

AN ORDINANCE
TO BE ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 1, GENERAL TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, OF PART 7, MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH TO PROHIBIT PEDESTRIANS FOR INTERFERING WITH THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC AND FROM OCCUPYING MEDIANS; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, Georgia, in regular meeting of Council assembled, and pursuant to the lawful authority thereof:

SECTION 1: That Chapter 1, General Traffic Regulations, of Part 7, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, of the Code of the City of Savannah, Georgia be amended by adding section 7-1055, to read as follows:

Sec. 7-1055. Pedestrians Prohibited from Interfering with Traffic.

- (a) Except as herein provided, no person shall stand, sit, or otherwise occupy any portion of public right-of-way within the City that is intended for travel thereupon by motor vehicles for the purpose of soliciting employment, business, or contributions from the occupant of any vehicle.
- (b) Except as herein provided, no person shall stand, sit or, otherwise occupy any median situated within or along any public right-of-way within the City that is intended for travel thereupon by motor vehicles for the purpose of soliciting employment, business, or contributions from the occupant of any vehicle.
- (c) No person may obstruct any public street or public highway by hindering, impeding, interfering with, or tending to hinder, impede or interfere with, the free and uninterrupted passage of vehicles or traffic.
- (d) No person shall congregate with another or others in or on any public street or highway, including medians situated within or alongside any such street or highway, so as to halt, impede, or interfere with the flow of vehicular traffic after having been directed to clear such public right-of-way by an officer of the Savannah Police Department or any other law enforcement official.
- (e) A person shall not sit, lie, or sleep in or upon any public street or highway, except when necessitated by temporary physical disability of such person.
- (f) Notwithstanding the above, a permit for solicitation on the right-of-way may be obtained from the City Manager provided the applicant meets the following criteria:

- (1) The applicant shall be a charitable organization, and the solicitation shall only be for contributions for a charitable purpose and shall not be for the purpose of selling goods or materials of any kind;
- (2) The applicant shall provide a plan for review and comment by the Savannah Police Department, which plan will assure the safety of the applicant's representatives, as well as the motoring public, at the locations where the solicitation will take place;
- (3) The applicant shall indicate in specific detail the location of such solicitation, together with the hours thereof;
- (4) The applicant shall not have previously solicited contributions on the right-of-way in the City of Savannah within the preceding 12 months;
- (5) The applicant shall provide an indemnification and hold harmless agreement in favor of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, its elected officials, officers, agents, and employees in a form satisfactory to the City Attorney;
- (6) The Savannah Police Department may consider the nature of the solicitation request, the plan for safety of the applicant's representatives, as well as the motoring public, the location where solicitation is being proposed, the hours of proposed solicitation, expected or anticipated traffic or traffic congestion at the proposed location(s), prior requests by the applicant, as well as prior experience with solicitations by said applicant, and such other matters as may be important to assure the safety of the applicant's representatives as well as the motoring public at the time and place where the solicitation is proposed to take place; and
- (7) The Savannah Police Department shall have the right to terminated the solicitation at any time, with before or during the solicitation event, should traffic, weather, or other conditions develop, which in the discretion of the Savannah Police Department, present a danger to the applicant's representatives or the motoring public.

SECTION 2: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED: _____

Van R. Johnson II, Mayor

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council