RESOLUTION IMPOSING TEMPORARY STAY ON ISSUANCE OF PACKAGE ALCOHOL LICENSES ON MONTGOMERY STREET

WHEREAS, the Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance of 2017 declares that, inter alia, the sale of alcoholic beverages is considered to be a privilege within the City of Savannah; and

WHEREAS, the Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance of 2017 was enacted for the purpose of establishing reasonable and ascertainable standards for the regulation and control of alcoholic beverages in a manner designed to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community while giving effect to zoning and land use plans, preserving the residential areas with reasonable consideration for their character and with the general intent of promoting desirable living conditions and sustaining the stability of neighborhoods and property values; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah have been presented with evidence of a proliferation of establishments possessing licenses to sell alcoholic beverages along a certain portion of the Montgomery Street corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah find that continued issuance of licenses to sell alcoholic beverages by the package along a certain portion of the Montgomery Street corridor presents a condition at variance with the purpose and intent of the Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance of 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah have instructed the City Manager to direct staff to research and propose revisions to the zoning code to address the issues associated with the continued issuance of licenses to sell alcoholic beverages by the package along Montgomery Street; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah wish to temporarily pause the processing of new applications for licenses to sell alcoholic beverages by the package to all real property facing Montgomery Street between the centerline of Victory Drive and the centerline of DeRenne Avenue to allow staff adequate time to research and propose zoning amendments; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen resolved on August 3, 2017 to temporarily pause, for a 90-day period, the processing of new applications for licenses to sell alcoholic beverages by the package to all real property facing Montgomery Street between the centerline of Victory Drive and the centerline of DeRenne Avenue to allow staff adequate time to research and propose zoning amendments; and

WHEREAS, staff has worked diligently and expeditiously to research and propose zoning amendments; however, additional time is needed to complete the review and recommendation process; and
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen deem it necessary and advisable to continue, for a limited time, the temporary stay on the processing of applications to sell alcoholic beverages by the package along that certain portion of the Montgomery Street corridor;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah that the City does hereby adopt a resolution which imposes a stay on the issuance of licenses to sell alcoholic beverages by the package to all real property facing Montgomery Street between the centerline of Victory Drive and the centerline of DeRenne Avenue for a period of 90 days. This resolution shall not apply to any person that has applied for a license to sell alcohol by the package prior to the date of the enactment of the original resolution, on August 3, 2017.

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

Approved, this 26th day of October, 2017.

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Eddie W. DeLoach, Mayor

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Clerk of Council