 2023, at _____ o'clock ____ . m.

Dawn M. Jones, City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk

Approved and signed by me on the _____ day of _____, 2023, at ____ o'clock ____ .m.

James Mueller, Mayor
City of South Bend, Indiana

