RESOLUTION IMPOSING A TEMPORARY DELAY ON APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN HOTELS IN PORTIONS OF THE DOWNTOWN AREA

Whereas, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah wish to delay the processing of new applications to build large hotels in certain areas of Downtown Savannah in order to study the interaction of such hotels with the surrounding neighborhoods; and

Whereas, the Mayor and Aldermen have the discretion to impose a temporary delay on the processing of new applications to develop large hotels, provided that the delay is limited in scope, area of applicability and duration; and

Whereas, the City staff, working with the Metropolitan Planning Commission, has prepared a study on this issue, and has recommended certain zoning changes within the downtown area, and the Mayor and Aldermen find that time is needed in order to study, assess, review, consider, and determine the study, and to determine densities and locations for which it would be appropriate to build hotels in such area and to incorporate such densities and/or locations into ascertainable standards in the Code of Ordinances; and

Whereas, the Mayor and Aldermen deem it necessary and advisable to enact a resolution requiring a temporary delay in the processing of permits for large hotels, applicable to the portions of the City described below exclusively, during a limited period of time, to temporarily delay the acceptance or receipt of any new applications for zoning changes, building permits, Certificates of Appropriateness and other approvals from the Historic Board of Review, and other permits, licenses or variances needed for such development;

Now Therefore, be it resolved by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah that the City does hereby enact a resolution which imposes a delay in the processing of permits and applications, applicable to the specific areas of the City of Savannah defined below, for a period of 90 days, to bar acceptance or receipt by the City’s agencies and departments of any new applications for zoning changes, building permits, Certificates of Appropriateness and other approvals from the Historic Board of Review, and other permits, licenses or variances needed for development of new hotels within such area. The delay resolution is subject to the following conditions:

1. The area of the City to which such temporary delay shall apply shall be defined as follows:

   (a) Bounded on the North by Bay Street, East by East Broad Street, South by Liberty Street, and West by Lincoln Street.

   (b) Bounded on the North by Liberty Street, on the East by East Broad Street, on the South by Victory Drive, and on the West by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard.
2. Within the area, as defined above, the delay shall apply only to proposed hotel projects which will contain 55 or more rooms.

3. This resolution imposing a delay on certain applications shall not apply to any application filed by any property owner which has applied prior to this date for any permit, license, approval or variance which is required by the City, county or state government for development of a hotel which would otherwise be subject to this delay, on land within the designated area within which the resolution applies.

This delay resolution shall expire 90 days from the date of its adoption.

Approved, this 6th day of July, 2017.

__________________________________________

Eddie Deloach, Mayor

____________________________

Dyanne Reese, Clerk of Council