

## City of Savannah Mobility and Parking Services Request to Relocate Nina Pape Historical Marker

Aldermanic District 2, Alderman Detric Leggett

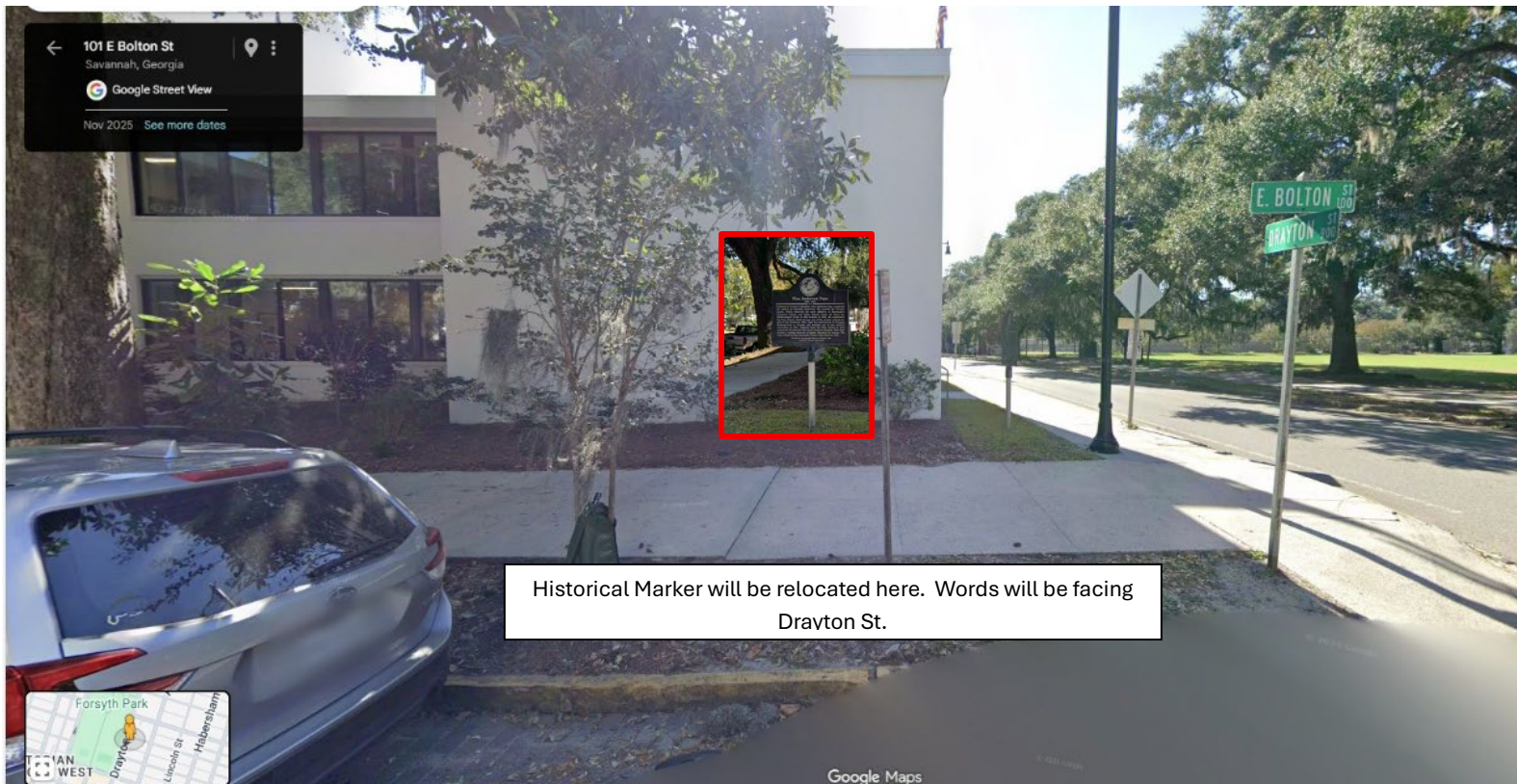
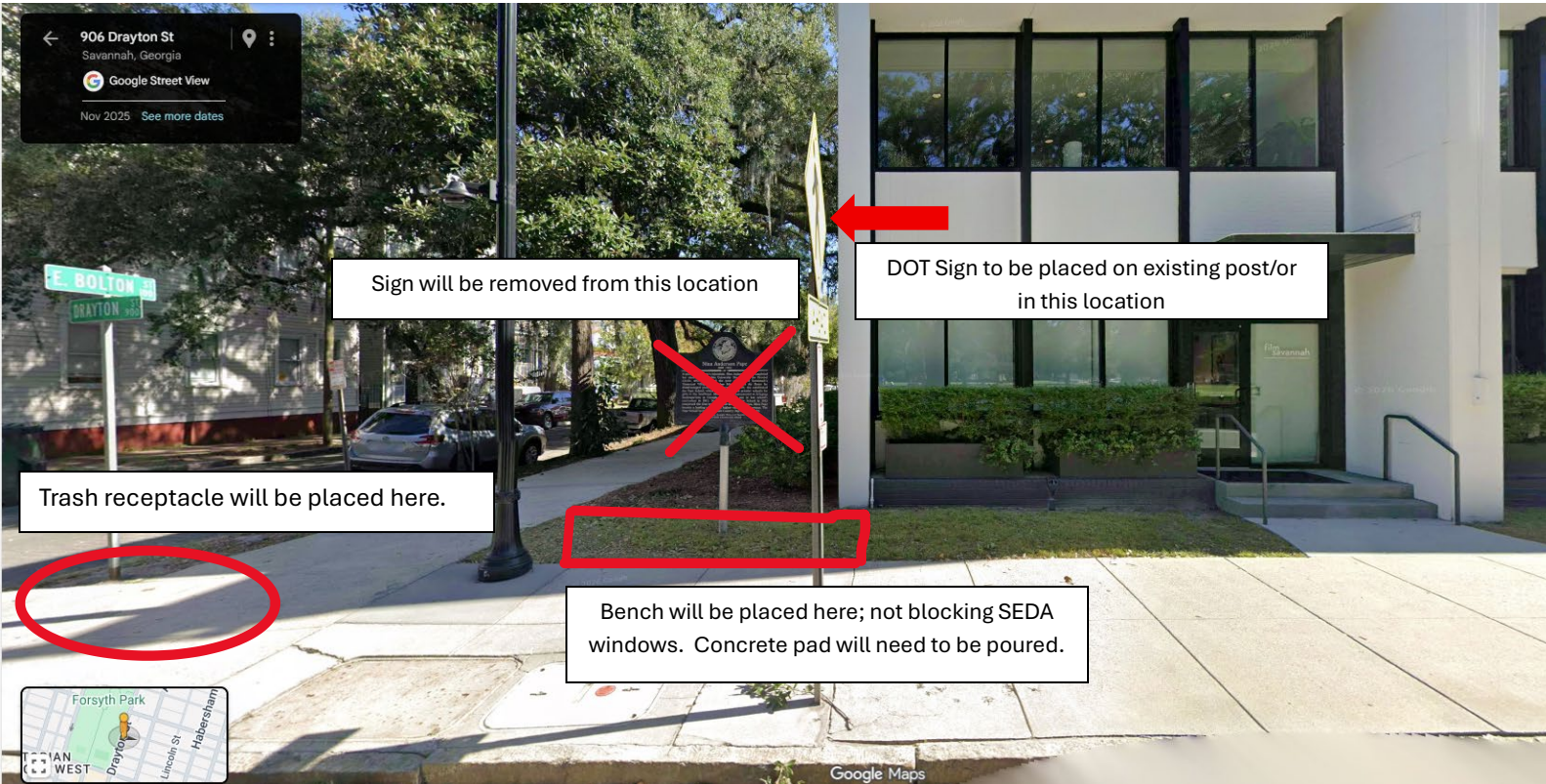
The City of Savannah's Mobility & Parking Department would like to relocate the Nina Anderson Pape historical marker that has been in front of the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) at 906 Drayton St. to another location on the same block, but on the Bolton St side of the SEDA building.

This relocation request is to make room for a DOT Shuttle Stop that will include a bench without a canopy, as shown in the attached pictures. The DOT shuttle stop is also part of a relocation petition from a homeowner at 812 Drayton Street. The City was asked to remove the stop from in front of the home. The initial request, received in 2022, was not granted. Over time, with continued petitions to remove or relocate the stop, the City agreed to look for a way to accommodate the request, eventually leading to a meeting with SEDA to discuss possible locations that would affect their building. City staff then contacted The Metropolitan Planning Commission (The MPC) and the Georgia Historical Society (GHS) for permission to relocate the Nina Anderson Pape historical marker. After being instructed to do so, City staff was granted a hearing by the Historic Site and Monument Commission (HSMC). City staff and SEDA have ultimately agreed to the DOT Shuttle stop being placed in front of the SEDA building with a bench and/or a shelter. The bench is to be installed by Chatham Area Transit (CAT) with the condition that neither the DOT stop nor the historical marker block any of the windows of the SEDA building.

Although not in the initial application, all parties agreed to the new location as shown in the attached pictures.

After receiving approval from the Georgia Historical Society (GHS) and the Savannah Chatham County Historic Site Monument Commission (HSMC), the City is requesting approval to relocate the Nina Anderson Pape historical marker to the corner of East Bolton Street, where the wording will still be facing Drayton Street and not be obscured from vision. Archeological review has been completed and utility locates will be called in on the new location if approval is granted. The estimated costs the Parking and Mobility Services will include,

- relocation of the historical marker \$1700.00
- concrete pad for bench \$1,000.00 - \$1500.00
- trash receptacle for DOT stop \$900.00
- archeological survey \$3,250.00





Sign will be in line with where the yellow curb line ends



Post will be in the middle of the lawn area. Parking and Municipal Archives conducted a site visit to confirm the marker would not be obstructed nor would it obstruct the sidewalk or windows and is visible from Drayton.



Draw

E BOLTON ST  
E BOLTON ST

DRAYTON ST  
DRAYTON ST

E BOLTON LN  
E BOLTON LN



Basemap Gallery Custom

E GWINNETT

DRAYTON ST  
DRAYTON ST

E BOLTON ST  
E BOLTON ST

ABERCORN ST  
ABERCORN ST



E BOLTON LN  
E BOLTON LN



Bench to be installed with no canopy by CAT



S A V A N N A H - C H A T H A M C O U N T Y  
HISTORIC SITE & MONUMENT COMMISSION

**Petitioner:** City of Savannah Mobility and Parking Services, Sean Brandon  
**File No.:** 25-005947 HM  
**Address:** 906 Drayton Street  
**PIN:** 20044 20012  
**Staff Reviewer:** Jodie Brown, AICP  
**Date:** January 8, 2026

**NATURE OF REQUEST:**

The applicant would like to relocate an extant historical marker currently in front of the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) building at 906 Drayton Street to another location on the same block, but still in front of the SEDA building. Relocation would make room for a Department of Transportation (DOT) shuttle stop bench or shelter.

**FINDINGS:**

The following standards from the Historic Site and Monument Commission Guidelines for Markers, Monuments and Public Art apply:

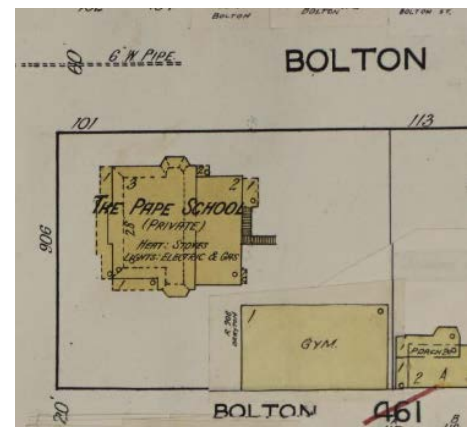
*Site in Relation to Theme for Markers or Monuments. The relationship between site and theme for a marker or monument is critical in determining the appropriate site for a particular theme.*

*Marker. A marker should be erected in as close proximity to the site to which it is related as possible and be clearly visible from a public right-of-way.*

*Markers commemorating a person should be sited where that person was born, lived, died, or performed some act of enduring significance or adjacent to the nearest public right-of-way.*

The historical marker for Nina Anderson Pape was placed at the location of the Pape School which she founded. The school was considered the premier school for females in the southeast. The school eventually became the Savannah Country Day School in the 1950s.

Per the Sanborn Map the Pape School, the school was located on the east side of Drayton Street between Bolton Street and Bolton Lane. Repositioning the marker elsewhere along the street frontage between Bolton Street and Lane would be appropriate as it maintains the marker within the school's original parcel.



***Evaluating Sites for Markers, Monuments, or Public Art.*** *Certain factors should be taken into consideration when evaluating whether a site is the appropriate location for a marker, monument or public art [hereto referred to as “object” to indicate the inclusion of all three types]. These factors include:*

*The installation of an object should not cause overcrowding of the site, if there are existing objects. Objects should be sited far enough away from other objects as to allow the visitor proper appreciation of each individually.*

The proposed location is within the small front setback. The current location is at the northwest corner of the parcel. The proposed location could be either at the middle of the parcel fronting on to Drayton or at the southwest corner of Drayton Street and Bolton Lane. While the middle of the parcel seems to be clear of any other type of signage, the southwest corner is busier. Signage for the building, a stop sign, palm tree and light post are all within or close to this location. The addition of a sign would just make this corner more crowded.

*The proposed object should not damage or disturb existing established vegetation on the site including low tree limbs, or significant tree roots.*

At the middle of the parcel, there is only grass and planters up against the building. At the southwest corner there is grass and a palm tree. Palm trees generally have a root ball close to the base of the tree. It does not have roots that spread out. If the marker is set slightly away from the base of the tree, there should be no impact at either location.

*The proposed object should not require the removal or alteration of existing above or below ground utilities.*

The City of Savannah staff are currently evaluating the proposed sites for the impact to utilities.

*The proposed site should not have a high probability of significant archaeology unless an archaeological study is part of the proposal.*

The proposed areas have been heavily disturbed, and it is unlikely that there are any archaeological sites at these locations. Additionally, the area of disturbance for the marker is limited.

*The installation of the object should not significantly affect automobile traffic sight lines.*

The proposed sites will not have any impact on traffic sight lines.

Staff Report – Historical Marker  
File No. – 25-005947 COA  
Address – 906 Drayton Street  
Date – January 8, 2026

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

**Staff recommends that the Savannah Historic Site and Monument Commission recommend APPROVAL to the Savannah City Council for the relocation of the Nina Anderson Pape Historical Marker at 906 Drayton Street AS REQUESTED because the work meets the standards within the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.**

**MW: CC: JB**

**Note: This recommendation could change subject to new information provided at the Historic Site and Monument Commission meetings. Decisions or recommendations will be made by the Historic Site and Monument Commission at the public hearing based on information provided at the meeting, as well as information submitted for the staff recommendation.**

**From:** [Breana James](#)  
**To:** [Kirra Fields](#)  
**Cc:** [Elyse Butler](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [Caution - External Email] Re: DOT Stop & Historical Marker Relocation  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 22, 2026 9:17:00 AM

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Good morning!

This is great news. Thank you for taking the extra steps to ensure we can orient the marker toward Drayton St. And thank you for the continued updates!

Best,  
Breana



**Breana James**  
*Program Manager*

**Savannah**  
104 W. Gaston Street | Savannah, GA 31401  
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One Baltimore Place NW, Suite G300 | Atlanta, GA 30308  
tel: 404.382.5410

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**From:** Kirra Fields <[KFields@Savannahga.Gov](mailto:KFields@Savannahga.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 21, 2026 3:47 PM  
**To:** Breana James <[bjames@georgiahistory.com](mailto:bjames@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Cc:** Elyse Butler <[EButler@georgiahistory.com](mailto:EButler@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [Caution - External Email] Re: DOT Stop & Historical Marker Relocation

Hi Breana!

We have determined that the below stipulations are achievable. I will keep you updated as we progress through this process.

Thank you!

Kind Regards,  
*Kirra Fields*  
Program Analyst  
City of Savannah Parking Services  
(912) 658-1122



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**From:** Breana James <[bjames@georgiahistory.com](mailto:bjames@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2026 2:56 PM  
**To:** Kirra Fields <[KFields@Savannahga.Gov](mailto:KFields@Savannahga.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Elyse Butler <[EButler@georgiahistory.com](mailto:EButler@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [Caution - External Email] Re: DOT Stop & Historical Marker Relocation

Hi, Kirra!

Did anyone have questions or concerns about the orientation of the marker to face Drayton Street? Happy to provide further information or explanation as needed.

Best,  
Breana



**Breana James**  
*Program Manager*

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**From:** Kirra Fields <[KFields@Savannahga.Gov](mailto:KFields@Savannahga.Gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 10, 2026 11:11 AM  
**To:** Breana James <[bjames@georgiahistory.com](mailto:bjames@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Cc:** Elyse Butler <[EButler@georgiahistory.com](mailto:EButler@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [Caution - External Email] Re: DOT Stop & Historical Marker Relocation

Thank you! I will forward this to the group for their responses.

Kind Regards,  
*Kirra Fields*  
Program Analyst  
City of Savannah Parking Services  
(912) 658-1122



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**From:** Breana James <[bjames@georgiahistory.com](mailto:bjames@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 10, 2026 9:46 AM  
**To:** Kirra Fields <[KFields@Savannahga.Gov](mailto:KFields@Savannahga.Gov)>  
**Cc:** Elyse Butler <[EButler@georgiahistory.com](mailto:EButler@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Subject:** [Caution - External Email] Re: DOT Stop & Historical Marker Relocation

Good morning, Kirra!

Great to hear from you, and that you've been able to come up with a proposed solution so quickly. Email works for getting this request, since this is not a new historical marker, but an existing one.

GHS approves of the proposed location on E. Bolton Street, on the condition that the historical marker plaque faces perpendicular to the road (facing Drayton Street), rather than the proposed parallel-facing position toward E. Bolton Street. Do you have any questions or concerns about that?

Thank you!  
Breana



**Breana James**  
*Program Manager*

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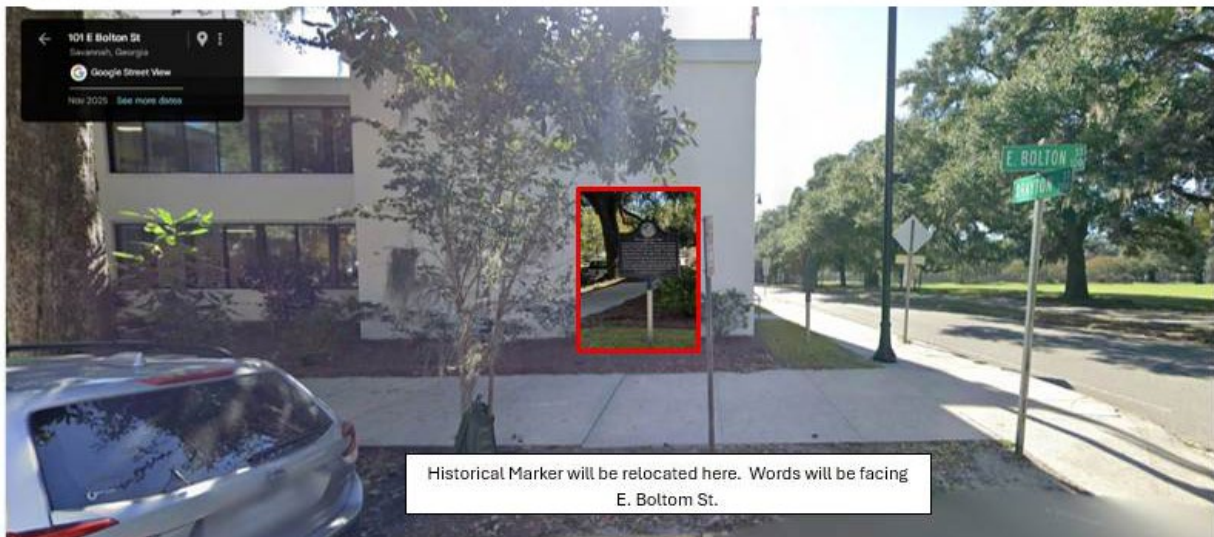
**From:** Kirra Fields <[KFields@Savannahga.Gov](mailto:KFields@Savannahga.Gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2026 3:47 PM  
**To:** Breana James <[bjames@georgiahistory.com](mailto:bjames@georgiahistory.com)>  
**Subject:** DOT Stop & Historical Marker Relocation

Good Afternoon Breana,

I hope all is well!

After meeting with SEDA, below is the new proposed relocation of the historical marker. I do know now that it will have to go to council for final approval. Does GHS have any objection to this proposal? Will we need to resubmit the application and go through the approval process again? Thank you!!



Kind Regards,  
*Kirra Fields*  
Program Analyst  
City of Savannah Parking Services  
(912) 658-1122



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