**RESOLUTION REGARDING**

**ST. PATRICK’S DAY CELEBRATION 2022**

 WHEREAS, in April 2021, Mayor Van. R. Johnson II established a stakeholder committee to review past practices and experiences associated with the City’s annual St. Patrick’s Day celebration; and

 WHEREAS, the committee was asked to issue recommendations intended to improve the experiences of residents, businesses, and visitors during the celebration; and

 WHEREAS, the committee was further tasked with ensuring its recommendations would enhance the familial, cultural, religious, and community aspects of the celebration, with an emphasis on promoting economic benefits to local businesses; and

 WHEREAS, after careful study and deliberation, the committee, comprised of the persons identified on Exhibit “A” hereto, determined that large groups of celebrants concentrated primarily in the downtown area, competition for food and alcohol sales between certain stakeholders, closure of businesses due to large and, at times, unruly crowds, large-scale entertainment competing with local businesses and local performers, party buses depositing intoxicated visitors who rarely invested in the local economy, and the concentration of heavily littered streets, were inconsistent with the atmosphere intended to be associated with the celebration; and

 WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the committee recommended implementation of measures designed to: (1) promote local businesses reaping financial benefits to the greatest extent possible; (2) expand the celebration among other of the City’s commercial corridors; (3) eliminate competition between on-street vendors and brick and mortar establishments with regard to food and alcohol sales; (4) allow local bars and restaurants to hire and manage their own entertainment for patrons; (5) eliminate the burden on the Savannah Police Department and Parking services divisions associated with managing the arrival and departure of motorcoaches; and (6) reduce the number of intoxicated individuals in the River Street and City Market areas; and

 WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen assign great weight to these recommendations and believe they will enhance the 2022 St. Patrick’s Day celebration for residents, businesses, and visitors and, therefore, wish to formally implement them, which requires certain modifications to the Festival Ordinance of 2013, effective during the 2022 St. Patrick’s Day celebration.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following provisions in the Festival Ordinance of 2013 during the pendency of the 2022 St. Patrick’s Day celebration shall be amended as follows:

 **Section 6-2422 Definitions.**

 **To Go Cup zone**: The area specifically designated and defined by the Mayor and Aldermen as the location where alcoholic beverages may be consumed on the public right-of-way on March 17th, Saint Patrick’s Day.

**6-2424. - Designation of a ~~festival area.~~ To Go Cup Zone**

1. Unless the mayor and aldermen specifically defines otherwise, the [to](http://online.encodeplus.com/regs/savannah-ga/doc-view.aspx?pn=0&ajax=0&secid=4429) go cup zone shall be that area bounded on the north by the Savannah River, on the west by the centerline of the Talmadge Memorial Bridge extended south on West Boundary Street ~~to Jones Street, on the south by Jones Street extended east to the railroad track, and on the east by a line extending north along the centerline of the railroad track to the Savannah River with such line being east of the Marriott Hotel.~~  to West Oglethorpe Avenue, extended east on West Oglethorpe Avenue to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, extended south on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to Victory Drive, and on the south by Victory Drive and extended east to the Truman Parkway, and on the east by Truman Parkway extending north to the Savannah River.
2. The City of Savannah will not issue any permits for private activities on the public rights-of-way, including but not limited to outdoor entertainment and alcohol sales, within the To Go Cup Zone.

**Sec.** **6-2426. - Restricting hours of alcohol sales and parking permits for out-of-town motorcoaches.**

1. ~~Within the~~[~~festival area~~](http://online.encodeplus.com/regs/savannah-ga/doc-view.aspx?pn=0&ajax=0&secid=4429)~~outdoor dispensing of~~[~~alcoholic beverages~~](http://online.encodeplus.com/regs/savannah-ga/doc-view.aspx?pn=0&ajax=0&secid=4431)~~under any permit or license will be permitted from 11:00 a.m. to 12 midnight only.~~ There shall be no outdoor dispensing of alcoholic beverages within the designated to go cup zone.

The City of Savannah will not issue any out-of-town motorcoach parking permits in the To Go Cup Zone during the period of time in which the Festival Ordinance has been enacted by the Mayor and Aldermen.  This provision does not apply to local transportation service companies that provide shuttle services.  These companies must register with the City of Savannah and will be required to provide, at a minimum, routes and pick up and drop off locations and times

 **ADOPTED AND EFFECTVE** this 24th day of February, 2022.

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 Van R. Johnson II

 Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mark Massey

Clerk of Council

**EXHIBIT “A”**

Saint Patrick’s Day Community Committee

Mark Dana 200 Club of the Coastal Empire

Joh Fogarty Saint Patrick’s Day Parade Committee

Marcie Hill City Market Associates

Joe Marinelli Visit Savannah

Tomeca McPherson Greater Savannah Black Chamber of Commerce

Julie Musselman Savannah Waterfront Association

Michael Owens Tourism Leadership Council

Kimberly Phillips City Market Associates Chamber of Commerce

Alfonso Ribot Metropolitan Savannah Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Jackie Schott Downtown Business Association

Moncello Stewart Greater Savannah Black Chamber of Commerce

Ansley Williams Savannah Waterfront Association

Supporting City Staff

Roy Minter SPD Police Chief

Derik Minard SFES Chief

Marty Johnston Mayor’s Office

Susan Broker Special Events, Film, and Tourism