**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**AGREEMENT FOR A PARTNER CITY AND COUNTY RELATIONSHIP**

**BETWEEN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA (U.S.A.),**

**AND THE COUNTY OF WEXFORD (IRELAND).**

WHEREAS, the City of Savannah, Georgia (U.S.A.) and the County of Wexford (Ireland) established a Partner City and County Relationship on March 16, 2022, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford recognize the unique history of direct emigration from Wexford to Savannah during the mid-nineteenth century and, moreover, the significant contributions of Savannah’s Wexford diaspora to the city’s life across the generations, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford seek to enrich cultural understanding, create adult and student exchange opportunities, and broaden cooperation to encourage goodwill between the City and County, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford support the promotion of mutual understanding, the expansion of official and non-governmental exchanges, and the deepening of friendship through the advancement of peace, stability, and prosperity in our respective communities, countries, and the world at large, and;

WHEREAS, to develop a partner relationship with cooperation between the City of Savannah and the County Wexford, both agree to support a Partner City and County Relationship on the following terms:

1. To promote common prosperity and development, the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford will organize, on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, and goodwill, exchanges and other interactions (to include online meetings) that may advance art, business and commerce, culture, education, governmental administration, health and sports interests, history, science, technology, tourism, and other information sharing.

2. Citizens and civic and business groups of the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford are recognized as ambassadors of goodwill to organize cultural exchanges that may include the above topics.

3. Both the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford shall organize cultural exchanges, to the extent possible, involving adults and students within the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding.

4. Cultural-exchange visit details and activities shall be cooperatively agreed upon by organizing citizens and civic and business groups. Activities shall be provided with the objective of deepening cultural awareness and friendship between citizens, business leaders, and government officials.

5. The leaders and top-level department administrators of both the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford shall maintain and facilitate open channels of communication to expedite consultation, exchange, and cooperation on questions and issues of common concern.

6. Both the City of Savannah and the County of Wexford agree that all elements of the Partner Relationship are to remain noncontroversial, and they will ensure that historically controversial political issues play no part in this Partner Relationship.

7. The effective term for this Memorandum of Understanding shall be for three years following the date of execution of the Memorandum. Prior to expiration of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Partner City and County Relationship shall be reviewed by the representatives of the City of Savannah, Georgia (U.S.A.)  and representatives of the County of Wexford (Ireland) to evaluate the progress of the relationship, as well as recommend whether the relationship shall continue.

8. This Memorandum of Understanding represents the entire agreement between the City of Savannah, Georgia (U.S.A.) and the County of Wexford, Ireland. It may not be changed or modified without a resolution signed by the leaders of the City of Savannah and Wexford County Council.

Therefore, the City of Savannah, Georgia (U.S.A.) and the County of Wexford (Ireland) hereby execute this Memorandum of Understanding to expire within three years from the noted date(s).

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Van Johnson II, Mayor Date
City of Savannah

Savannah, Georgia (U.S.A.)

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Barbara-Anne Murphy, Cathaoirleach (Chair) Date
Wexford County Council
Wexford (Ireland)