

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO.: C-7358

COUNCIL SPONSOR: MR. STRICKLAND

PROVIDED BY: COUNCIL OFFICE

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE DEDICATION OF THE TCHEFUNCTA NATION, CHAHTA TRIBE TO OPEN THE BONFOUCA MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTER, AND TO EXPRESS SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THE TCHEFUNCTA NATION, CHAHTA TRIBE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE INDIGENOUS HISTORY OF THE TRIBAL NATION IN HISTORIC BONFOUCA FOR THE CULTURAL ENRICHMENT AND CIVIC PRIDE OF LOUISIANA CITIZENS.

WHEREAS, the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe dedicated the Bonfouca Museum and Research Center at the historic train depot located in Slidell, Louisiana on Friday, May 29, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the museum, one of the oldest documented locations in Louisiana and West Florida, will preserve and promote the artifacts and history of Bonfouca; and

WHEREAS, the museum will provide a dedicated space to showcase the history and related American Indian artifacts for the purposes of education, cultural enrichment, tourism, economic development, and community representation; and

WHEREAS, the Bonfouca Museum and Research Center will be beneficial to Louisiana residents, newcomers, students, and tourists to the area; and

WHEREAS, the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe are descendants of the mound builders; and

WHEREAS, the ancestors of the Tchfuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe are buried in traditional cemeteries throughout St. Tammany Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Chahta Tribe found for the United States of America under President Andrew Jackson, including in the Battle of New Orleans and throughout West Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 1830, the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe were the earliest Native Americans to become United States citizens, with dual citizenship, ratified under Article 14 of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek; and

WHEREAS, President Andrew Jackson gave special provisions to the hereditary chief of the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe, his heirs, and assigns who did not have to relocate to Indian territory in Oklahoma.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY RESOLVES that the St. Tammany Parish Council recognizes the dedication of the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe to open the Bonfouca Museum and Research Center, and to express our sincere appreciation to the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe for the preservation of the indigenous history of the tribal nation in historic Bonfouca for the cultural enrichment and civic pride of Louisiana citizens.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____ SECONDED BY: _____

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 6TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2026, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

CHERYL TANNER, COUNCIL CHAIR

ATTEST:

KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL