

1 **STATE OF GEORGIA**
2 **COUNTY OF FULTON**
3 **CITY OF SOUTH FULTON**

4
5 **A RESOLUTION TO MAKE ELIMINATING**
6 **RACIAL DISPARITIES AND INCOME INEQUALITY**
7 **PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF SOUTH FULTON**

8
9 **(Sponsored by Councilmembers khalid and Gilyard)**

10
11 *Plain Text Explanation: The City Council desires through this resolution to make*
12 *combating racial and income inequality a component in City Council's policymaking.*

13
14 **WHEREAS**, the City of South Fulton ("City") is a municipal corporation duly
15 organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia;

16
17 **WHEREAS**, the duly elected governing authority of the City is the Mayor and
18 Council thereof ("City Council");

19
20 **WHEREAS**, a primary purpose for the public collection of race, ethnicity and
21 income data is for enforcement and evaluation of laws prohibiting discrimination based
22 on race, ethnicity and income;

23
24 **WHEREAS**, in March 1968, a National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders,
25 known as the Kerner Commission, declared that bad policing practices, a flawed justice
26 system, unscrupulous consumer credit practices, poor or inadequate housing, high
27 unemployment, voter suppression, and other culturally embedded forms of racial
28 discrimination all converged to propel violent upheaval in predominantly African-American
29 neighborhoods across America;

30
31 **WHEREAS**, the Kerner Commission revealed that African-American students are
32 3.5 times more likely than their white classmates to be suspended or expelled, and racial
33 minorities and children with disabilities are disproportionately represented in the school-
34 to-prison pipeline;

35
36 **WHEREAS**, numerous studies have shown that: 1) Black and Hispanic
37 communities are exposed to higher proportions of air pollution, toxic waste sites, landfills,
38 lead poisoning, and other industrial complexes compared to white counterparts; 2) an
39 estimated 70% of contaminated waste sites are located in low-income neighborhoods,
40 and 3) an upwards of 2 million Americans live within a mile of sites that are vulnerable to
41 flooding — the majority of which are in Black and brown communities;

42
43 **WHEREAS**, according to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities' Gini Index of
44 the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) and reports by
45 Bloomberg and Brookings Institution, the Metropolitan Atlanta Area ranks number one in
46 income inequality for the past 4 years, and in the top 10 for income inequality amongst

47 American cities for over a decade, with the wealth gap between the Metro-Atlanta area's
48 richest and poorest growing;

49
50 **WHEREAS**, according to a 2016 report by the Brookings Institution, the net worth
51 of a typical white American family is nearly ten times greater than that of a Black family;

52
53 **WHEREAS**, according to the United States Census Bureau in the first quarter of
54 2020, 44 percent of black families owned their home, compared with 73.7 percent of white
55 families;

56
57 **WHEREAS**, in multiple studies, after accounting for all other factors, race and
58 ethnicity remain the most significant predictors of health, economic and criminal justice
59 outcomes; and family education and income remain the most significant predictor of
60 educational outcomes;

61
62 **WHEREAS**, the City Council desires through this resolution to make the
63 amelioration racial and income inequality a consideration in policymaking;

64
65 **WHEREAS**, this Resolution is in the best interests of the health, protection and
general welfare of the City, U.S. and world.

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

68
69 **Section 1.** As a matter of public policy, the City of South Fulton shall:

70
71 **1.** Assess internal policies and procedures to ensure racial and income equity is
72 a component of City policies.

73
74 **2.** Work to create an inclusive organization and identify specific activities to
75 decrease income inequality.

76
77 **3.** Incorporate inclusion and equity, and offer educational training to explain the
78 difference between equality and equity and expand employees' understanding of how
79 systemic racism affects people, particularly residents of South Fulton.

80
81 **4.** Advocate for policies that improve physical and mental health in communities of
82 color.

83
84 **5.** Encourage other local, state and national entities to recognize racism as a public
85 health crisis.

86
87 *****

88
89 **Section 2.** It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that: (a) All
90 sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Resolution are or were,

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

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

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

105
106 **Section 3.** The city attorney and city clerk are authorized to make non-substantive
107 editing and renumbering revisions to this Resolution for proofing, codification, and
108 supplementation purposes. The final version of all resolutions shall be filed with the city
109 clerk.

110
111 **Section 4.** The effective date of this Resolution shall be the date of adoption, unless
112 provided otherwise by the City Charter or state and/or federal law.

113
114