

**RESOLUTION IMPOSING TEMPORARY  
STAY ON ENFORCEMENT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY  
RESOURCE PROTECTION ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, the Archaeology Resource Protection Ordinance of 2019 declares that the City of Savannah shall identify and plan for the protection of the archaeological resources through archaeological review procedures for City ground disturbing projects; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance requires the City to conduct an archaeological assessment prior to ground disturbance activities undertaken by the City on public property when construction projects have a building footprint of 1,500 square feet or more, or when surplus public property is sold by the City; and

WHEREAS, the Archaeology Resource Protection Ordinance does not apply to private property; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah wish to temporarily pause the implementation of the Archaeology Resource Protection Ordinance for 120 days to allow staff time to engage qualified archaeologists or archaeological companies, as demanded by the Ordinance, through the development and evaluation of a Request for Proposals/Qualifications to conduct archaeology assessments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Savannah remains committed to facilitating further discussion with an archaeology working committee to determine additional steps that need to be taken to strengthen the Ordinance and provide additional opportunities to highlight this important facet of our history over the next 12 to 18 months; and

WHEREAS, with the appropriate implementation of the Archaeology Resource Protection Ordinance, which includes engagement of a duly qualified archeologist, the community will be better able to recognize our archaeological resources as well as understand and celebrate our community's unique and diverse history.

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 upon enforcement of the Archaeology Resource Protection Ordinance of 2019 for a period of 120 days.

This resolution shall expire 120 days from the date of its adoption.

Approved, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

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Van R. Johnson II  
Mayor

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Mark Massey  
Clerk of Council