

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF CLAYTON

**ORDINANCE 2025-\_\_**

1       AN ORDINANCE BY MAYOR ANGELYNE BUTLER AND CITY  
2 COUNCILMEMBERS KIMBERLY JAMES, DELORES A. GUNN, HECTOR GUTIERREZ,  
3 LATRESA AKINS-WELLS, AND ALLAN MEARS OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK,  
4 GEORGIA TO AMEND ARTICLE E (RESERVED) WITHIN CHAPTER 1 (MAYOR AND  
5 COUNCIL) OF TITLE 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) IN THE CITY’S CODE OF  
6 ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE  
7 DATE; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

8       **WHEREAS**, the duly elected governing authority of the City of Forest Park, Georgia  
9 (“City”) is the Mayor and City Council thereof; and

10       **WHEREAS**, the City is authorized pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-35-3 to adopt ordinances  
11 relating to its property, affairs, and local government; and

12       **WHEREAS**, the City desires to establish restricted ward fund accounts for each elected  
13 official to be used for lawful expenditures on public services, projects, and capital expenditures  
14 within their respective wards or the City at large, which are outside the scope of regular office  
15 expenses; and

16       **WHEREAS**, the amendments contained herein would benefit the health, safety, morals,  
17 and welfare of the citizens of the City of Forest Park, Georgia.

18       **Section 1.** Title 2 (“General Government”), Chapter 1 (“Mayor and Council”), Article E  
19 (“Reserved”) of the City’s Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by deleting the text within the

Article in its entirety and adding text to be read and codified as set forth in **Exhibit A** attached hereto and incorporated herein.

**Section 2.** The preamble of this Ordinance shall be considered to be and is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein.

**Section 3.** (a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are or were, upon their enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable, and constitutional.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, no section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.

(c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance 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 Mayor and 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 Ordinance and that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of the Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and effect.

43           **Section 4.** This Ordinance shall be codified in a manner consistent with the laws of the  
44 State of Georgia and the City.

45           **Section 5.** All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly  
46 repealed.

47           **Section 6.** The effective date of this Ordinance shall be the date of adoption unless  
48 otherwise stated herein.

49           **Section 7.** The City Clerk, with the concurrence of the City Attorney, is authorized to  
50 correct any scrivener's errors found in this Ordinance, including any exhibits, as enacted.

51           **SO ORDAINED** this 7th day of July 2025.

**CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angelyne Butler, *Mayor*

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_ (SEAL)  
*City Clerk*

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City Attorney*

## EXHIBIT A

### TITLE 2 – GENERAL GOVERNMENT

#### CHAPTER 1. – MAYOR AND COUNCIL

[...]

#### Article E. – Ward Fund Accounts for Mayor and Council

##### Sec. 2-1-41. – Regular Ward Fund Account.

(a) *Purpose.* There is hereby a restricted discretionary regular ward fund account (“Regular Ward Fund Account”) for each elected official to be used for lawful expenditures on public services or projects within their respective wards or the City at large, which are outside the scope of regular office expenses. The elected official shall have the discretion to determine the specific public service or project on which to use the funds from the Regular Ward Fund Account within the restrictions outlined in this Section.

(b) *Monetary Limitations.* The funds in each elected official’s Regular Ward Fund Account shall be determined annually as a part of the required municipal annual budget approval.

(c) *Permitted Uses of Regular Ward Fund Accounts.* An elected official may appropriately use the fund from his/her Regular Ward Fund Account for expenditures for which the City can lawfully incur. By way of example, permitted uses of the Regular Ward Fund Accounts include, but are not limited to, services or projects benefitting the following public purposes:

- (1) Costs associated with keeping constituents informed of official City business (i.e., newsletters, postage, stationary, etc.);
- (2) Costs associated with member-sponsored City meetings/events such as town hall events, field hearings, or commemorative events so long as such events are open to the public;
- (3) Programs for City recreational areas;
- (4) Aesthetics, cleanliness, and beautification of the City.

##### Sec. 2-1-42. – Capital Ward Fund Account.

(a) *Purpose.* There is hereby a restricted discretionary capital ward fund account (“Capital Ward Fund Account”) for each elected official to be used for lawful Capital Expenditures within their respective wards or the City at large, which are outside the scope of regular office expenses.

(b) *Definition of Capital Expenditure.* For purposes of this Section, the definition of a Capital Expenditure is funds spent maintaining fixed assets, such as land, buildings, and equipment used for public projects.

(c) *Monetary Limitations.* The funds in each elected official's Capital Ward Fund Account shall be determined annually as a part of the required municipal annual budget approval.

(d) *Permitted Uses of Capital Ward Fund Accounts.* An elected official may appropriately use the fund from his/her Capital Ward Fund Account for Capital Expenditures for which the City can lawfully incur. By way of example, permitted uses of the Capital Ward Fund Accounts include, but are not limited to, the following Capital Expenditures:

(1) Street and road construction and maintenance, including curbs, sidewalks, streetlights, and devices to control the flow of traffic on streets and roads constructed by counties and municipalities or any combination thereof;

(2) Facilities and equipment for City parks and recreational areas;

(3) Libraries, archives, and arts and sciences facilities;

(4) Certain real estate costs on behalf of the City including title reports, appraisals, or surveys; or

Sec. 2-1-43. Non-Permitted Uses of Regular Ward Fund Accounts and Capital Ward Fund Accounts.

Funds within Regular Ward Fund Accounts and/or Capital Ward Fund Accounts shall not be used in a manner that would constitute an illegal gratuity under the Georgia Constitution as the City must receive some benefit in return for the expenditure. Non-permitted uses include, but are not limited to:

(1) Charitable Donations;

(2) Gifts;

(3) Personal Use;

(4) Campaign expenses or related campaign events;

(5) Expenses or reimbursement for expenses incurred in carrying out official duties;

(6) Alcohol; or

- 113 (7) Any purpose that does not substantially benefit the City.
- 114 Sec. 2-1-44. Procedure Regarding Regular Ward Fund Accounts and Capital Ward Fund Accounts.
- 115 (a) Requests to utilize funds from the Regular Ward Fund Accounts and/or the Capital Ward  
116 Fund Accounts shall be submitted by the elected official in writing to the Finance Director  
117 and the City Manager and shall include: (i) the monetary amount for withdrawal; (ii) the  
118 specific service or project for which the funds will be used; and (iii) a description of how  
119 the public service or project will substantially benefit the City.
- 120 (b) To avoid any appearance of impropriety, the following must be adhered to for the Finance  
121 Director and City Manager to review any request: (i) all check requests must be  
122 accompanied with receipts (for reimbursements) or a proper invoice (for advance  
123 payments); (ii) for certain expenditures involving cooperative relationships with local  
124 governmental entities, an intergovernmental agreement vetted by the City Attorney must  
125 be utilized to memorialize the terms of the relationship; and (iii) all requests must follow  
126 all procurement policies and procedures and all City ordinances. Any requests for cash  
127 advances of ward funds, purchases of gift cards, or similar financial items are prohibited  
128 and shall not be reviewed by the Finance Director and City Manager.
- 129 (c) The Finance Director and City Manager shall review all requests to ensure the use of the  
130 funds are authorized and to ensure there are sufficient funds in the Regular Ward Fund  
131 Account or Capital Ward Fund Account for withdrawal. Any question as to whether the  
132 intended use is legally permissible shall be submitted to the City Attorney for review and  
133 approval prior to withdrawal and disbursement.
- 134 Secs. 2-1-45 – 2-1-90. – Reserved.