

RESOLUTION NO. 30860

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE CHATTANOOGA A WORLD
WAR II HERITAGE CITY.

WHEREAS, the City of Chattanooga is working on an application to be considered as a World War II Heritage City, a designation by the National Parks Service that will "recognize and ensure the continued preservation and importance of the history of the United States involvement in World War II"; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary may designate one city per state as an "American World War II Heritage City," so this is a competitive recognition; and

WHEREAS, in determining a winner in each state, the National Parks Service will consider (1) contributions by a city and its environs to the World War II home-front war effort and (2) achievements to preserve the heritage and legacy of the City's contributions to the war effort and to preserve World War II history; and

WHEREAS, as part of this process, the City is seeking support from officials across our community, including from the Chattanooga City Council; and

WHEREAS, Chattanooga's claim to this recognition is strong. Among its attributes as a World War II Heritage City:

- The Volunteer Army Ammunition Depot, now Enterprise South Industrial Park, produced enormous volumes of TNT explosive material that supplied the U.S. war effort.
- Chattanooga is home to the longest continuously staged Armed Forces Day parade.
- Coolidge Park, in the heart of our city, celebrates the contributions of World War II Medal of Honor recipient Charles Coolidge, and the Medal of Honor Heritage Center anchors the City's tourist district.

- The City's businesses contributed mightily to the war effort, from Chattem's production of K-rations to American Lava's contributions to the Manhattan Project.
- Chattanooga's rail system took soldiers from across the Southeast, from nearby bases such as Fort Oglethorpe, to the coast where they would be transported to the front.
- Among many other units trained locally, Fort Oglethorpe was also home base for the only black WAC (Women's Army Corps) unit deployed overseas.

WHEREAS, as part of this application process, the Kelly Administration would be honored if the City Council would pass a resolution declaring Chattanooga a fitting applicant for recognition as a World War II Heritage City;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, that it is hereby declaring Chattanooga a World War II Heritage City.

ADOPTED: August 10, 2021

/mem/v2