

**A RESOLUTION FOR A "CAMP ROAD GRAND TREES PRESERVATION PROJECT" TO COMMIT TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND FUNDING, RESOURCES AND STAFF OVERSIGHT TO TREE PRUNING AND TREE CARE ON CAMP ROAD BETWEEN DILLS BLUFF ROAD AND FORT JOHNSON ROAD**

**WHEREAS**, over 50% of the portion of Camp Road between Dills Bluff Road and Fort Johnson Road lies within the Town of James Island borders; and

**WHEREAS**, all of Camp Road, including that portion between Dills Bluff Road and Fort Johnson Road is also a South Carolina state road maintained by the SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT); and

**WHEREAS**, the portion of Camp Road between Dills Bluff Road and Fort Johnson Road has located upon its public right-of-way more than two dozen grand trees protected by the Town of James Island and by the City of Charleston's grand tree ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these trees are dated at over 100 years old and are in need of pruning, care and vines removal as soon as possible to improve their overall health and life spans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of James Island's goal in the "Camp Road Grand Trees Preservation Project" is to prune, care for, remove vines, and treat for disease if necessary to prolong the life spans of grand trees along this corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, three (3) of the grand trees in this location have been rated as "Poor" by at least two board certified master arborists and may need to be removed for safety reasons at some future date; and


**WHEREAS**, the Town of James Island is designated as a "Tree City USA", has a Tree Advisory Council and greatly values the ecological importance, scenic beauty and historical nature of James Island trees and seeks to care for trees and also to replace any grand trees that may be removed due to "Poor" ratings by two or more board certified master arborists.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that:

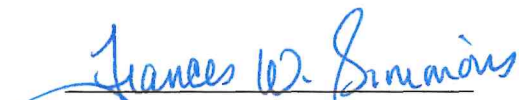
- (1) The Town of James Island will institute and establish a "Camp Road Grand Trees Preservation Project" beginning on March 17, 2023.
- (2) The Town of James Island will direct funding and resources beginning on March 16, 2023 to the care, pruning, vines removal and treatment of disease for grand trees located on the public right-of-way between Dills Bluff Road and Fort Johnson Road, except those grand trees rated as "Poor" by two or more board certified master arborists, with reports of their ratings being provided to Town Council.

- (3) To accomplish this project, funds shall be made available on an ongoing basis from the Town of James Island's 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 annual budgets, by hiring one or more reputable, experienced, insured tree company to prune, care for and treat these grand trees beginning in April 2023 until the grand trees not rated as "Poor" by two or more board certified master arborists are pruned and cared for.
- (4) The Town Administrator shall report to Town Council monthly at town council meetings as part of her administrator's report beginning April 2023 on the progress of the "Camp Road Grand Trees Preservation Project" and bring monthly to Town Council if necessary any request for funding necessary to accomplish this project.
- (5) If it is determined by at least two board certified master arborists that any grand tree in this vicinity should need to be removed due to rating or condition, the Town Administrator shall bring this information and request to Town Council for discussion and a determination before contacting SCDOT or any other entity to remove any grand tree.
- (6) The Town of James Island shall hold a public ceremony in recognition of the completion of the "Camp Road Grand Trees Preservation Project" prior to the commencement of any future adjacent Charleston County intersection project.
- (7) If any grand tree rated as "Poor" by two or more board certified master arborists is removed along this section of Camp Road, as part of this project a live oak tree will be planted by the Town of James Island to replace the removed tree somewhere in the vicinity using TOJI funding.
- (8) If the SCDOT or Charleston County determines that any grand tree on this section of Camp Road is not protected by the Town's grand tree ordinance and advises or requests its removal for any reason, town staff shall bring this information to Town Council for information with at least two (2) board-certified master arborist reports before any grand tree removal is undertaken by any agency, not including any grand tree/s already addressed in a ruling by the Town's Board of Zoning Appeals.

Adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

  
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Bill Woolsey, Mayor

ATTEST

  
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Frances Simmons, Town Clerk