



Ratification
Number _____

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE ORDERING A REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE CITY OF CHARLESTON SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$70,000,000 TO DEFRAY THE COST OF PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE CITY OF CHARLESTON AS SET FORTH IN THE CHARLESTON PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Municipal Bond Act adopted by the South Carolina General Assembly and codified as Sections 5-21-210 to 5-21-500 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended authorizes the City Council of the City of Charleston to issue general obligation bonds of the City of Charleston for any corporate purpose:

WHEREAS, the provisions of Section 14 of Article X of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina, and Section 11-27-40 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, and the decision of the Supreme Court of South Carolina in Hanna v. City of Florence, 273 S.C. 670, 258 SE^{2d} 500 (1979), permit the question of the issuance of general obligation bonds of the municipality to be submitted to the qualified electors of the municipality:

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Charleston has determined that the question of the issuance of general obligation bonds in the aggregate amount of not to exceed \$70,000,000 in one or more series to defray the cost of parks and recreation capital improvement projects in the City of Charleston in order to implement the Charleston Parks and Recreation Master Plan should be presented to the electorate of the City of Charleston; and

WHEREAS, the annual debt service payments on such general obligation bonds will be made by

the City of Charleston using the *ad valorem* taxes resulting from the additional mills levied by the City of Charleston for such purposes;

WHEREAS, it is intended that the referendum be placed on the ballot during the November 7, 2023 general election which is the first general election following the approval of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the referendum language shall be substantially as follows:

REFERENDUM QUESTION

CITY OF CHARLESTON GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR PARKS, POOLS, PLAYGROUNDS, TRAILS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

"For the purpose of improving and creating parks, pools, playgrounds, trails and recreation facilities, shall the City of Charleston be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$70 million for capital improvement projects throughout the City to implement the Charleston Parks and Recreation Master Plan: the proceeds from the bonds will be used to fund the following projects:

- *McMahon Playground and Corrine Jones Playground - park upgrades and renovations;*
- *W. L. Stevens Aquatic Center at Forest Park - redevelopment of a new year-round aquatic center, indoor community space, fields, and other improvements;*
- *Bear Swamp Park serving the West Ashley and Johns Island area - master plan for passive park space and phase I recreational fields construction;*
- *Johns Island Recreation Center and Aquatic Facility - master plan and construction;*
- *James Island Recreation Complex - improvements to pool and recreation complex;*
- *Dill Tract Recreation Complex on James Island - master plan and phase I construction;*
- *Daniel Island and Cainhoy Peninsula - acquisition of land and construction of new and improved fields and recreational facilities;*
- *Bees Landing Recreation Center in West Ashley Facility - Phase 2 planning for addition of 25-meter pool;*
- *Improvements to existing playing fields, walking and biking trails, and tennis, pickleball and basketball courts;*
- *Any remaining city-wide parks and recreation projects identified by the Charleston Parks and Recreation Master Plan.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Councilmembers of the Charleston, in Council assembled, that a referendum as described herein be placed on the ballot at the first opportunity following the approval of this Ordinance.

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON FINAL READING.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023.

CITY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

By: _____
John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

Attest:

By: _____
Jennifer B. Cook, Clerk to City Council