

**A RESOLUTION
ADOPTING THE CANAL DISTRICT
MASTER PLAN AND ACTION PLAYBOOK**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah recognize Savannah's history of planning, beginning with the town plan established by General James Oglethorpe in 1733, which has flourished for centuries and continues to evolve making Savannah one of the most unique places in all of North America, renowned for its beauty and walkability; and

WHEREAS, as the City of Savannah approaches the 300th anniversary of its founding and town plan, the Mayor and Aldermen celebrate planning as the foundation for our community's successes as well as a critical component in future decision making; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen recognize the Canal District as an area in Greater West Savannah bounded by Louisville Road, Boundary Street, I-16, Stiles Avenue and Magazine Street, which has been designated a Federal Opportunity Zone and a vulnerable low-wealth community; and

WHEREAS, the Canal District Master Plan includes two documents: the Master Plan focuses on the process, the vision and a physical plan for the Canal District, and the Action Playbook outlines collective actions that need to be implemented in an equitable and inclusive way to benefit all areas impacted by future development; and

WHEREAS, the Canal District Master Plan included an open and participatory community process with a series of public workshops and neighborhood engagement designed to protect communities by retaining historic structures, neighborhood features, and other community assets that speak to the history and culture of Greater West Savannah; is intended to rebuild natural assets and make them accessible to local residents so the Springfield Basin's wetlands and canals return to being a source of strength for the City and its activities; and to grow the City through sustainable and inclusive development that fills out reclaimed spaces through a new central system of paths, streets and parks; and

WHEREAS, the Canal District Master Plan seeks to coordinate actions and communication into a shared perspective, empowering Savannah residents and leadership to work together to implement the vision using short- and long-term strategies, provide accountability, and identify benefits of these actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah that the Canal District Master Plan and Action Playbook is hereby **ADOPTED** as it provides common ground by protecting historic communities, rebuilding nature, elevating civic life and allowing the City to grow, while providing new opportunities for residents of Greater West Savannah.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2020.

By: _____
Van R. Johnson II
Mayor

Attest:

Mark Massey
Clerk of Council