

CITY OF CLARKSTON

ITEM NO: F4

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HEARING TYPE:  
Council Meeting

BUSINESS AGENDA / MINUTES

ACTION TYPE:  
Resolution

MEETING DATE: December 6, 2016

**SUBJECT:** An Activating Resolution of the City of Clarkston, Georgia to Authorize the Urban Redevelopment Agency of the City of Clarkston to Transact Business and Exercise Powers under the Provisions of the Urban Redevelopment Laws; to determine the number and terms of office of the Board of Commissioners of the Urban Redevelopment Agency; to Repeal Conflicting Resolutions; to Provide for an Effective Date and for Other Purposes

DEPARTMENT: Administration

PUBLIC HEARING:  YES  NO

ATTACHMENT:  YES  NO  
Pages: 4

INFORMATION CONTACT: City Manager  
404-296-6489

**PURPOSE:** To Approve an Activating Resolution of the City of Clarkston, Georgia to Authorize the Urban Redevelopment Agency of the City of Clarkston to Transact Business and Exercise Powers under the Provisions of the Urban Redevelopment Laws; to determine the number and terms of office of the Board of Commissioners of the Urban Redevelopment Agency; to Repeal Conflicting Resolutions; to Provide for an Effective Date and for Other Purposes

**NEED/ IMPACT:** The Friendship Forrest Wildlife Sanctuary is a 17.8 acre former county park located ½ mile from the Clarkston central business district. Access to the area is gained from East Ponce de Leon which is the main thoroughfare in Clarkston. This potential regional asset has largely been underutilized due to its undeveloped condition and lack of visibility from the street. Beginning in July of 2015, the City of Clarkston began a series of public meetings designed to gain input regarding the redevelopment of this valuable greenspace. This community engagement effort culminated in the development of a "Master Plan" which was completed and submitted to the Clarkston City Council in January, 2016.

In order to obtain funding to implement the "Master Plan" the City of Clarkston will exercise its powers under the Urban Redevelopment Law. The Urban Redevelopment Law (Section 36-61-1, *et seq.* of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated ("O.C.G.A.)), as amended (the "Act"), creates in each municipality in the State of Georgia a public body corporate and politic to be known as the "urban redevelopment agency" of the municipality, for the purpose of exercising the "urban redevelopment project powers" of the municipality, as defined in the Act; and, it has been determined by the Mayor and City Council (the "Governing Body") of the City of Clarkston, Georgia (the "City"), pursuant to a resolution of the City adopted on October 6, 2015 (the "Necessity Resolution") that one or more areas that fit the definition described in O.C.G.A. Section 36-61-2(15) exist in the City (the "Redevelopment Areas") and that the rehabilitation, conservation, or redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of the Redevelopment Areas is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals, or welfare of the residents of the City.

It has been determined by the Governing Body pursuant to the Necessity Resolution that it is in the public interest and that there is a necessity for an urban redevelopment agency of the City of Clarkston to exercise the "urban redevelopment project powers" of the City, as defined in Section 36-61-17(b) of the Act.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the City Council vote to approve the attached Resolution adopting the Urban Redevelopment Plan of the City of Clarkston – Friendship Forest Wildlife Sanctuary.