

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, *ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab (formerly known as TechGarden) is a non-profit organization (501(c)3) interested in technology and problem-solving education, small business acceleration, community outreach, and workforce development of residents of the City of Alexandria; and*

WHEREAS, *through a Partnership Intermediary Agreement ("PIA") with the United States Department of The Navy ("DON"), ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab endeavors to provide services to the DON, veterans, teachers, students, and other interested City residents and businesses. These services may include workforce development programs, K-12 STEM/STEAM programs and/or community outreach; and*

WHEREAS, *the area of Eisenhower Avenue, City of Alexandria, between South Van Dorn Street and the Eisenhower Avenue 495 Connector; and shall be known as an "innovation district" in the City of Alexandria*

WHEREAS, *the City of Alexandria has successfully partnered with ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab in a number of successful endeavors where ATHENA has assisted the City and its school system in achieving their goals, and the City has assisted ATHENA in achieving its mission; and*

WHEREAS, *ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab is responsible for obtaining federal financing from DON, in order to develop programs; and*

WHEREAS, *ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab plans to assist the federal government in transferring technologies from federal laboratories to Alexandria, Virginia, local municipalities, and industry. In particular Athena will assist, counsel, advise, evaluate and otherwise cooperate with small business firms and institutions of higher learning; and*

WHEREAS, *ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab has deep roots in the City of Alexandria and strives to promote economic and educational development in its community; and*

WHEREAS, *ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab is developing programs that support the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria City Public Schools, community non-profits and businesses in various 21st century technologies (3D printing, laser cutting, robotics, coding, etc.); and*

WHEREAS, *ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab has agreed to seat at least one (1) Board member from the City of Alexandria, appointed by the City for a term of no less than two (2) years.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:***

On this date of June 9, 2021, that the Alexandria City Council does hereby approve and reaffirm the City of Alexandria's endeavor to embrace and partner with ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab for the following:

ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab will provide, to the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria City Public Schools and the Department of the Navy: exposure, training, and development of skills involving 3D printers, laser cutters, welding, Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining, robotics, coding, small business support and acceleration, community outreach programs, and direct workforce development.

ADOPTED: _____

JUSTIN M. WILSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

GLORIA A. SITTON, CMC, CITY CLERK