

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION AND
SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE GEORGIA
COASTAL INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM FOR DESIGN OF
THE CANAL DISTRICT WETLANDS PRESERVE PARK FOR
THE CITY OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.**

WHEREAS, the proposed Canal District Wetlands Preserve Park was identified in the Canal District Masterplan and is located in the northern section of the Canal District; and

WHEREAS, the Canal District is in the lower drainage basin of the Springfield Canal, which has a history of severe flooding and drainage challenges throughout this low-lying area; and

WHEREAS, through the Chatham County SPLOST 7 referendum, funding was allocated to make significant drainage improvements to the Springfield Canal Drainage Basin including expansion of existing wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Canal District Wetlands Preserve Park will assist in transforming vulnerable, flood-prone areas into healthy, stable ecosystems; expanding the natural capacity of existing wetlands to mitigate flooding; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, this grant application will fund local resident engagement and design of the public amenities within the Canal District Wetlands Preserve Park such as trails, boardwalks, observation decks, and other components that provide public access to recreation and the natural environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Savannah City Council that this governing body voices its support and authorizes staff to submit an application for funding from the Georgia Coastal Incentive Grant through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division for the Canal District Wetlands Preserve Park, and that upon grant award, the Savannah City Council shall enter into a Project Agreement with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division.

Adopted and approved by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah on this 28th day of January 2021.

Mayor Van R. Johnson, III

ATTEST:

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council