

CITY OF Savannah

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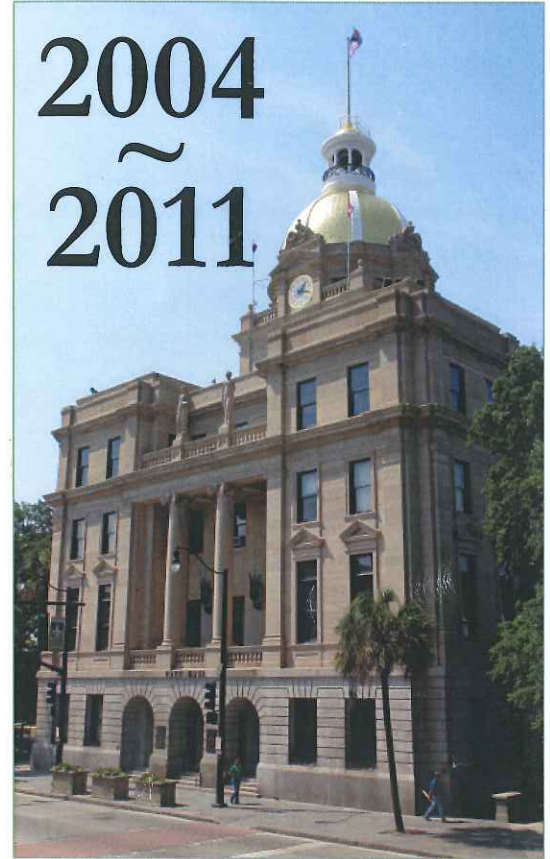
October 26, 2011

TOWN HALL MEETING

2004 - 2011 REVIEW

GETTING IT DONE

2004 ~ 2011



In the spring of 2004, Mayor Otis Johnson stood in this very room, and declared that the City of Savannah would start a new process of engaging the public and reporting to citizens whether progress was being made on things that mattered most to the community. Johnson and his fellow City Council members decided on a list of key priorities that would become the focus for Savannah City Government. Every quarter, the City Manager would hold a Town Hall Meeting and report back to the community on whether goals were being met in each priority.

Eight years later, we now find ourselves at the 32nd consecutive Town Hall Meeting held by your Savannah City Council. The City has reported the good and the bad at these meetings. New initiatives have been launched, and our successes and failures have been displayed for all of Savannah to see. The public has taken full advantage of this opportunity to directly engage their City leadership. Complaints have been registered, compliments have been issued and ideas have been introduced. Staff has followed up on every issue raised, and reported back findings at the following quarterly event.

Your Government has been busy over the past eight years. What follows is a brief list of major projects completed since that first Town Hall Meeting in the spring of 2004.

PRIORITY: Neighborhood Vitality

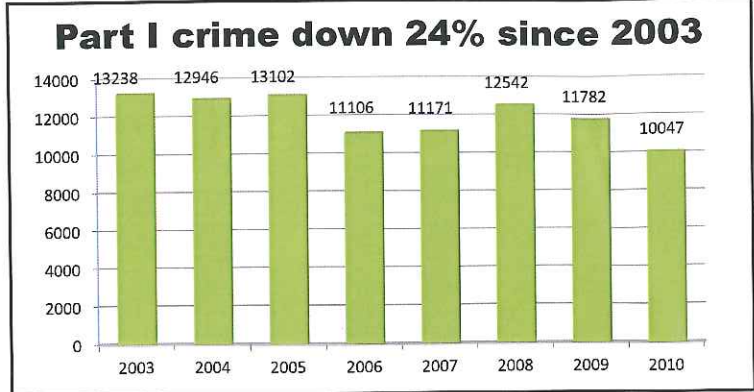


- 2004 Initiated War on Blight
- 2004 West Savannah Revitalization
- 2005 Benjamin Van Clark Revitalization
- 2005 Ashley Midtown Affordable Housing
- 2006 Feiler Park Revitalization
- 2006 Montgomery Landings Affordable Housing Project
- 2007 W. W. Law Community Center
- 2007 Cell Tower Ordinance
- 2008 Derelict Landlord Ordinance
- 2009 Sustainable Fellwood Phase I
- 2010 Strathmore Revitalization
- 2010 Savannah Gardens Affordable Housing
- 2011 MLK, Jr. Blvd. Streetscape

LEFT: The W.W. Law Community Center expansion included upgrades to the existing interiors, an additional 4,200 sq. ft. of new space, and a new standing seam metal roof over the entire 19,000 sq. ft. Community Center. The new space allows for added meeting space, activities and large community events. It also made the facility, including the restrooms, handicap accessible.

PRIORITY: Public Safety

- 2003 - Present Dramatic Increase in Police Technology
- 2003 - Present Construction of 3 New Fire Stations
- 2003 - 2011 Part I Crime Down 24%
- 2006 Under Age Drinking Ordinance
- 2007 Police Starting Pay Increased to Highest in Southeast
- 2008 Parental Support & Responsibility Ordinance
- 2008 Hybrid Establishment
- 2010 Alcohol Server Registration
- 2011 Installed Georgia's Largest Emergency Traffic Light Pre-emption System



RIGHT: Fire Station 11 opened in July of 2011 at 11844 Apache Avenue.



PRIORITY: High-Performing Government



- 2004 311 Call Center Established
- 2004 First Public State of the City Addresses
- 2004 - Present 32 Straight Quarterly Town Hall Meetings
- 2004 - Present Property Tax Rate Reduced 6%
- 2004 Savannah Youth Council Created
- 2009 - Present 2,300 Handicapped Accessible Ramps Installed
- 2010 Creation of Dot Downtown Transportation System
- 2010 Lowest Combined Water & Sewer Rates in Georgia

ABOVE LEFT: Mayor Johnson addresses residents during Quarterly Town Hall Meeting.
 ABOVE RIGHT: Dot System bus near City Market.
 BELOW: 311 Call Center Customer Service Representative



PRIORITY: Economic Growth & Poverty Reduction

- 2003 Relaunch of Savannah Entrepreneurial Center
- 2004 Opening of Liberty Street Garage
- 2005 Creation of Step-Up Savannah Poverty Reduction Initiative
- 2007 Lady Bamford Early Childhood Center Opening
- 2007 Creation of Local Vendor Preference Ordinance
- 2007 - Present Annual Mayor's Small Business Conference
- 2009 Opening of Whitaker Street Garage
- 2009 Creation of Greater Savannah International Alliance
- 2009 Initiation of Digital Divide Initiative on MLK Corridor
- 2010 Opening of Moses Jackson Advancement Center

RIGHT:
Whitaker Street
Parking Garage
off Ellis Square
BELOW:
Moses Jackson
Advancement
Center Opening



PRIORITY: Culture and Recreation



- 2005 Opening of Joseph Tribble Park
- 2007 Completion of Haitian Monument
- 2008 Opening of Battlefield Park
- 2009 Opening of Fort at Forsyth Park
- 2009 Purchase of Coffee Bluff Marina
- 2009 Opening of Liberty Lake
- 2009 Opening of Bacon Park Tennis Center
- 2009 Baldwin Park Renovation
- 2010 Opening of Ellis Square
- 2010 Completion of World War II Memorial
- 2010 Grayson Stadium Renovations

ABOVE: Ellis Square

BELOW (left to right): Forsyth Park Bank Shell, WWII Monument on River Street, Liberty City Lake Ribbon Cutting



PRIORITY: Health & Environment



LEFT: City trucks off loading recyclable materials at the Pratt Recycling Center. Since 2009, more than 19,275.19 tons of recyclables have been collected reducing the amount of waste placed in our landfills.

- 2003-Present Eighteen Miles of Sidewalks
- 2005 Casey South Drainage Project
- 2007 Healthy Savannah Initiative
- 2007 Thrive Initiative
- 2007 Jackson Woods Drainage
- 2007 Wilshire Drainage Project
- 2008 Alice-Tattnall Drainage Project
- 2008 Crossroads Water Quality Control Plant
- 2009 Edgemere/Sackville Curb & Gutter
- 2009 Curbside Recycling
- 2010 Washington Avenue Bike Lane
- 2010 Smoke-Free Air Ordinance



thrive

environment • economy • community



ABOVE RIGHT: Kids Cyclovia participants celebrating the opening of the Washington Avenue Bike Lane.

BELOW RIGHT: Crossroads Water Treatment Plant, completed in 2008.



SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL



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