

## Lena Bonner

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**From:** DC Clark <drclark00@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2023 5:23 PM  
**To:** Lena Bonner; Bob Young  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Augusta Letters of Support (State Veterans Cemetery)  
**Attachments:** State Veteran Cemetery letter of support.pdf; Letter of Intent VC Demolition.doc; Augusta Commission Resolution.pdf

Mrs. Bonner

Per our conversation, we are requesting for the attached letters of support to be updated. All of the letters are essential in validating the city's support of erecting a State Veterans Cemetery in Augusta.

Attached documents:

Letter of Intent to Support Building Demolition  
Letter of Intenet to Support Road Widening  
Augusta Commission Resolution

If there is anything else you need please let me know. Thanks as always!

Don Clark  
Cell: (520) 234-1979

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OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Odie Donald, II  
Administrator

June 14, 2021

Frank Smith  
Deputy Executive Director  
270 Washington Street, SW  
Suite 2-129  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Email: [frank.smith@spc.ga.gov](mailto:frank.smith@spc.ga.gov)

RE: State Veteran Cemetery Construction/Building in Augusta, GA  
Letter of Support and Intent to Acceptance of Magnolia Drive

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing to express Augusta, Georgia's support and appreciation of the proposed State Veteran's Cemetery development for Richmond County. Richmond County, GA is the largest county in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) and home to Fort Gordon, Army Cyber Command's Headquarter, and the VA Hospital. The CSRA is also home to a large population of veterans and veteran facilities. This proposed project would serve as a much-needed amenity providing services to CSRA veterans and veterans at large.

Augusta, Georgia (City) intends to assist in providing access to the proposed facility's access road (Magnolia Drive) improvements and take ownership of Magnolia Drive from Tobacco Road to Cemetery Road as a part of the broader project. This assistance is conditioned upon the State of Georgia building the envisioned State Veteran's Cemetery at Gracewood and transferring the sixty (60) foot right-of-way as required under the guidelines of Augusta Engineering Department free of cost.

Again, on behalf of the Augusta Commission, I would like to express our community's collective appreciation and support of the State's commitment and continued efforts to help meet the needs of veterans and their families in Richmond County.

In Service,

Odie Donald II  
Administrator

Augusta-Richmond County  
Administrator's office  
535 Telfair Street, Suite 910  
Augusta, Georgia 30901  
Office (706) 821-2898 Fax (706) 821-2819  
[www.augustaga.gov](http://www.augustaga.gov)



**A RESOLUTION OF THE AUGUSTA COMMISSION  
IN SUPPORT OF A STATE VETERANS CEMETERY IN AUGUSTA**

WHEREAS, the Greater Augusta Area is home to 66,000 U. S. Military veterans, a population that is increasing each year, and

WHEREAS, Augusta, Georgia is home to over 21,859 United States Military veterans, and

WHEREAS, these veterans, their spouses and eligible dependent children each face the decision at life's end of where to lay their family member in eternal rest, and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration through an annual grant program makes funds available for states to construct veterans cemeteries to provide an affordable option for veterans to be buried among fellow veterans, and

WHEREAS, the current locations of State and National Cemeteries require family members in the Greater Augusta Area to spend a substantial amount of time traveling to and from these locations to visit the grave site of their loved ones, and

WHEREAS, local veterans have expressed their support for the State of Georgia to establish a veterans cemetery in Augusta, Georgia to service the substantial veterans population in East Central Georgia, and

WHEREAS, the government of Augusta, Georgia has pledged whatever support is necessary to host a state veterans cemetery,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Augusta, Georgia does hereby endorse the proposal to establish a State Veterans Cemetery in Augusta, Georgia, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Augusta, Georgia calls upon the Georgia Department of Veterans Services to pursue an application to the Veterans Administration for a construction grant, and that the Governor and members of the Georgia General Assembly support such a move.

This 15 day of OCTober 2019.

  
Hardie Davis Jr., Mayor

  
Attest: Lena J. Bonner, Clerk of Commission





OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Odie Donald, II MBA  
Administrator

July 27, 2021

Frank Smith  
Deputy Executive Director  
270 Washington Street, SW  
Suite 2-129  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Email: frank.smith@spc.ga.gov

RE: State Veteran Cemetery Construction/Building in Augusta, GA  
Letter of Intent to support Buildings Demolition

Dear Mr. Smith:

Please accept this correspondence a supplemental letter of support augmenting the previously submitted letter from the Augusta, Georgia government dated June 14, 2021. By way of this correspondence, the city of Augusta expresses continued support for the proposed State Veteran's Cemetery development for the benefit of Richmond County (Project). It is the City's understanding that if the construction of the project is approved, the existing buildings would need to be removed prior to commencement of the project. With that knowledge, the City commits to demolish designated buildings within the proposed limits of the project. This commitment is conditioned upon the State of Georgia's commitment to building the envisioned State Veteran Cemetery at Gracewood.

Again, on behalf of the Augusta Commission, I would like to express our community's collective appreciation and support of the State's continued efforts to meet the needs of veterans and their families in Richmond County.

In Service,

Odie Donald II  
Administrator

Augusta-Richmond County  
Municipal Building  
Administrator's office  
535 Telfair Street, Suite 910  
Augusta, Georgia 30901  
Office (706) 821-2504 Fax (706) 821-2819  
[www.augustaga.gov](http://www.augustaga.gov)

CALLED MEETING

COMMISSION CHAMBER

July 27, 2021

Augusta Richmond County Commission convened at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 27, 2021, the Honorable Hardie Davis, Jr., Mayor, presiding.

PRESENT: Hons. B. Williams, Garrett, Sias, Johnson, Frantom, Scott, McKnight, D. Williams, Hasan and Clarke, members of Augusta Richmond County Commission.

Mr. Mayor: Good afternoon. We'll call this meeting to order. The Chair recognizes Attorney Brown.

**1. LEGAL MEETING**

**A. Pending and potential litigation**

**B. Real estate**

**C. Personnel**

**Mr. Brown: Good morning, Mayor and Commissioners. We request a motion to go into executive session for the discussion of pending or potential litigation, real estate and personnel.**

**Mr. B. Williams: So move.**

Mr. D. Williams: Second.

Mr. Mayor: The Chair recognizes the Mayor Pro Tem.

Mr. B. Williams: For the motion?

Mr. Mayor: Yes, sir.

Mr. B. Williams: So move.

Mr. D. Williams: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Okay. Voting.

Mr. B. Williams: We're going to be serious today? All right.

**Mr. Frantom out.**

**Motion carries 9-0.**

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

Mr. Mayor: Thank you. All right, we'll convene. The Chair recognizes Attorney Brown.



Mr. Mayor: The Chair recognizes the commissioner from the 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Sias: So move.**

Mr. B. Williams: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Voting.

**Ms. McKnight, Mr. Frantom and Mr. Garrett voting No.  
Motion carries 7-3.**

Mr. Mayor: The Chair recognizes the Administrator for the reading of a motion.

**Mr. Donald: Motion to approve a salary adjustment to Mr. Frank Ross from \$28,028.30 to \$32,389.00 reflecting a change in job title from Administrative Assistant I to Public Information Assistant.**

Mr. Mayor: The Chair recognizes the commissioner from the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Ms. McKnight: So move.**

Mr. Sias: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Voting.

**Motion carries 10-0.**

Mr. Mayor: The Chair recognizes the Administrator for the reading of a final motion.

**Mr. Donald: Motion to authorize the Administrator to provide a supplemental letter of support to the State Properties Commission committing Augusta to remove and demolish designated buildings within the proposed limits of the project contingent upon the project area contingent upon state approval of the award of a State Veterans Cemetery at Gracewood.**

Mr. Mayor: The Chair recognizes the commissioner from the 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Garrett: So move.**

Mr. Sias: Second.

Ms. McKnight: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Voting.

**Motion carries 10-0.**