RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE STATE PORT AT GULFPORT

A RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI MAIN STREET ASSOCIATION, A PROGRAM OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION, ACKNOWLEDGING AND ENDORSING THE PROPOSED RESTORATION AND REDEVELOPMENT CONCEPT AS ADOPTED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AT GULFPORT.

WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina struck the Mississippi Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005, and with neighboring states caused the greatest natural disaster ever to occur in the State of Mississippi and the United States, including almost complete destruction of the facilities and infrastructure of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Main Street Association’s mission is to provide leadership, guidance and counsel to Mississippi Main Street communities through organization, promotion, design and economic development to make Mississippi cities and towns better places to work, live and play; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized by the Mississippi Main Street Association and its members that restoration and redevelopment of the State Port at Gulfport is essential to the continued economic recovery and development of Mississippi from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport has adopted a concept plan that focuses on restoration and redevelopment of the Port facilities in such a way as to maintain and protect investment by existing customers at the Port; facilitate and maximize the future growth of Port operations through private investment; and at the same time, seeks to minimize the possibility of community disruption caused by future storms; and

WHEREAS, the restoration and redevelopment of the Port facilities would allow and accommodate for the future growth of Port facilities which could bring new and better jobs, a higher quality of life, and business and economic development opportunities across Mississippi; and
WHEREAS, the Mississippi Main Street Association finds that the plan for restoration and redevelopment of the State Port at Gulfport aligns with and enhances our organization's mission; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Main Street Association does hereby express its support for the plan adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport for restoration and redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport.

Signed this day, December 8, 2009 on behalf of the Mississippi Main Street Association,

Robert J. Wilson
Executive Director
Mississippi Main Street Association