

RESOLUTION CREATING A BACON PARK GOLF COURSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah (“City”) is committed to providing affordable and accessible recreation opportunities for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Bacon Park Golf Course (“BPGC”) has served as a longstanding community recreation asset since opening in 1926, designed by renowned golf course architect Donald J. Ross, and it is the only golf course owned by the City, making it a distinctive piece of Savannah’s recreational and golf heritage; and

WHEREAS, BPGC has served for more than five decades as the host site for the Savannah City Amateur Championship, attracting golfers and spectators alike to witness accomplished golfers such as Gene Sauers, a U.S. Senior Open champion, and Doug Hanzel, a U.S. Senior Amateur champion, as well as Savannah golf legend John Skeadas, Sr., who holds the record for the most City Amateur victories with six; and

WHEREAS, the course’s historic character has continued to draw generations of acclaimed golfers, including Savannah golf legends Hobart Manley and Hollis Stacy, a four-time major champion, who played together at the grand reopening of the improved Bacon Park Golf Course in 2014; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, the course has undergone significant restoration and reinvestment to preserve its historic character and improve the overall player experience; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure a thoughtful process to provide strategic guidance and expert insights, a Bacon Park Golf Course Advisory Committee (“Committee”), a volunteer task force, will temporarily be convened to assist the City in developing long-term operating recommendations for the BPGC with the goal of affordability and accessibility, including introducing youth to the game of golf, fostering the next generation of golfers through opportunity, inclusion, and mentorship; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager will select Committee members with expertise relevant to the stated mission and goals, such as City staff, the site operator, municipal golf course operators, and representatives of the local golf community, Savannah-Chatham County School System, Savannah State University, and;

WHEREAS, the Committee will offer independent perspectives and provide market, industry, and customer insights to help identify opportunities, risks, and emerging trends with the purpose of recommending a long-term operating solution for the course; and

WHEREAS, within six months, it is the intent that the Committee provide the City with a recommendation to include a five-to-ten-year solution to improve and operate the BPGC, explore philanthropic and sponsorship options that may help the BPGC’s visibility, resulting in the best use of the historic City-asset while preserving the intention of the Donald J. Ross historic design, and preserving the course as a stormwater asset; and

WHEREAS, it is the City’s intent that Bacon Park Golf Course remain a publicly owned and publicly accessible golf course, preserving this historic City asset as a place where residents, visitors, families, youth, and golfers of all backgrounds can continue to enjoy the game of golf for generations to come because in the City of Savannah, all means all; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, Georgia hereby resolve to create the Bacon Park Golf Course Advisory Committee as outlined herein and that the City Manager is authorized and directed to establish the Committee in order to bring the requested recommendations back to City Council.

Adopted this ____ day of September 2026.

Van R. Johnson, II, Mayor

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council