

CITY OF CLARKSTON

ITEM NO: F5

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HEARING TYPE:
Council Meeting

BUSINESS AGENDA / MINUTES

ACTION TYPE:
Resolution

MEETING DATE: December 6, 2016

SUBJECT: A Resolution of the City of Clarkston, Georgia Designating Urban Redevelopment Area

DEPARTMENT: Administration

PUBLIC HEARING: YES NO

ATTACHMENT: YES NO
Pages: 4

INFORMATION CONTACT: City Manager
404-296-6489

PURPOSE:

To Approve a Resolution of the City of Clarkston, Georgia Designating Urban Redevelopment Area

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"), authorizes the City of Clarkston, Georgia (the "City") to designate an "urban redevelopment area," which is defined to mean a "pocket of blight" which the Mayor and City Council of the City the ("Governing Body") designates as appropriate for urban redevelopment projects, meaning an area which by reason of the presence of a substantial number of deteriorated or deteriorating structures; predominance of defective or inadequate street layout; faulty lot layout in relation to size, adequacy, accessibility, or usefulness; unsanitary or unsafe conditions, deterioration of site or other improvements; tax or special assessment delinquency exceeding the fair value of the land; the existence of conditions which endanger life or property by fire and other causes; by having development impaired by airport or transportation noise or by other environmental hazards; or any combination of such factors, substantially impairs or arrests the sound growth of a municipality or county, retards the provisions of housing accommodations, or constitutes an economic or social liability and is a menace to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare in its present condition and use; and

After careful study and investigation, the Governing Body desires to designate the area described in Exhibit A attached to this resolution (the "Redevelopment Area") as an urban redevelopment area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council vote to approve the attached Resolution of the City of Clarkston, Georgia Designating Friendship Forest as an Urban Redevelopment Area