

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF CLAYTON**

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-____

1 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK BY
2 AMENDING ARTICLE II (GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE), PART 1 (COUNCIL
3 COMPOSITION), SECTION 2.15 (INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATIONS); TO PROVIDE FOR
4 SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN
5 ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER
6 LAWFUL PURPOSES.

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

9 **WHEREAS**, the City desires to amend its Charter by home rule ordinance; and

10 **WHEREAS**, a synopsis of this Ordinance shall be advertised once per week for three (3)
11 weeks within sixty (60) days preceding the final adoption of this Ordinance, in accordance with
12 Section 36-35-3(b)(1) of the Official Code of Georgia, in a newspaper of general circulation on
13 August 6, 2025, August 13, 2025, and August 20, 2025; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the notice of the adoption of this Ordinance provides that a copy of the
15 proposed ordinance shall be available for inspection in the Office of the Forest Park City Clerk
16 and the Office of the Clayton County Superior Court Clerk, in accordance with Section 36-35-
17 3(b)(1) of the Official Code of Georgia, and a copy of the proposed ordinance shall be placed in
18 said locations; and

19 **WHEREAS**, this Ordinance shall be considered at two (2) consecutive public meetings,
20 no less than seven (7) and no more than sixty (60) days apart, in accordance with Section 36-35-

3(b)(1) of the Official Code of Georgia, with public meetings held on September 2, 2025 and September 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the amendments contained herein will benefit the health, safety, morals, and welfare of the citizens of the City.

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA THAT, and by the authority thereof:

Section 1. Section 2.15 (“Inquiries and Investigations”) of Article II (“Governmental Structure”) of the Charter of the City of Forest Park, Georgia is hereby amended with permanent additions in **bold** font and permanent deletions in ~~striketrough~~ font to be read and codified as set forth below:

“Sec. 2.15. - Inquiries and investigations.

The city council may make inquiries and investigations into the affairs of the city and the conduct of any department, office or agency thereof, and for this purpose may subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony, and require the production of evidence. Any person who fails or refuses to obey a lawful order issued in the exercise of these powers by the city council shall be punished as provided by ordinance. ~~The mayor and council members may individually make inquiries of any city employee concerning the operations of the city.”~~

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. This Ordinance shall be codified in a manner consistent with the laws of the State of Georgia and the City.

43 **Section 4.** (a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all

44 sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are or were, upon their
45 enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

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

53 (c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance
54 shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable
55 by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of
56 the Mayor and Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the
57 greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any
58 of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the Ordinance and that, to
59 the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and
60 sections of the Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and
61 effect.

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

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

66 **ORDAINED** this 15th day of September, 2025.

CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA

Angelyne Butler, *Mayor*

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney