

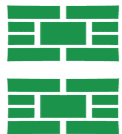
PROPOSED ARCHAEOLOGY RESOURCE PROTECTION ORDINANCE

Thursday, December 5, 2019



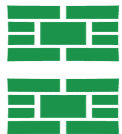
UPDATE ON PROCESS

- Review rationale for ordinance
- Discuss public engagement
- Review survey results
- Share information on ordinances from other communities
- Provide draft ordinance highlights
- Discuss next steps



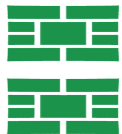
WHAT IS ARCHAEOLOGY?

- Science that studies human cultures through:
 - Recovery
 - Documentation
 - Analysis of material remains and environmental data including architecture, artifacts, biofacts, human remains and landscape



RATIONALE FOR ORDINANCE

- Need to protect archaeological resources which are not currently protected
- Begin to address recommendation from National Park Service for National Historic Landmark District
 - Condition from “Threatened” to “Satisfactory”
- Recent issue with cemetery on White Bluff Road



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

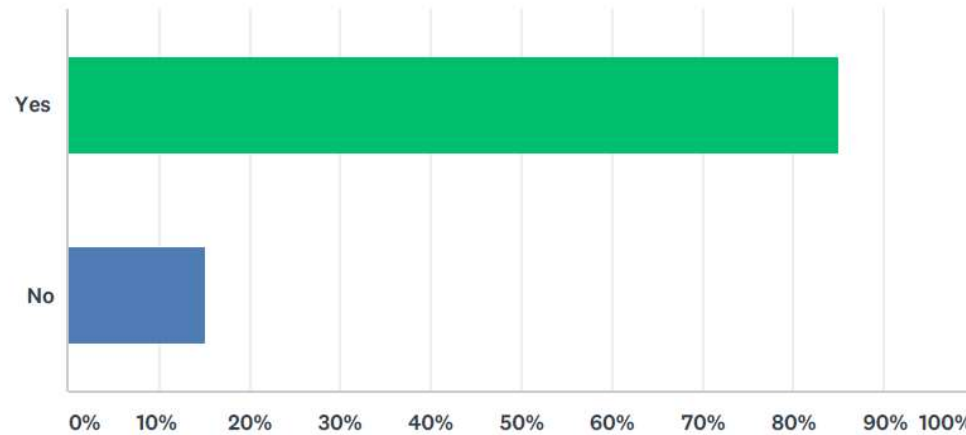
- Held 1st public meeting: Sept 26
- Launched survey: Sept 27
- Closed survey: Oct 15
- Met with business community: Oct 16
- Held 2nd public meeting: Oct 24
- Met with Coastal Museum Association: Nov 6
- Presented to MPC: Nov 19



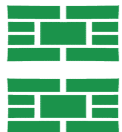
SURVEY RESULTS

Q1 Do you support the creation of an archaeological ordinance?

Answered: 567 Skipped: 0

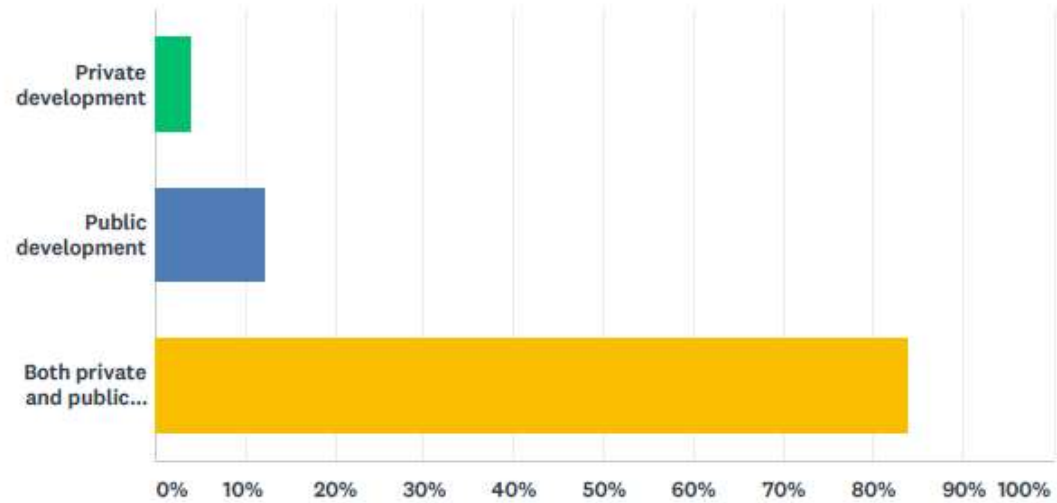


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	85.01%	482
No	14.99%	85
TOTAL		567

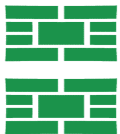


Q4 The archaeology program should be applicable to:

Answered: 532 Skipped: 35



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Private development	3.95%	21
Public development	12.22%	65
Both private and public development	83.83%	446
TOTAL		532



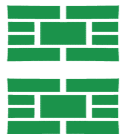
OTHER ORDINANCES

Beaufort, SC (1999)

- Review development projects for impact on archaeological and historic resources
- Determine if:
 - 1) Site contains or likely to contain archaeologic resources
 - 2) Project will negatively impact resources identified
- May require documentation, intensive level of archaeological survey or other mitigation prior to the issuance of a permit

Hilton Head Island, SC (1990)

- Illegal to disturb any archaeological site on public or private property without written permission of the Town Manager



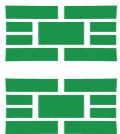
OTHER ORDINANCES

Glynn County, GA (1995)

- Illegal to disturb any historic or archaeological site on Glynn County-owned property without permission from Commissioners

St. Augustine, FL (1987)

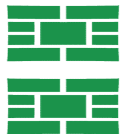
- Mandates archaeological review as part of permitting process (building, right-of-way, utility construction)
- Archaeology zones with different levels of significance determined by area's historic value and potential to contain archaeological remains
- Assess for archaeological resources if triggers criteria in ordinance (location, depth and size of excavation)



OTHER ORDINANCES

Alexandria, VA

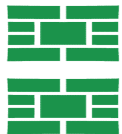
- Alexandria Archaeological Commission (1975)
- Established protected Archaeological Resource Areas (1989)
- Requires assessment of any development projects in protected zones
- Complete preliminary archaeological assessment report
- Report assesses site based on research value, rarity, public value, site integrity and presence of materials
- Often no further action required
- May require further research, survey or excavation



DRAFT ORDINANCE

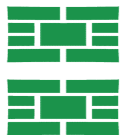
Charleston, SC

- Recommendation from Preservation Plan
- Identify, evaluate, protect, preserve, excavate and interpret archaeological resources during land development
- Apply to areas that have special value related to cultural and historical heritage
- Resource and site greater than 75 years
- City archaeologist
- Applicable to properties within the Old and Historic District or Landmark Overlay Zone for new development, redevelopment or changes to a building



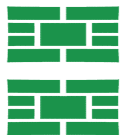
ORDINANCE PROPOSAL

- Identify and plan for the protection of the archaeological resources on public property
- Provide three phased archaeological assessment for ground disturbing projects undertaken by the City on public property if:
 - Construction projects have a building footprint of 1,500 square feet or more; or
 - Surplus public property sold by the City.
- Does not apply to private property



ORDINANCE PROPOSAL

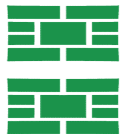
- Curation and ownership of artifacts
- Human Remains
- Prohibited Acts
- Archaeological Assessment must:
 - Follow the U.S. Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and the Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations
 - Be performed by a qualified archaeologist
 - Document findings in each phase



ORDINANCE PROPOSAL

Archaeology Assessment includes:

- **Phase I:** Conduct historic review and archaeological survey (shovel testing, ground penetrating radar, etc.)
- **Phase II:** Undertake fieldwork (test unit excavations, trenching, additional historic research, etc.) and prepare Archaeological Evaluation Report
- **Phase III:** Prepare Mitigation Plan (additional research, full-scale archaeological excavations, site construction monitoring, etc.)



THE NEXT 12-18 MONTHS

- Approve proposed ordinance
- Establish committee:
 - Society for Georgia Archaeology (SGA)
 - Savannah Archaeological Alliance
 - Metal Detector/Bottle Collectors Association
 - GSU Department of Sociology & Anthropology
 - Development community
 - American Institute of Architects Savannah Chapter
 - Historic Savannah Foundation
 - Metropolitan Planning Commission
 - Coastal Museums Association
 - Gullah/Geechee Heritage Commission
- Study impacts of initial ordinance (financial, project delays, etc.)
- Develop incremental approach to a more robust ordinance

