

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 15

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HISTORY OF LOCOMOTIVE "OLD 168" AND FINDING A PUBLIC PURPOSE IS SERVED BY A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS ON BEHALF OF ITS PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE CUMBRES AND TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD COMMISSION, PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION AND RETURN TO SERVICE OF LOCOMOTIVE "OLD 168"

WHEREAS, the Denver and Rio Grande Railway Company (DRGW) was cofounded by our City's founder General William Jackson Palmer; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin Locomotive Works built for the DRGW in 1883 a narrow gage locomotive, known as Locomotive Engine 168 ("Old 168") for early transportation in and around Colorado and Utah through the Rocky Mountain landscapes of canyons, high passes, and switchbacks and marks a significant time in history of engineering technology and triumph; and

WHEREAS, the DRGW donated to the City by the DRGW in 1938 as a gift and monument to the contributions of General William Jackson Palmer; and

WHEREAS, Old 168 has remained as a static display since 1964 at the City's Antlers Park; and

WHEREAS, the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad (C&TSRR) is jointly owned by the states of Colorado and New Mexico with the mission to preserve cultural and historical assets that developed the Old West and to educate and entertain present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad Commission (C&TSRR Commission) has proposed to rehabilitate and operate Old 168 along the existing narrow gauge segment of track known as the DRGW's San Juan Extension located between Antonito, Colorado, and Chama, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, to fully rehabilitate and restore Old 168 to operating condition, the C&TSRR Commission has proposed to raise and invest an estimated \$650,000.00 for needed repairs; and

WHEREAS, the City desires that Old 168 be restored and maintained in an operating condition, which is not economically feasible for the City at the present time; and

WHEREAS, the City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department and its Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommends that City Council support a lease agreement with the C&TSRR Commission (Lease Agreement) by making a finding that the proposal and agreement fulfills a public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. City Council supports the proposal as presented for the exclusive use of Old 168. In the event the C&TSRR fails to rehabilitate and restore Old 168 to operating

condition within five (5) years after the date of execution of the Lease Agreement, City staff shall discuss the status of the rehabilitation master plan with City Council.

Section 2. City Council hereby finds the Lease Agreement for an initial term of fifteen (15) years to accommodate the rehabilitation and operation of Old 168 fulfils a public purpose, because it will contribute substantial historic, social and economic benefits to the City of Colorado Springs, and the citizens of Colorado, as well as allow for the locomotive to be maintained in a condition and in a setting more befitting of its historic significance.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this _____ day of _____ 2015.

Keith King, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah Johnson, City Clerk