

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON
CITY OF SOUTH FULTON**

**A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE TO RECOGNIZE
JUNE NINETEENTH ("JUNETEENTH") AS AN OFFICIAL CITY HOLIDAY AND FOR
OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES**

(Sponsored by Councilpersons khalid, Baker, Gilyard & Mayor Pro Tem Gumbs)

WHEREAS, the City of South Fulton ("City") is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia;

WHEREAS, the duly elected governing authority of the City is the Mayor and Council thereof ("City Council");

WHEREAS, the City wishes to celebrate the heritage of its African-American residents, a majority of which are descendants of African slaves;

WHEREAS, 2019 marks the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the "White Lion" Trading Ship which brought the first kidnapped Africans to America who would toil until their death as slaves, along with 12 generations of their children, whom for 246 years would also toil from birth to death as slaves;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of the sinful practice of legally-sanctioned slavery in the United States, dating back to June 19, 1865 where Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas to inform and liberate Africans still being held as slaves 2 years after the Civil War had ended;

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia currently recognizes two holidays: 1) the birthday of Confederate Army Commander Robert E. Lee on January 19 (also known as Confederate Heroes Day) and 2) Confederate Memorial Day on the 4th Monday in April commemorating the Confederate States or America, an illegal act of succession the State of Georgia actively participated in, including supporting a four-year long Civil War killing over 620,000 Americans to preserve the practice of legally enslaving African Americans;

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has made no formal apology or reparations to African slaves or their descendants for these actions, and created no holiday to commemorate the emancipation of its African-American citizens from slavery; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to safeguard and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of all citizens through the adoption of this Resolution.

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA, HEREBY
RESOLVES** as follows:

Section 1. June 19th is hereby declared “Juneteenth,” an official City holiday.

1. Observation of Holiday.

- a. **Observance.** The City shall observe June 19 as an official paid holiday on the days in which it falls on a regular scheduled workday between Monday and Friday. No non-mission critical City business shall be conducted on that day, except to facilitate the celebration or commemoration of the day. City employees who work on June 19 will receive holiday leave time banked as “holiday earned” at a rate of 1.0 for each hour actually worked on the holiday.
- b. **Allocation.** The City, annually, shall allocate One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) in the proposed annual budget for commemoration of the holiday.
- c. **Coordination.** The coordination of this annual commemoration shall be organized by the City’s Parks Department and/or Bureau of Cultural Affairs. The goal of City Council is to make the cost of the celebration revenue neutral by seeking community and corporate sponsors to help offset holiday costs. The City Communications Department shall promote the commemoration and the rationale behind the holiday as stated in this Resolution.
- d. **Personnel.** The City shall ensure sufficient public safety and administrative personnel are made available and compensated at the appropriate full-time or overtime rates to accommodate the celebration.

2. Local, State and Federal Encouragement. The City Council hereby encourages:

- a. Residents Business owners in the City and Georgia municipal, county and school board leaders to enact Juneteenth policies and resolutions for their employees and students; and
- b. State and Federal Leaders to adopt resolutions making Juneteenth an official holiday.

Section 2. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that: (a) All sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Resolution are or were,

upon their enactment, believed by the City Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

(b) To the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution. No section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution.

(c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Resolution shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the City Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the Resolution.

Section 3. The City Attorney and City Clerk are authorized to make non-substantive editing and renumbering revisions to this Resolution for proofing, codification, and supplementation purposes. The final version of all resolutions shall be filed with the City Clerk.

Section 4. The effective date of this Resolution shall be the date of adoption, unless provided otherwise by the City Charter or state and/or federal law.

The foregoing RESOLUTION No. 2020-_____, adopted on _____ was offered by Councilmember _____, who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by Councilmember _____, and being put to a vote, the result was as follows:

	AYE	NAY
William "Bill" Edwards, Mayor	_____	_____
Carmalitha Gumbs, Mayor Pro Tem	_____	_____
Catherine Foster Rowell	_____	_____
Helen Zenobia Willis	_____	_____
Gertrude Naeema Gilyard	_____	_____
Corey Reeves	_____	_____
khalid kamau	_____	_____
Mark Baker	_____	_____

THIS RESOLUTION adopted this _____ day of _____ 2020. **CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA**

WILLIAM "BILL" EDWARDS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

S. DIANE WHITE, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



EMILIA C. WALKER, CITY ATTORNEY