



ONE CITY. ONE DIRECTION: FORWARD



SAVANNAH
savannahga.gov





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Our Vision

Savannah, an extraordinary place to live, learn, and prosper.

Our Mission

The mission of the City of Savannah is to provide exceptional public services to residents, businesses and guests so they may experience a safe, healthy, and thriving community.

City Manager's Message

In mid-2017 this City Council created a strategic plan, called Savannah Forward, which has since served as the foundation for how City Government has made decisions, budgeted and set goals.

Much of the actions you will find in this 2018 Annual Report were driven by specific goals set in Savannah Forward, which includes a vision of Savannah as an “an extraordinary place to live, learn and prosper.” While we have much work ahead to become such a place, this 2018 Annual Report is a reminder that we are making progress.

Savannah recorded the fewest number of Part 1 crimes last year since at least 1985, dropping below 7,000 crimes in our jurisdiction for the first time since the creation of the federal Uniform Crime Reporting system. While we are making a dent with violent crimes – homicides are down 38% over the past two years, and robberies are down 36% -- there remain far too many shootings on our streets.

We hired a new Police Chief last year, Roy Minter, who is quickly re-aligning resources within the newly reconstituted Savannah Police Department to put a sharper focus on violent crime.

While our budget remains challenged, the City organization has remained fiscally disciplined. This led to an increase in our bond rating last year to AA-plus, the strongest in our history.

Major changes to our organization made in 2018 are beginning to pay off, with more coordinated code compliance and grass-cutting. We launched our new Savannah Business Opportunity program last year, with a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal of 18% participation in City contracts. We ended the year with 29% DBE participation.

City Council's efforts to incentivize residential development while limiting the spread of hotels and short-term vacation rentals are making an impact. The past two years have seen more residential development than at any point in our history, topping \$174 million in construction valuation. Businesses are opening too, with commercial investment breaking records.

This year we celebrate a number of facility milestones: the opening of the new Cultural Arts Center, Pennsylvania Avenue Resource Center, and Central Police Precinct, and the groundbreaking on our new arena.

Section 3-108 of the City Charter requires the City Manager to submit, within 90 days of the end of each fiscal year, an annual report on the finance and administrative activities of the City. Please accept this 2018 Annual Report as fulfillment of this obligation, and as a reminder that together we are moving Savannah Forward.



Rob Hernandez
City Manager



Marty Johnston
Chief Operating Officer



Heath Lloyd
Chief Infrastructure & Development Officer



Taffanye Young
Chief Community Services Officer



Roy Minter
Police Chief



Mark Revenew
Acting Fire Chief

Good Government



The mission of the City of Savannah is to provide exceptional public services to residents, businesses and guests so they may experience a safe, healthy and thriving community.

A Government that is committed to analyze and improve its own performance, and inform taxpayers of services they are receiving for their money in terms of results, is the essence of accountability and transparency.

The City of Savannah is committed to creating a culture focused on results for customers and ensuring the community receives exceptional public service.



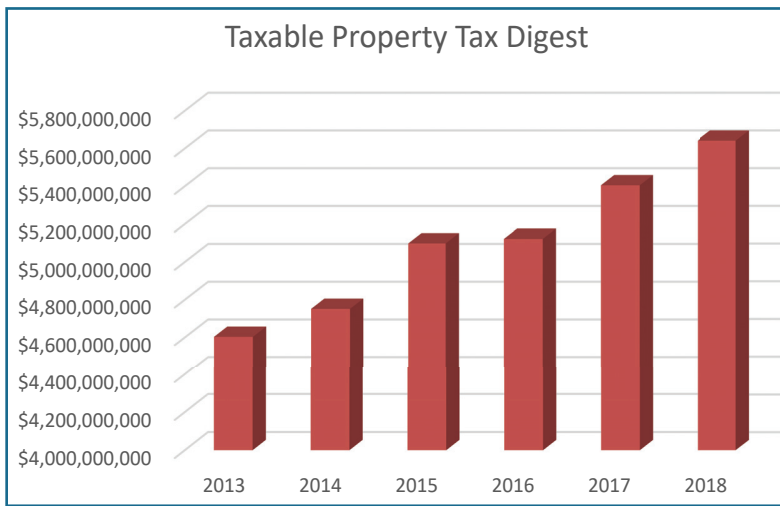
Engaging Our Community



311 Action Center 2018 Activity

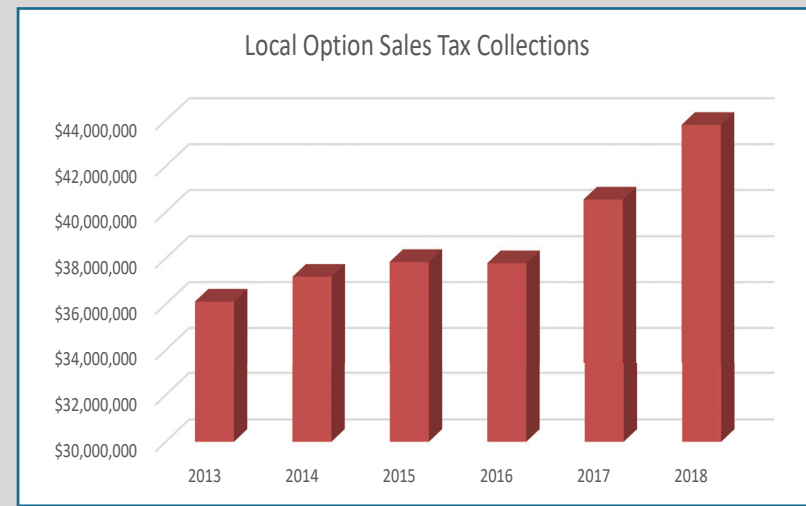
- Residents made **51,091** calls to 311 in 2018.
- Those calls resulted in **18,055** Service Work Orders being created and assigned to City departments to carry out.
- Residents waited an average of **1:07** per call before being connected to a customer service representative.
- Customer service representatives completed calls with residents at a **1:49** average per call.
- Customer service representatives took an average of **10** calls per hour.

State of Our Finances



Property taxes make up the General Fund’s largest revenue stream and are based on the City’s millage rate and its taxable digest as determined by the Chatham County Assessor. The millage rate for 2018 was 13.4 mills, which was increased by 0.92 mills compared to 2017. The net taxable digest grew 4.37% in 2018 compared to the previous year. This resulted in \$76.9 million in revenue to the City last year.

Year	Net Taxable Digest	Annual Change
2013	\$4,603,174,588	
2014	4,751,472,819	3.22%
2015	5,098,014,544	7.29%
2016	5,121,455,307	0.46%
2017	5,404,507,519	5.53%
2018	5,640,928,799	4.37%



Local option sales taxes are collected by the State of Georgia on a county-wide basis and the City of Savannah receives 57% of the Chatham County total. Local option sales taxes comprise the General Fund’s second largest revenue source behind property taxes. While this revenue stream has been relatively unchanged over the past five years, in 2018 it increased by 8.0% or \$3,254,004 compared to 2017

Year	Tax Collections	Annual Change
2013	\$36,115,270	
2014	37,198,220	3.0%
2015	37,841,206	1.7%
2016	37,787,557	-0.1%
2017	40,546,599	7.3%
2018	43,800,603	8.0%



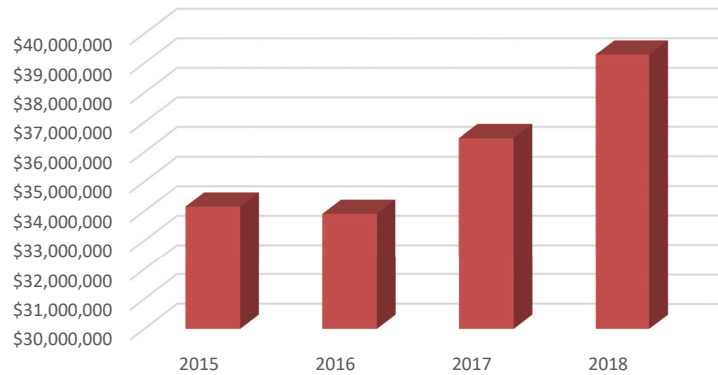
Hotel/motel taxes are collected at a rate of 6% within the City of Savannah and continue to be a significant revenue source for the General Fund. In 2018, revenues from hotel/motel taxes surpassed the \$20 million mark for the second time in the City’s history indicating the the tourism sector of the local economy continues to grow. These revenues are restricted by state law and can only be used for specific purposes. For the City of Savannah, half of the collections can be used as general revenues within the City’s General Fund. The remainder of the funds support Visit Savannah and also help fund the operations of the Trade Center and the Civic Center.

Year	Hotel/motel tax collections	Annual Change
2013	\$14,521,824	
2014	16,603,643	14.3%
2015	18,432,949	11.0%
2016	19,508,872	5.8%
2017	20,775,634	6.5%
2018	21,577,337	3.9%



State of Our Finances (cont.)

SPLOST Revenues



Special Purpose Local Option Sales Taxes (SPLOST) are collected on a county-wide basis by the State of Georgia and then remitted to the County. Collections are shared with the City of Savannah based on an intergovernmental agreement. The current SPLOST tax, SPLOST 6, began collections in 2014 and will last for six years. The City of Savannah received \$39,285,833 in SPLOST 6 proceeds in 2018. All of the SPLOST 6 proceeds will be used for voter approved projects in the coming years.

Year	SPLOST Taxes
2015	\$ 34,151,467
2016	\$ 33,904,909
2017	\$ 36,459,495
2018	\$ 39,285,833

New Debt Issued in 2018

\$ 2,000,000 General Obligation

14,095,000 Downtown Savannah Authority, Series 2018A Tax Exempt

11,085,000 Resource Recovery Development Authority, Series 2018

30,205,000 Downtown Savannah Authority, Series 2018 Taxable

\$57,385,000 Total Debt Issued in 2018

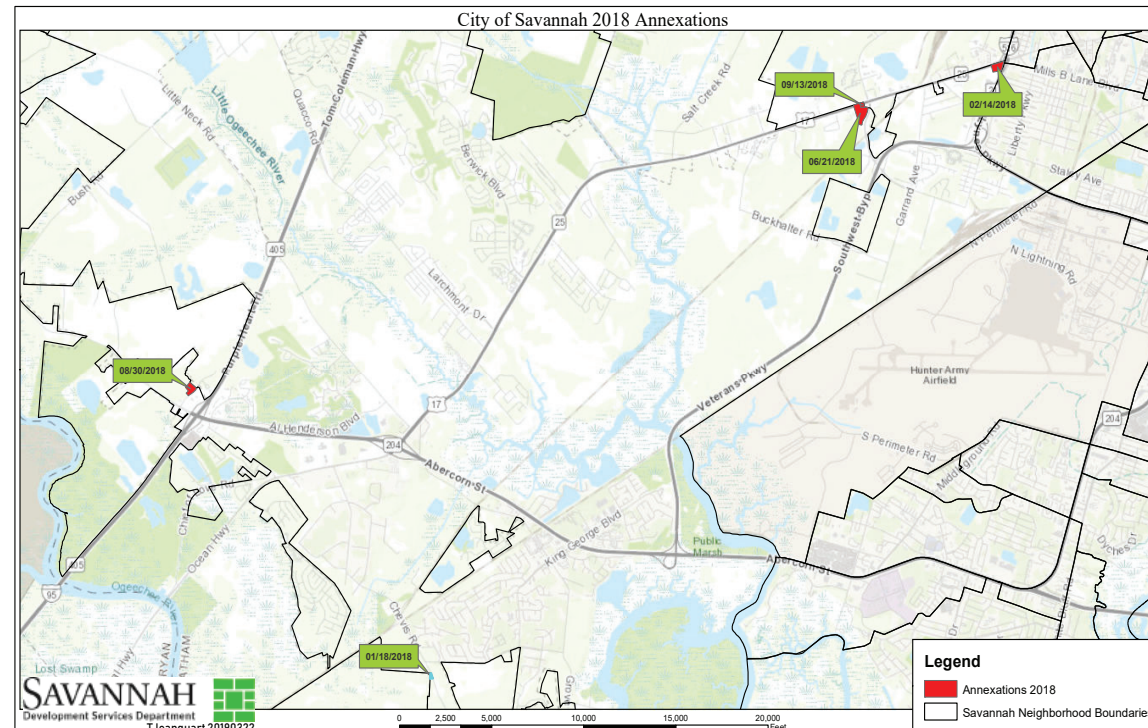
Purpose

Partially fund streetscape improvements to Bay, Broughton and River streets

Fund pedestrian improvements on the west end of River Street including a new grand staircase and elevator

Partially fund the Dean Forest Landfill expansion

Fund construction of a parking garage at Eastern Wharf



The City completed 5 annexations in 2018 for a total of 19.2 acres. The majority of these annexations occurred along the Ogeechee Road Corridor from Chatham Parkway to Interstate 95. Proposed developments for these parcels consisted mainly of commercial uses including a proposed hotel development.

City Bond Ratings Upgraded to Aa1

In 2018, Moody's Investors Services upgraded Savannah's General Fund-backed bond rating from Aa2 to Aa1, one step below the highest rating available. Moody's also upgraded the City's Water and Sewer Fund-backed bond rating to Aa1, which is several degrees stronger than the national median rating of Aa3. Moody's cited the City's "superlative" financial position, and low fixed costs and long-term liabilities in upgrading Savannah's rating.





Successful Passage of Real Estate Broker Bill

The City of Savannah successfully lobbied the Legislature to pass SB 397, which changes State law to allow the City to retain a real estate broker to ensure the City receives the highest possible sales price when disposing of surplus property.

Creation and Adoption of Municipal Sponsorship Ordinance

The new ordinance codifies the use of municipal sponsorships to enhance City services, offset program costs, and/or generate new revenues

New Route, Extended Hours for Free dot Shuttle

Ridership on the city-funded downtown circulator dot shuttle increased dramatically in 2018 after the City extended hours into the night and simplified the route.



Approval of Downtown Worker Alternative Transportation Pilot Program

The New Program is designed to make it easier for service industry workers to get to and from their jobs at night.



GET YOUR GOAT RENTALS
Residential & Commercial
404.981.8585
Our Goats vs. Your Greens
GetYourGoatRentals.com

Using Goats to Clear Vegetation from City ROW's

The City successfully implemented a pilot program in 2018 that utilizes goats to clear heavy vegetation on difficult to maintain public property, such as canal banks.



Completion of City Hall Assessment & Restoration Plan
The grant-funded study assesses the interior condition of the first two floors of City Hall, prioritizes restoration needs, and identifies solutions with cost estimates.



Public Safety



Public Safety is achieved when city government and the community work together to create a city where people feel safe in their neighborhoods and where the crime rate is low.

On any given day, the public's safety is of primary importance in the minds of City leaders as they put policies in place, allocate resources and work to provide protection and enforcement for Savannah's residents, businesses and guests. Operationally, keeping the public safe presents an ever-changing set of challenges.

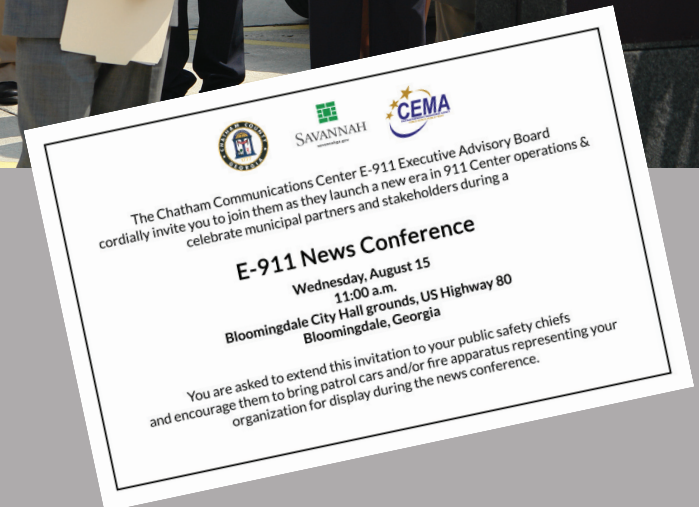


**Hired new
Savannah Police Chief**

Roy Minter



**Successful de-merger of
SCMPD
and recreation of
SPD**



**Successful negotiation
and transition of
E-911 Center
to County management,
eliminating City subsidy
of County-wide service**

SOCIAL MEDIA

Savannah Police Department @savpolice

Savannah Police Department: Northwest Precinct @savpoliceNW

Savannah Police Department: Central Precinct @savpolicecentral

Savannah Police Department: Eastside Precinct @savpoliceES

Savannah Police Department: Southside Precinct @savpoliceSS



SPD launched a Nextdoor page and four new Facebook accounts, one for each precinct. This will assist with communication on the neighborhood-level to include sending and receiving crime tips.



Renovated three facilities to serve as new precincts, & nearing completion of Central Precinct.





Opened new
Sweetwater Fire Station
on
Grove Point Road
to serve
growing developments
in southwest
Savannah.



Opening of The Front Porch

A multi-agency resource center opened at a City-owned facility on Abercorn Street designed to provide parents, social agencies and law enforcement with resources needed to divert youth from the judicial system.



SAVANNAH POLICE

To Serve, Protect and Build Trust



TOP 10 Most Wanted

As of March 13, 2019

FUGITIVES

SPD Tip Line (912) 525-3124

Savannah CrimeStoppers (912) 234-2020

IF YOU SEE THEM REPORT IT! REMAIN ANONYMOUS! FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY



Busch, Taylor
Agg. Assault
Simple Battery



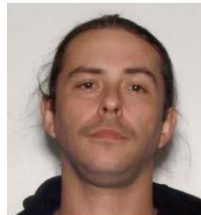
Busby, Leonard
Absconding



Carswell, Timothy
Terroristic
Threats



Colbert, William
Aggravated
Assault



Figueroa, Daniel
Sale Of
Cont. Substances



Jones, Rashad
Poss. of Firearm
by Convicted Felon



Garrett, Kya
Burglary
Cruelty to Children



Buxton, Martino
Poss. of Firearm
by Convicted Felon



Morgan, Nautica
Armed Robbery
Carjacking



Taylor, Charone
Concealing
A Death

The SPD Top Ten Most Wanted List update is available via our
Social Media Channels and at www.savannahpd.org/mostwanted

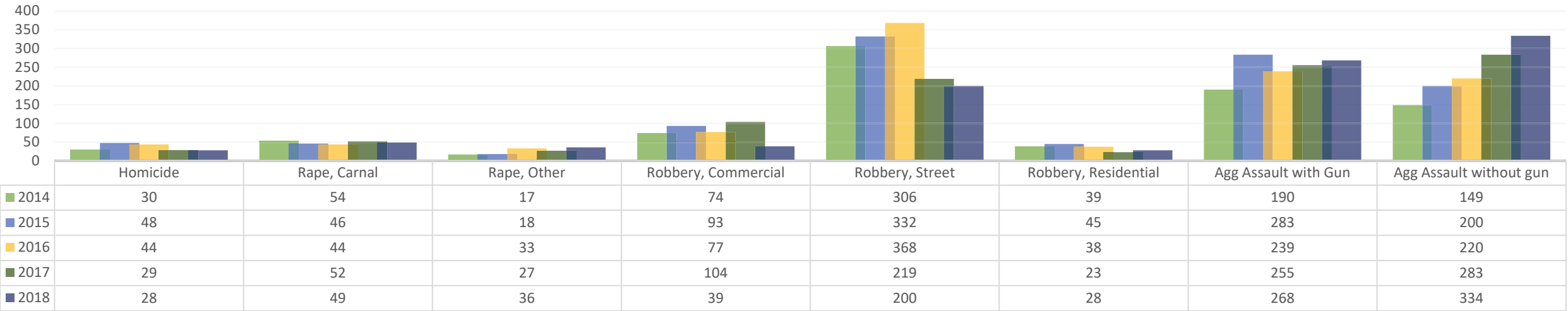
Creation of Violent Crimes Task Force



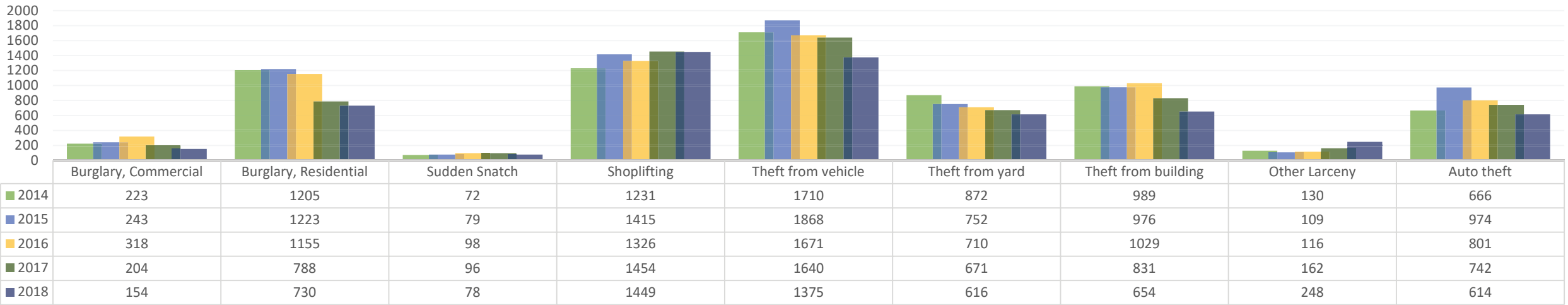
- Felony Arrests: **101**
- Misdemeanor Arrests: **62**
- Firearms Recovered: **57**
- Traffic Citations: **805**
- City Ordinance Citations: **23**
- Field Interviews: **92**
- Launch of Top 10 Most Wanted list (pictured at left)
New flyers released every Wednesday at savannahpd.org/mostwanted and on SPD social media accounts.
Flyers updated as arrests are made.
- New webpage has links to sex offender maps and
databases.



Violent Crime Down 1% in 2018



Property Crime Down 10.2% in 2018



Part 1 Crimes Drop 9% in 2018



City of Savannah 10-Year Trend Crime Stats 2009 through 2018

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Change 17 to 18
HOMICIDE	29	17	24	21	29	30	48	44	29	28	-1
RAPE, CARNAL	37	25	31	19	39	54	46	44	52	49	-3
RAPE, OTHER PENETRATION	26	24	14	31	34	17	18	33	27	36	9
COMMERCIAL ROBBERY	91	56	70	100	76	74	93	77	104	39	-65
STREET ROBBERY	438	336	331	303	280	306	332	368	219	200	-19
RESIDENTIAL ROBBERY	53	25	36	32	38	39	45	38	23	28	5
AGG ASSAULT w/ GUN	176	106	132	122	151	190	283	239	255	268	13
AGG ASSAULT w/o GUN	166	177	144	178	166	149	200	220	283	334	51
TOTAL VIOLENT	1016	766	782	806	813	859	1065	1063	992	982	-1.0%
COMMERCIAL BURGLARY	309	195	247	199	240	213	243	318	204	154	-50
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	1894	1888	1586	1557	1549	1205	1223	1155	788	730	-58
SUDDEN SNATCHING	64	74	68	64	63	72	79	98	96	78	-18
SHOPLIFTING	1140	1109	1260	1107	1298	1231	1415	1326	1454	1449	-5
THEFT FROM VEHICLE	2106	1713	1576	1651	1648	1710	1868	1671	1640	1375	-265
THEFT FROM YARD	1020	963	1348	877	717	872	752	710	671	616	-55
THEFT FROM BUILDING	1122	1052	1054	847	852	989	976	1029	831	654	-177
OTHER LARCENY	181	118	151	104	158	130	109	116	162	248	86
AUTO THEFT	960	534	634	589	648	666	974	801	742	614	-128
TOTAL PROPERTY	8796	7646	7924	6995	7173	7088	7639	7224	6588	5918	-10.2%
TOTAL PART I	9812	8412	8706	7801	7986	7947	8704	8287	7580	6900	-9.0%



Homicide Clearance Rate

	Homicides	Arrests	Exceptionally Cleared*	Open	Grand Jury	Clearance Rate
2018	28	17	3	8	6	93%
2017	35	23	1	13	4	80%

National Homicide Clearance Rate: 61.5%**

* In certain situations, elements beyond law enforcement's control prevent the agency from arresting and formally charging the offender. When this occurs, the agency can clear the offense exceptionally. An example of an exceptional clearance is the death of the offender.

** 2015 rate

Training

- IACP Leadership in Police Organizations
- IACP Leadership in Police Organizations Faculty Development
- Critical Incident Management
- Critical Incident Management Train the Trainer
- Crisis Intervention Team Training
- Name Us- Missing and Unidentified Person Workshop
- ALERRT
- Maximizing Street Encounters
- Tactical Medical for First Responders (FLETC)
- Law Enforcement Active Shooter Emergency Response (LASER)
- LSU-NCBRT



Traffic



Hands-free Citations
2018: 864 (since July 1)

Traffic Fatalities
2017: 24 fatalities
2018: 14 fatalities

Total Citations
2017: 11,365
2018: 22,547



Youth & Community Outreach

- Roll Call in the Street
- Coffee with a Cop
- National Night Out
- Reading to Students
- Pumpkin Painting with Police
- Central Precinct's Christmas Gift Program
- Christmas Visit to MMC Children's Ward
- Bridge Builders Program
- Explorers Program
- PAL Summer Camp
- Juvenile Officer Program
- Citizens Police Academy
- SPD Easter Egg Hunt



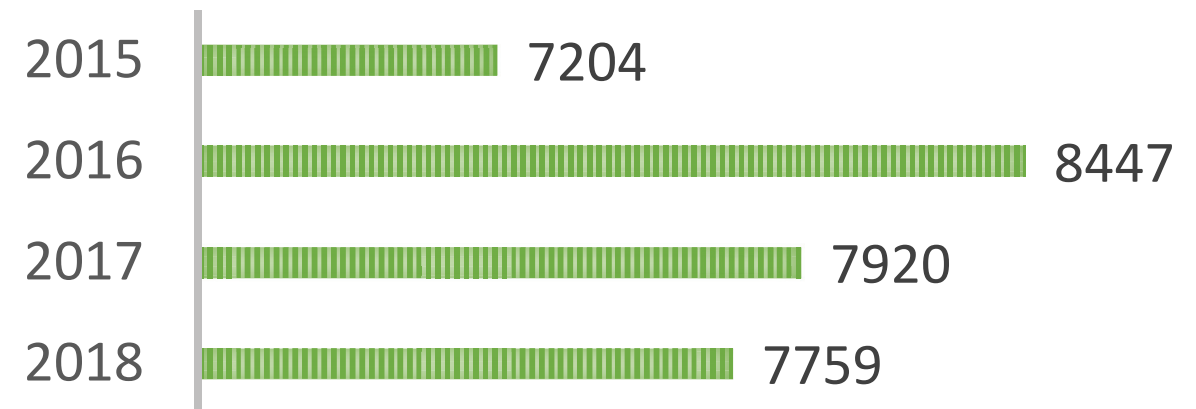


Savannah Fire Rescue 2018 Accomplishments

- **7,759** calls for service (**905** Fire Incidents)
- **222** Building fires: **15%** increase from 2017
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
 - 854** Public Fire Safety Education Events: **17,435** contacts
 - Installed **617** Smoke Detectors
 - Completed **3,021** Inspections and issued **472** permits
- **42** firefighters have completed EMT training (**39** in Training).
- Sweetwater Station #15 Opened Dec '18
- Vehicle Replacement Plan commissioned:
 - 2 Engines
 - 1 Ladder Truck
- House Bill 146 (Cancer Benefit for Firefighters) enacted January 1, 2018.
- 1 Chief Officer received Int'l CFO Designation from the Center of Public Safety Excellence (only 51 CFO's in Georgia).
- All responding apparatus utilizing Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's)
- Trained over **30** City employees to ICS 300 and 400 levels.
- Successful Incident Management Team activated for several Incidents

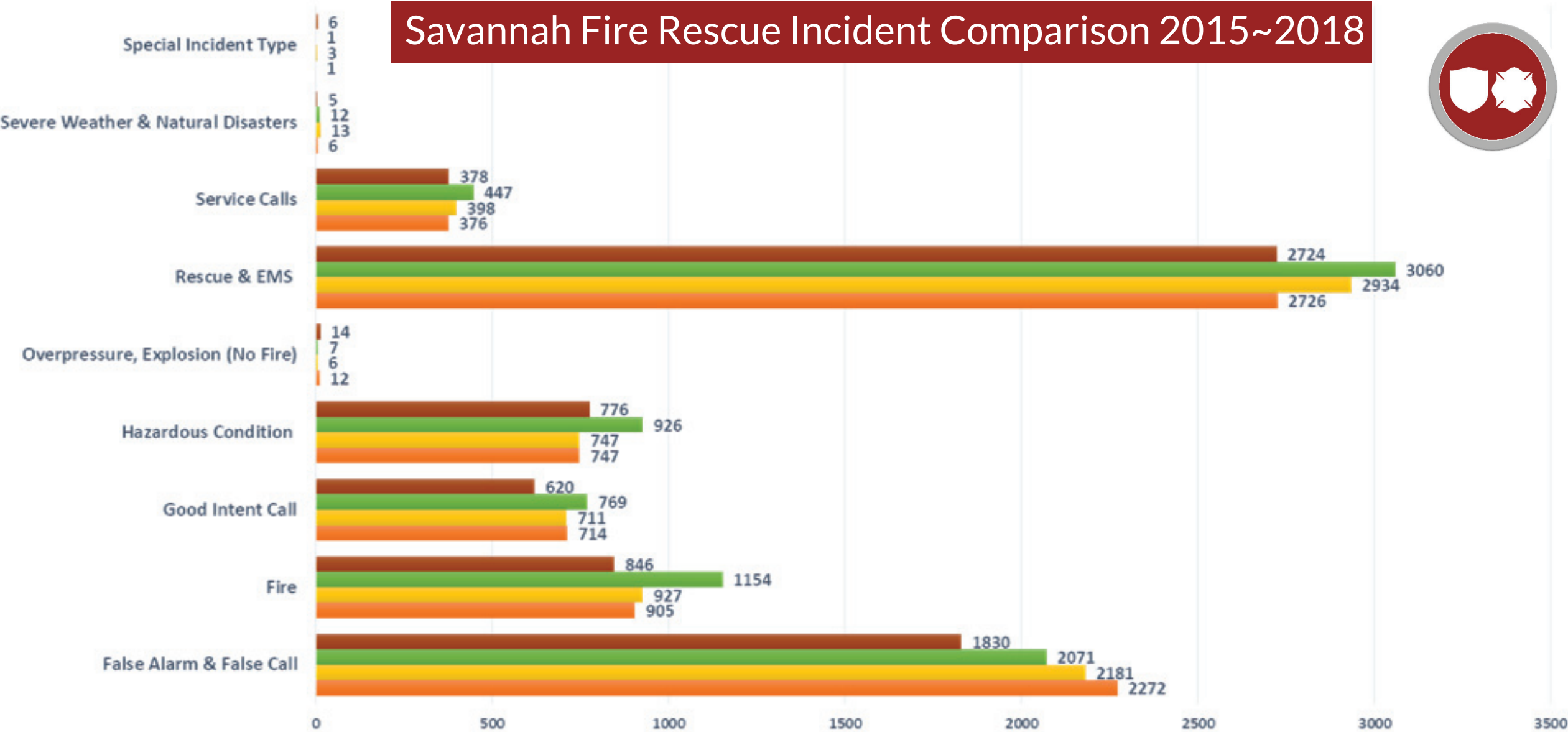


TOTAL INCIDENTS



	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total Incidents	7759	7920	8447	7204

Savannah Fire Rescue Incident Comparison 2015~2018



	False Alarm & False Call	Fire	Good Intent Call	Hazardous Condition	Overpressure, Explosion (No Fire)	Rescue & EMS	Service Calls	Severe Weather & Natural Disasters	Special Incident Type
2015	1830	846	620	776	14	2724	378	5	6
2016	2071	1154	769	926	7	3060	447	12	1
2017	2181	927	711	747	6	2934	398	13	3
2018	2272	905	714	747	12	2726	376	6	1

2015 2016 2017 2018



Neighborhood Revitalization



Savannahians live in neighborhoods, where much of their lives are spent. We raise our families, our children play there and when possible we work there. So, it is essential that the City focus on key neighborhood issues such as access to quality, affordable housing, recreational facilities and programs, as well as the challenges of poverty and blight.

Streets, sidewalks and trails connect our neighborhoods, creating a sense that we are 'One City'. The vision is that 'Savannah is an extraordinary place to live, learn and prosper'. The City is committed to that vision and will work to achieve the results to further enhance that as a reality.



Restructured Departments to Better Maintain Neighborhoods

Combined Property Maintenance, Zoning & Sanitation Enforcement into Code Compliance Department to improve effectiveness & increase efficiency.

Created new Greenscapes Division to better maintain City parks, trees and medians by combining several maintenance departments under one roof.

Citizens **UPDATE** Winter 2019



Focus on:

CODE COMPLIANCE

REGULATIONS & INFORMATION

Blight is everyone's business. When your home is in disrepair, or your yard is wildly overgrown, it reflects poorly on your neighborhood and affects property values. It tells your neighbors you're not invested, and it signals to criminals that this is a place where unlawful behavior is tolerated.

Whether you are a **homeowner, tenant or landlord**, having pride in your community and home is the foundation of a great city. Blight simply has no place in the most beautiful city in America.

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Code Compliance Department





2018 Statistics Code Compliance

11,046	Total # of Cases
4,282	Voluntary Compliance
3,176	Enforced Compliance
189	Court Cases
2,604	Trash Cart Citations
246	Derelict Vehicles Towed
15	Secures
527	Lots Cut
7	Demolitions

Successful lobbying of State Legislature to amend eminent domain laws to give the City more tools to tackle blight.



Development of new entryway signs into Savannah neighborhoods



Neighborhood Park Improvements

- Savannah Shines: Construction begins on new neighborhood park in Edgemere/Sackville
- Windsor Neighborhood Park
- Thomas Fulton, Jr. Park
- Joseph Tribble Park Improvements
- Treat Park
- Veterans Memorial Park
- Bee Road Walking Park
- Sylvan Terrace Walking Trail
- Kensington Park
- Cloverdale Park
- Cann Park





Affordable Housing Production Tops **\$74 million** in 2018



705 Dwellings Impacted

- **92** Home Buyers
- **172** Home Repairs
- **19** Single Family Infill Housing
- **422** Multi-family Rental Housing

\$74.73 Million Housing Investment

- SAHSF **\$480,000**
- Public Funds (CDBG & HOME) **\$ 2.44M**
- Private Investment Leveraged **\$12.81M**
- Tax Credit & Bond Multi-family **\$59.00M**

\$232,000 in SAHSF Contributions

- City of Savannah **\$150,000**
- **\$82,000** Bank, Hospital, Business & Non-Profit Contributions
- Memorial Health joins SAHSF with **\$30K**

MAP 1: SAVANNAH HISTORIC DISTRICT HOTEL DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT

Streets Where Hotels Are Permitted

North-South:

Fahm St
Ann St
Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Montgomery St
Whitaker St (north of Liberty)
Drayton St (portions)
Abercorn St (Bay to Oglethorpe)

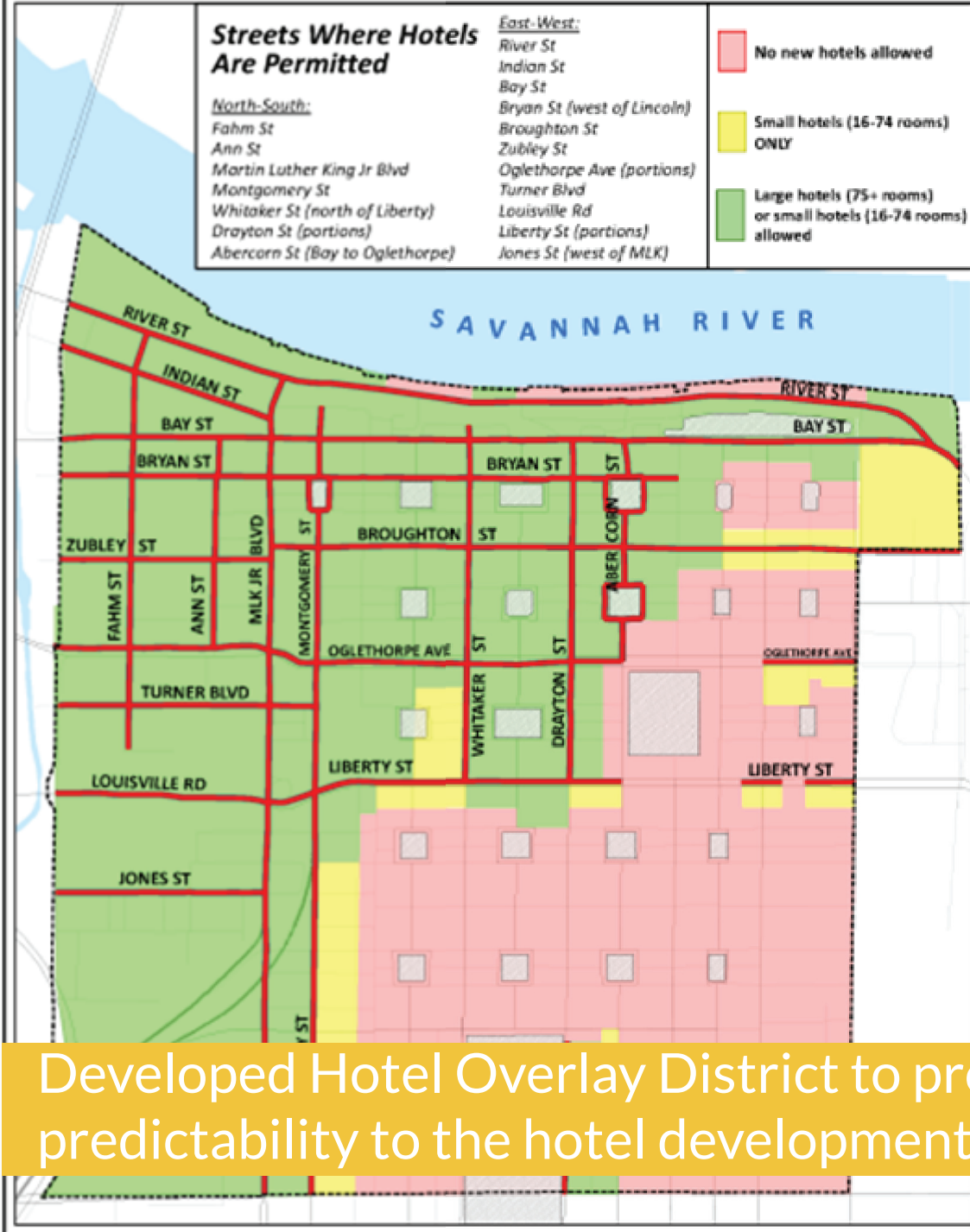
East-West:

River St
Indian St
Bay St
Bryan St (west of Lincoln)
Broughton St
Zubley St
Oglethorpe Ave (portions)
Turner Blvd
Louisville Rd
Liberty St (portions)
Jones St (west of MLK)

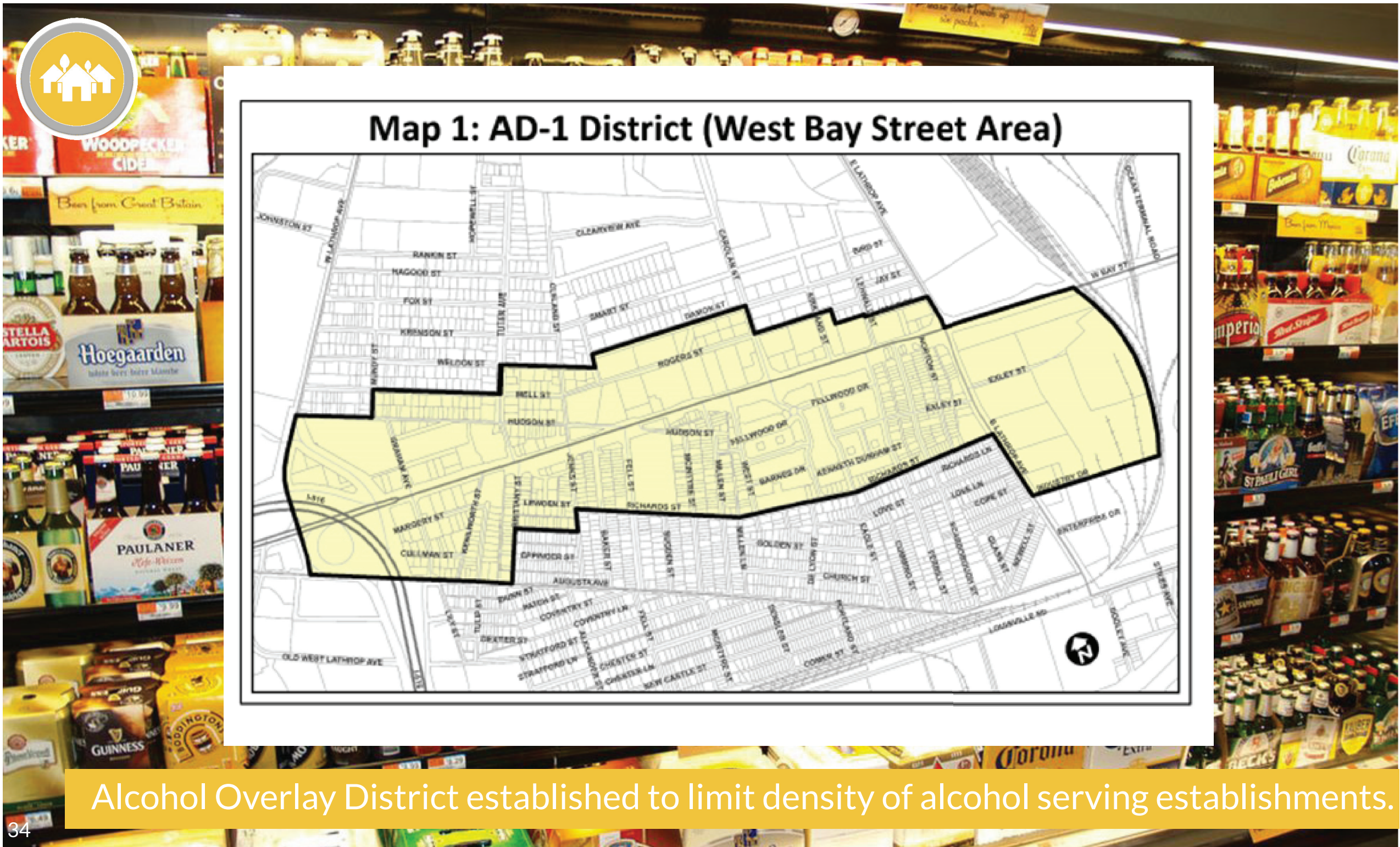
 No new hotels allowed

 Small hotels (16-74 rooms)
ONLY

 Large hotels (75+ rooms)
or small hotels (16-74 rooms)
allowed



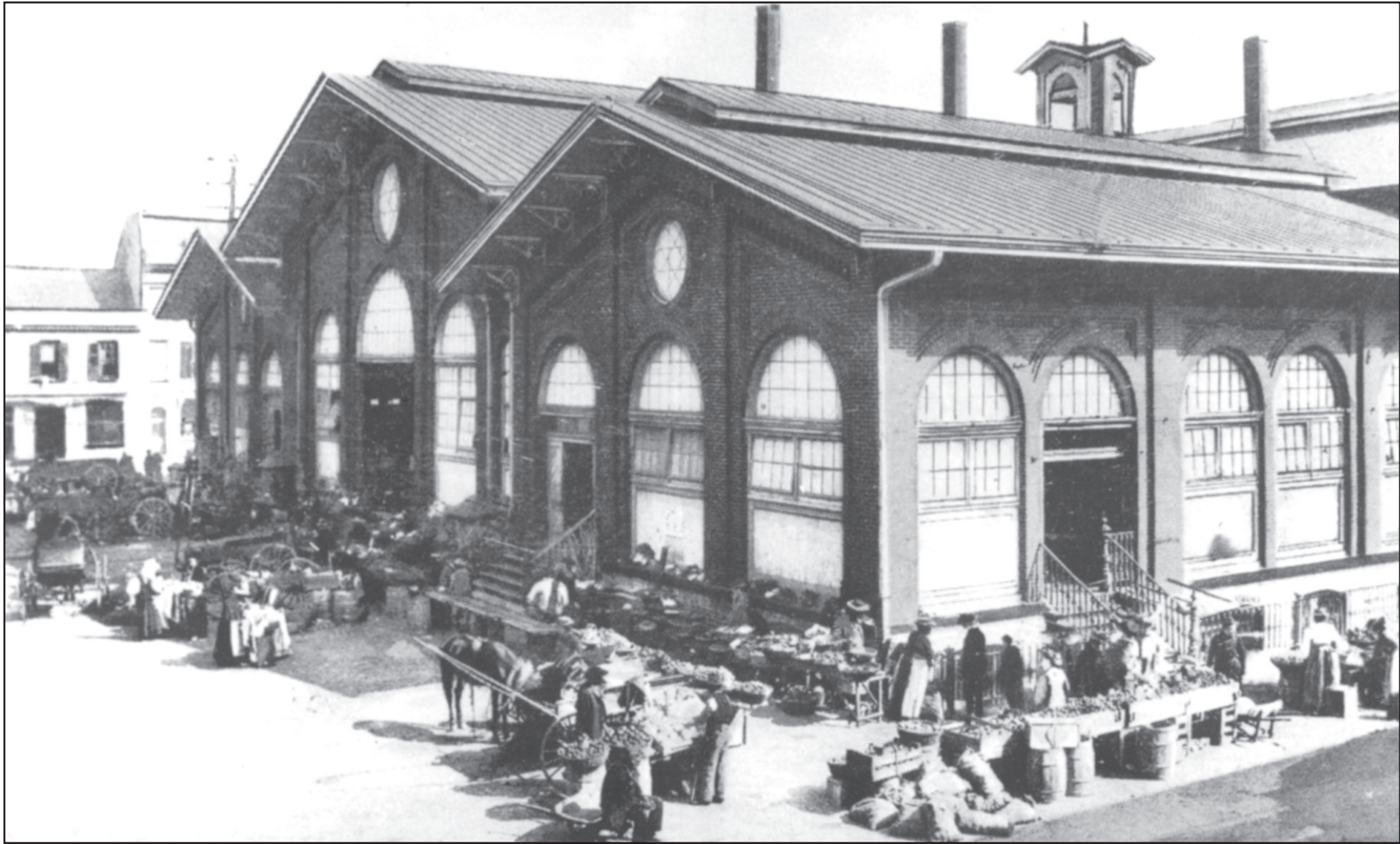
Developed Hotel Overlay District to protect residential areas downtown while adding predictability to the hotel development process.



34



Contruction begins on Pennsylvania Avenue Resource Center, PARC.



Infrastructure



Savannah's future, safety and prosperity depend on safe and sound infrastructure, including access to the internet.

Flooding is a part of life along coastal regions but the City of Savannah is committed to protecting residential and business structures and streets from its devastating impacts.

Our City's streets, sidewalks and facilities are a reflection of who we are and the pride we take in our community. They are also essential to helping residents travel to and from educational and employment opportunities.

The City is committed to making these essential investments over time.



Completion of **\$30 million** President Street rebuild.



Improvement of Victory Drive medians landscaping, trees, plants.



Public-private partnership to extend world-famous Riverwalk to the west in front of Plant Riverside development.



Final phase of **\$22 million** project to widen and improve Bilbo Canal, alleviating flooding throughout the eastside of downtown.





Began design of Savannah's new Arena.





Final stage of Cultural Arts Center construction.

Stormwater



2,894: Inlets & manholes cleaned
80: Miles of pipes cleaned
52: Miles of open system cleaning
196: Closed system repairs
738: Private development plans reviewed



Traffic Engineering

7,107: Traffic signs repaired
356: New traffic signs installed
1,011: Traffic studies performed
346: Intersections Striped (Crosswalks/Stop Bars)
191: Traffic signal lamps replaced
40: Street miles striped
89: Traffic Calming Proposals
12: Citizen Requested Street Lights Installed
3: Traffic Calming Trial Measurers Installed



Streets Maintenance



24.5: Miles of lanes graded
1,413: Feet of new sidewalk constructed
483: Number of sidewalk repairs made
6,677: Potholes repaired
1,650: Feet of guardrail repaired
5.73: Miles of street resurfaced





Launch of Phase II of Waters Avenue Streetscape Project

The **\$1.5 million** project on Waters Avenue from Anderson to Wheaton streets will include sidewalks, ADA ramps, crosswalks, streetlights and landscaping.



Sewer Stoppages

- Maintained 840 miles of gravity sewer mains
 - Cleaned 78 miles of gravity sewer mains
 - 5.4% decrease in total # of stoppages & 4.8% decrease in stoppages due to grease
- Continued Sewer Maintenance Trenchless Rehabilitation and Asset Management Program
- Continued Pro-active grease disposal education and enforcement efforts.

Automatic Meter Readers

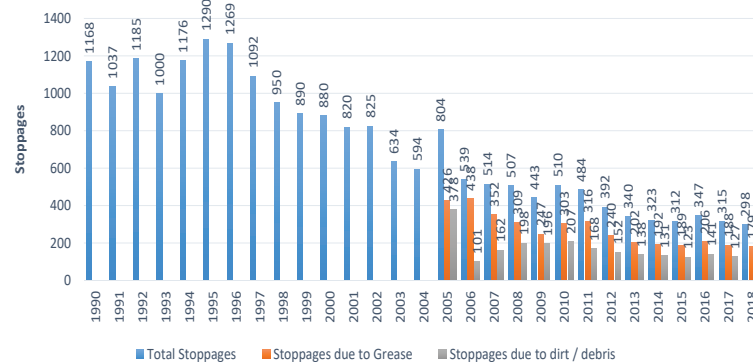
- Through 2018, the City has installed 27,292 Badger Orion AMR meter units - 39% of all meters

Water Leaks

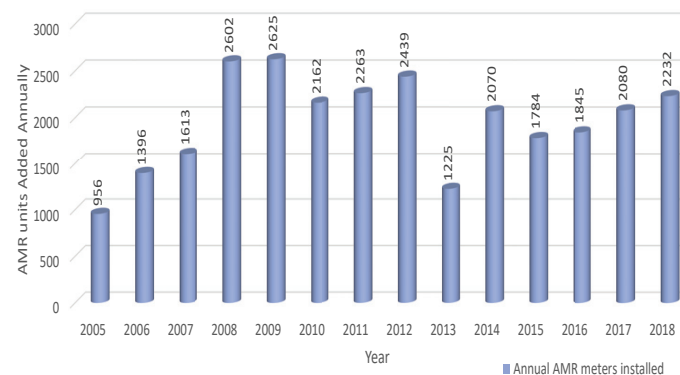
- City responded to 719 leaks, both service and main, or 0.65 leaks per mile. The total number of leaks is a 35% reduction since 2000.



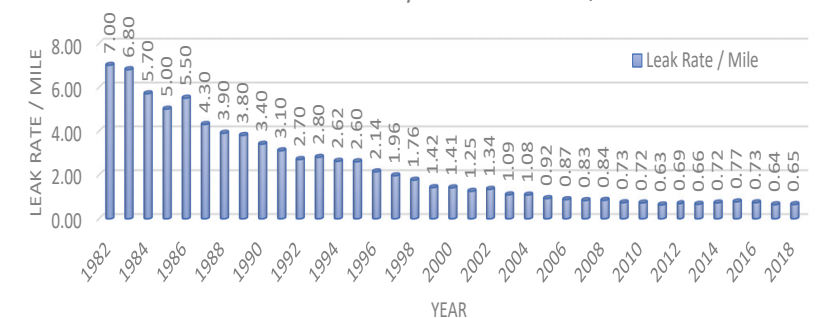
Sewer Stoppage History 1990 thru 2018
Stoppages due to Grease 2005 thru 2018

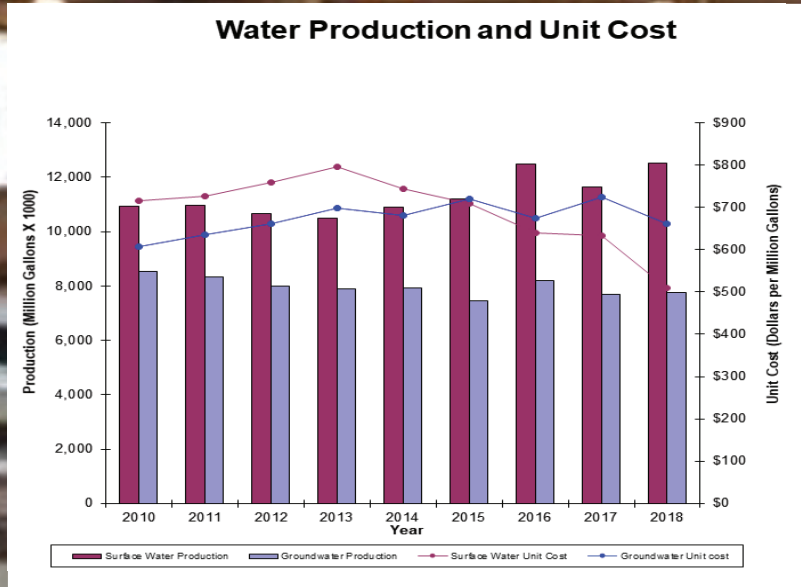


Total New Badger Orion AMRs Added to System



Water Distribution System Leak Rate / Mile

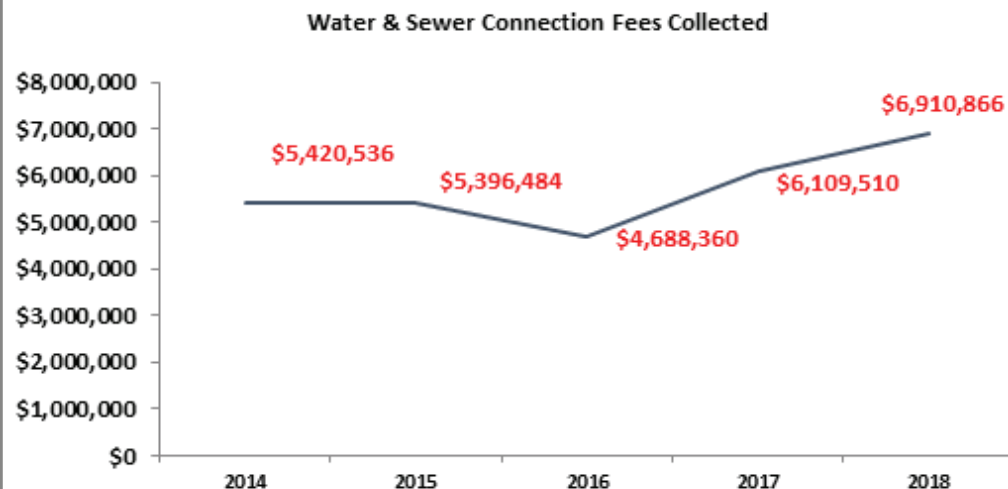




City produced **20.2 billion** gallons of drinking water in 2018

That total includes 12.5 billion gallons of treated surface water and 7.7 billion gallons of treated ground water.

\$6.9 M
in Water &
Sewer Tap-In
Fee Revenue
Collected





Completion of New City Reservoir

As part of the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project, the Army Corps of Engineers constructed a new raw water storage impound to offset the impacts of the deepening project on Savannah's surface water supply. The City took control of the facility in 2018.





Greenscapes Division 2018 Accomplishments

3,585: Trees serviced

717: Tree stumps removed

663: Acres of parks maintained

711: Tree plans reviewed

4,110: Miles of rights of way and lanes maintained

403: Miles of lane overgrowth cut back



Veterans Memorial Park



Tribble Park



Windsor Park



Bee Road Walking Trail



Woodville Neighborhood

MAKING



Savannah Arena



Cultural Arts Center

PROGRESS ON SPLOST



Waters Avenue



Central Precinct



Sweetwater Fire Station



Pennsylvania Avenue Resource Center



Savannah Shines



Victory Drive



Bilbo Canal



President Street & General McIntosh



Economic Strength



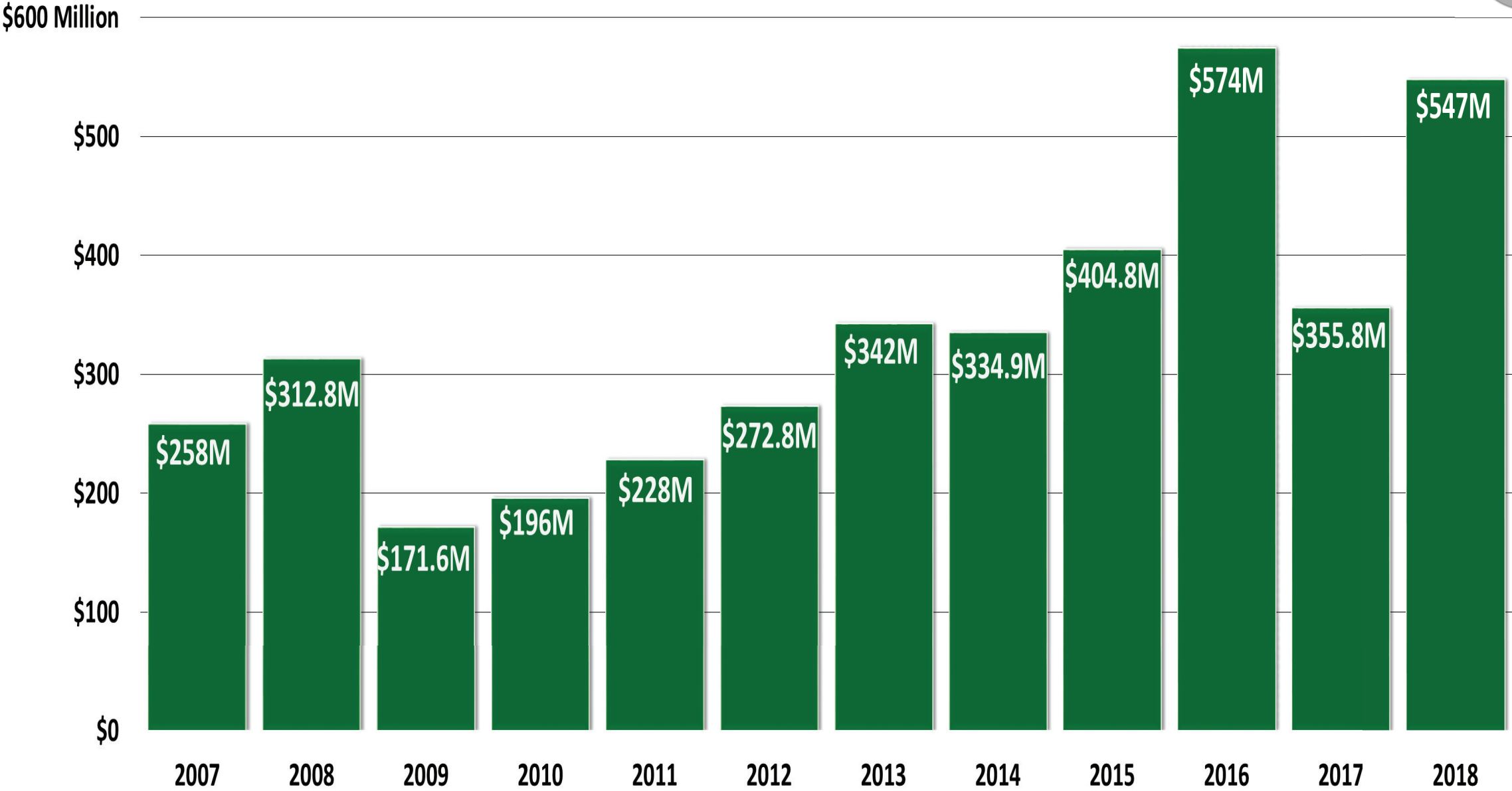
The City of Savannah is committed to doing its part to raise our residents out of poverty; prepare youth and adults to participate in the economy, and be self-sufficient; line our commercial corridors with viable, appropriate businesses; and create a resilient, balanced economy for all.

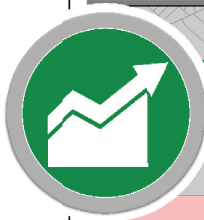


\$547 million in private development in 2018, second highest level on record.

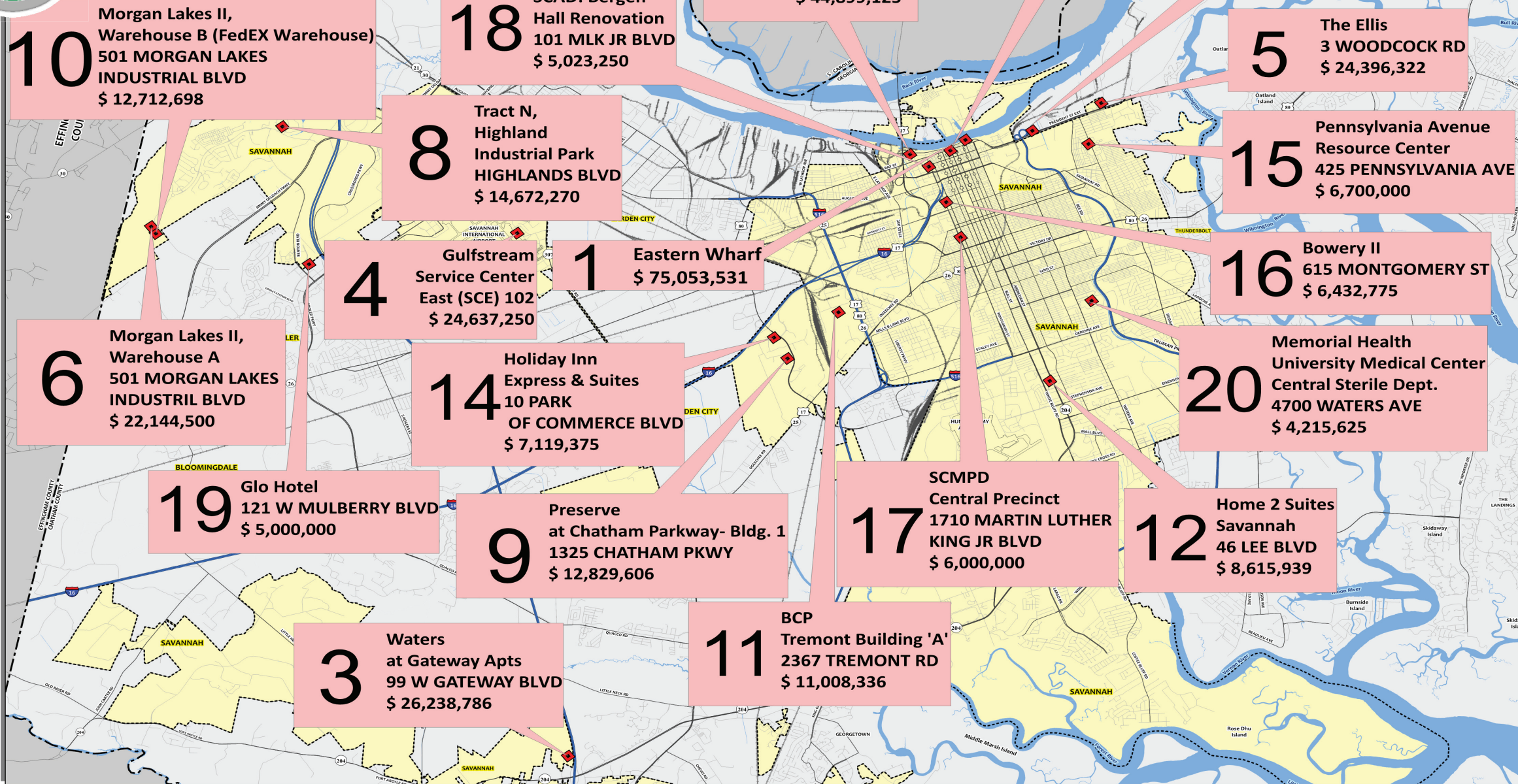
- Permitted building projects totaling **\$547 million**
- Issued over **1,500** building permits
- Issued over **4,700** trades permits
- Completed over **23,000** building & trades inspections
- Completed over **2,400** site inspections
- Approved over **80** site permits
- Processed over **90** survey plats

Annual Construction Cost of Total Permits Issued



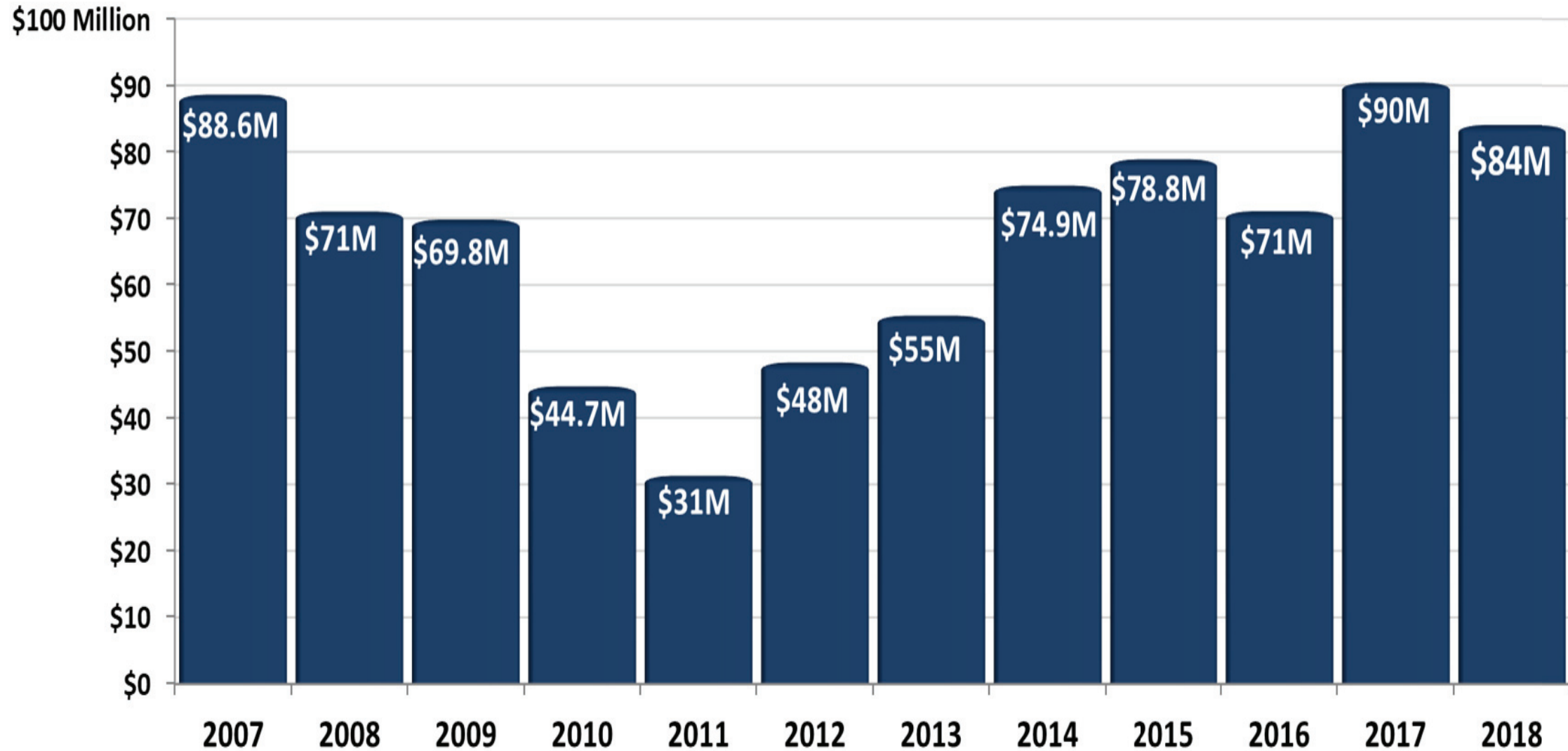


2018 Top 20 Building Permits



Residential New Permits Issued

Annual Construction Cost Comparison

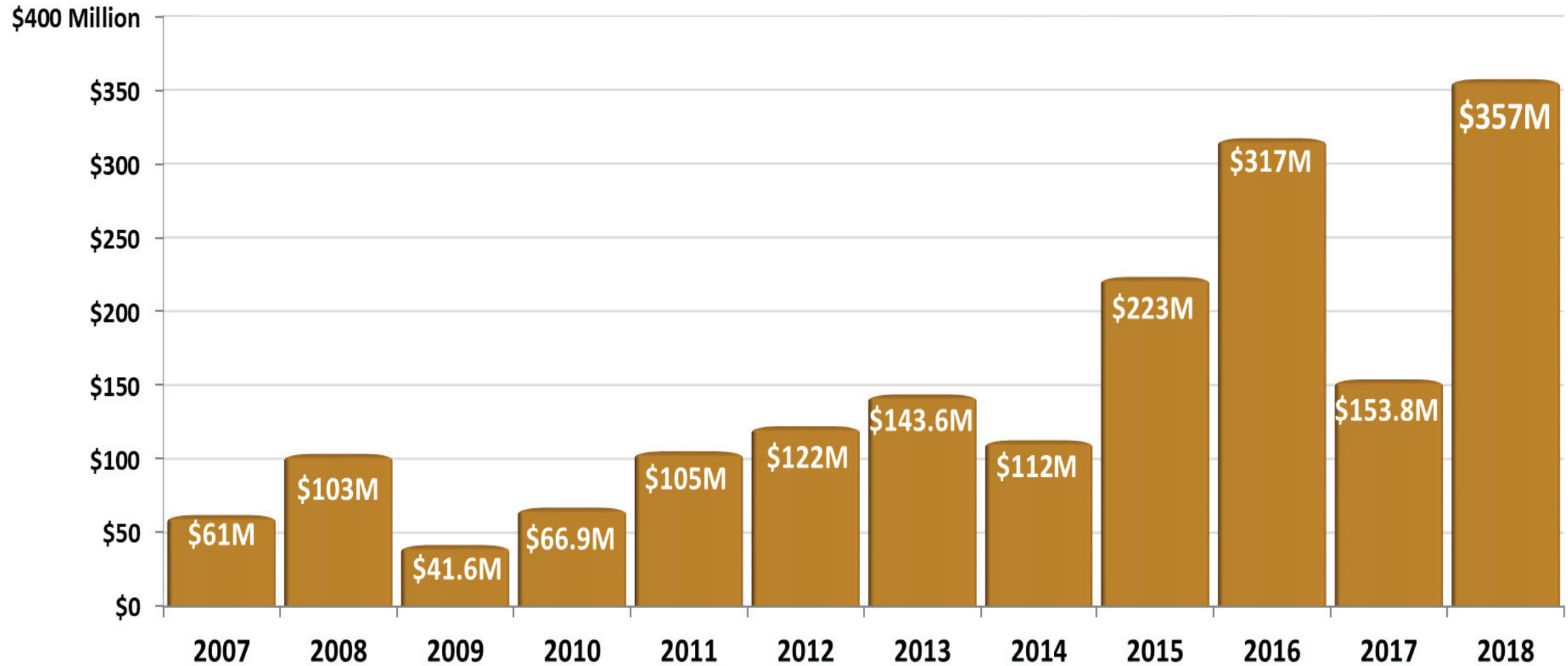


New residential construction in 2018 was the second highest level post-recession.



Record-breaking **\$347 million** in commercial development in 2018.

Commercial New Permits Issued Annual Construction Cost Comparison





Issued **\$33 million** bond to develop new **700-space** public parking garage at Eastern Wharf.



Completion of extensive public engagement campaign to reach compromise on development of short-term vacation rental ordinance.



US Census Bureau's American Community Survey Estimate shows Savannah has reduced Poverty Rate

Census Bureau 1-Year Poverty Rate Estimate for Savannah

2017	21%
2016	23.5%
2015	26.4%

Census Bureau 5-Year-Average Poverty Rate Estimate for Savannah

2017	24%
2016	25.4%
2015	26.5%

Launch of Connect the Dots program.



Passage of E-Commerce Freeport Exemption

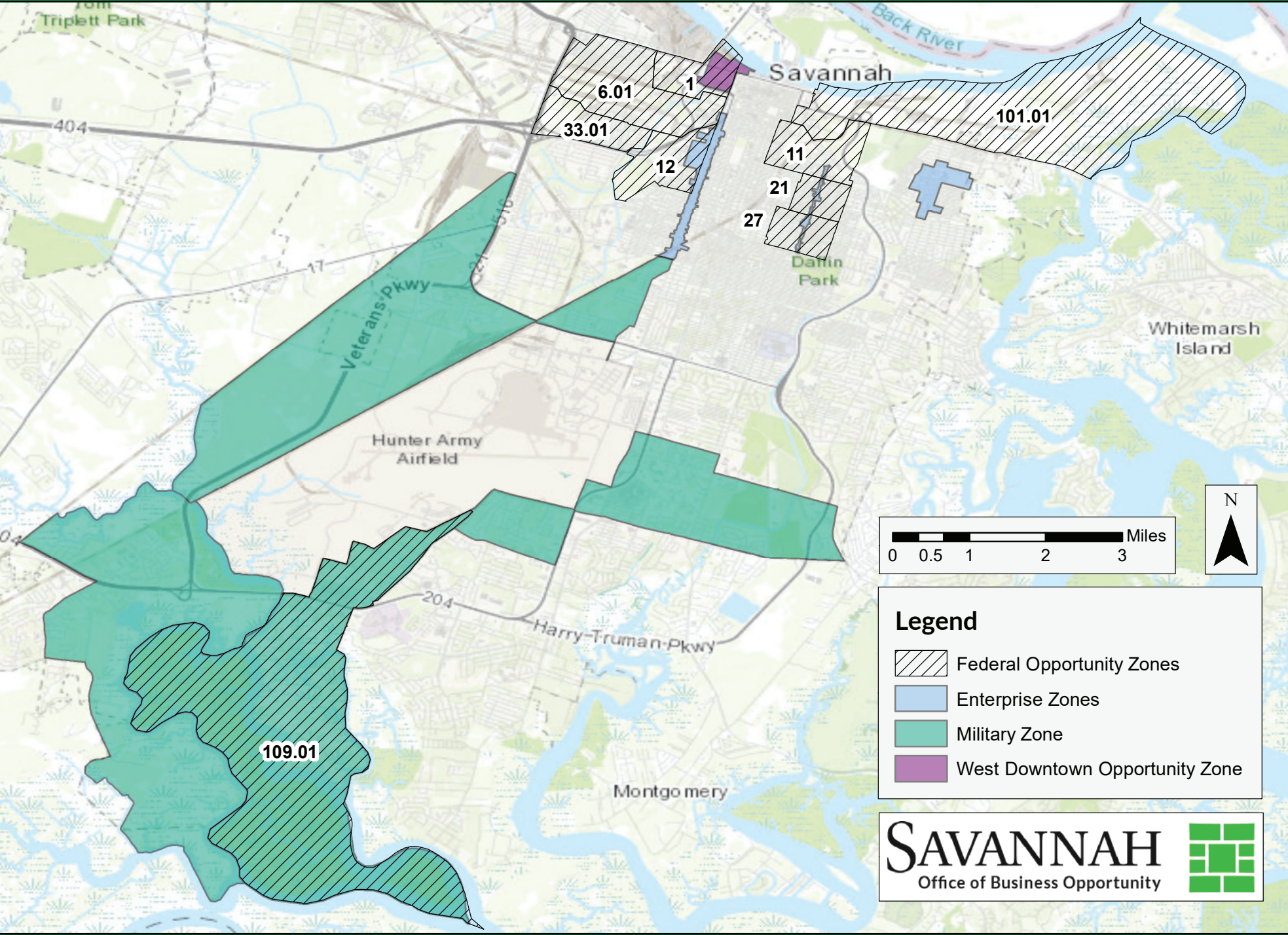
City Council voted to place on the November 2018 ballot a freeport exemption to help attract E-commerce fulfillment centers to locate to Savannah. Following voter approval, City Council was the first government in Chatham County to approve the exemption.



Creation of Savannah Logistics Technology Corridor

The City of Savannah successfully lobbied the Legislature to designate an area of Savannah's westside to be one of two designated IT corridors in Georgia. Savannah's corridor will capitalize on the success of the Ports by creating incentives and resources to make Savannah a global leader in logistics technology innovation.

Creation of Federal Opportunity Zones



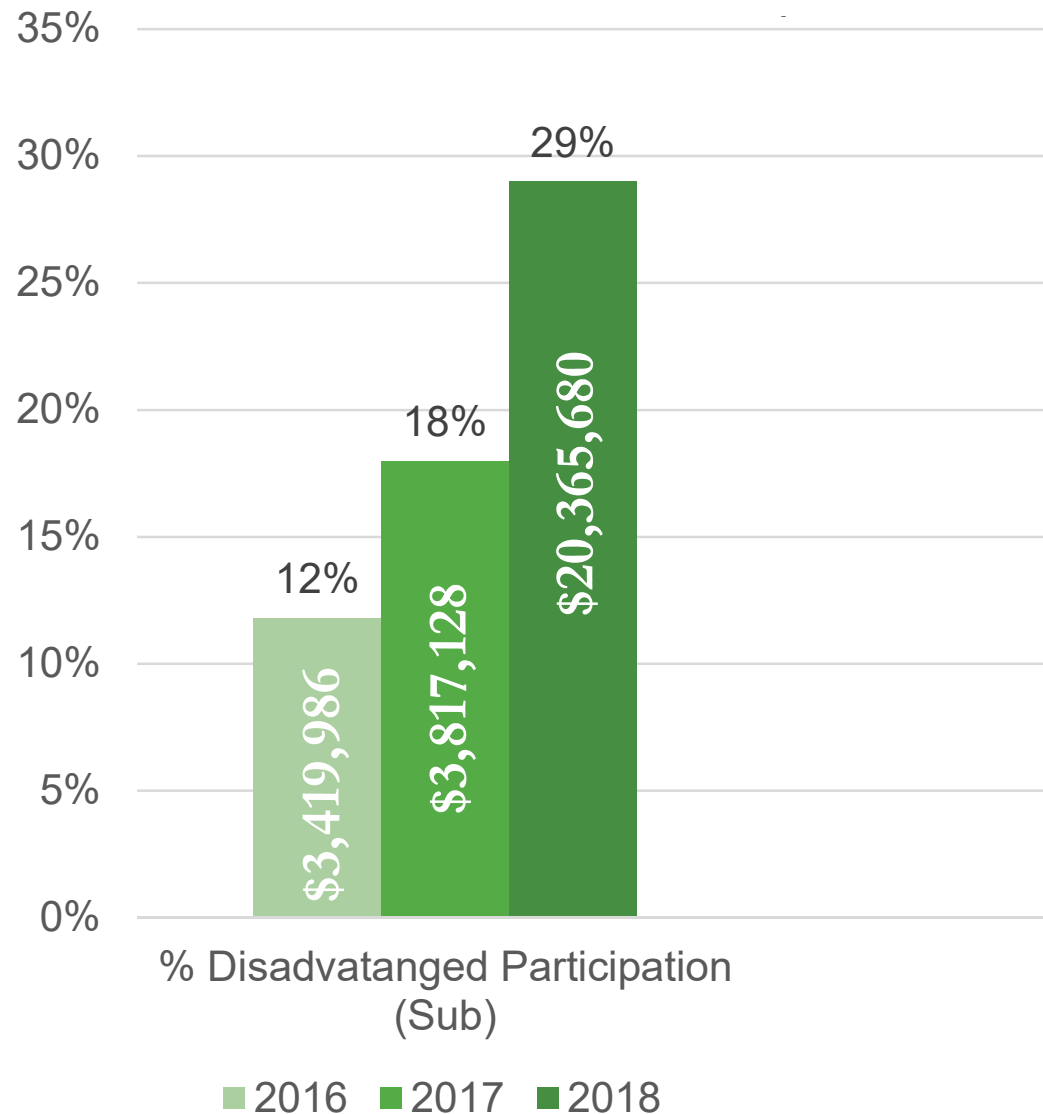
The City of Savannah successfully lobbied the Governor’s Office to create new Federal Opportunity Zones that overlap existing redevelopment corridors in Savannah, including Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, the Canal District, Waters Avenue, and the area around the Savannah Mall. The zones are designed to attract private investment in areas with high concentrations of poverty and disinvestment.



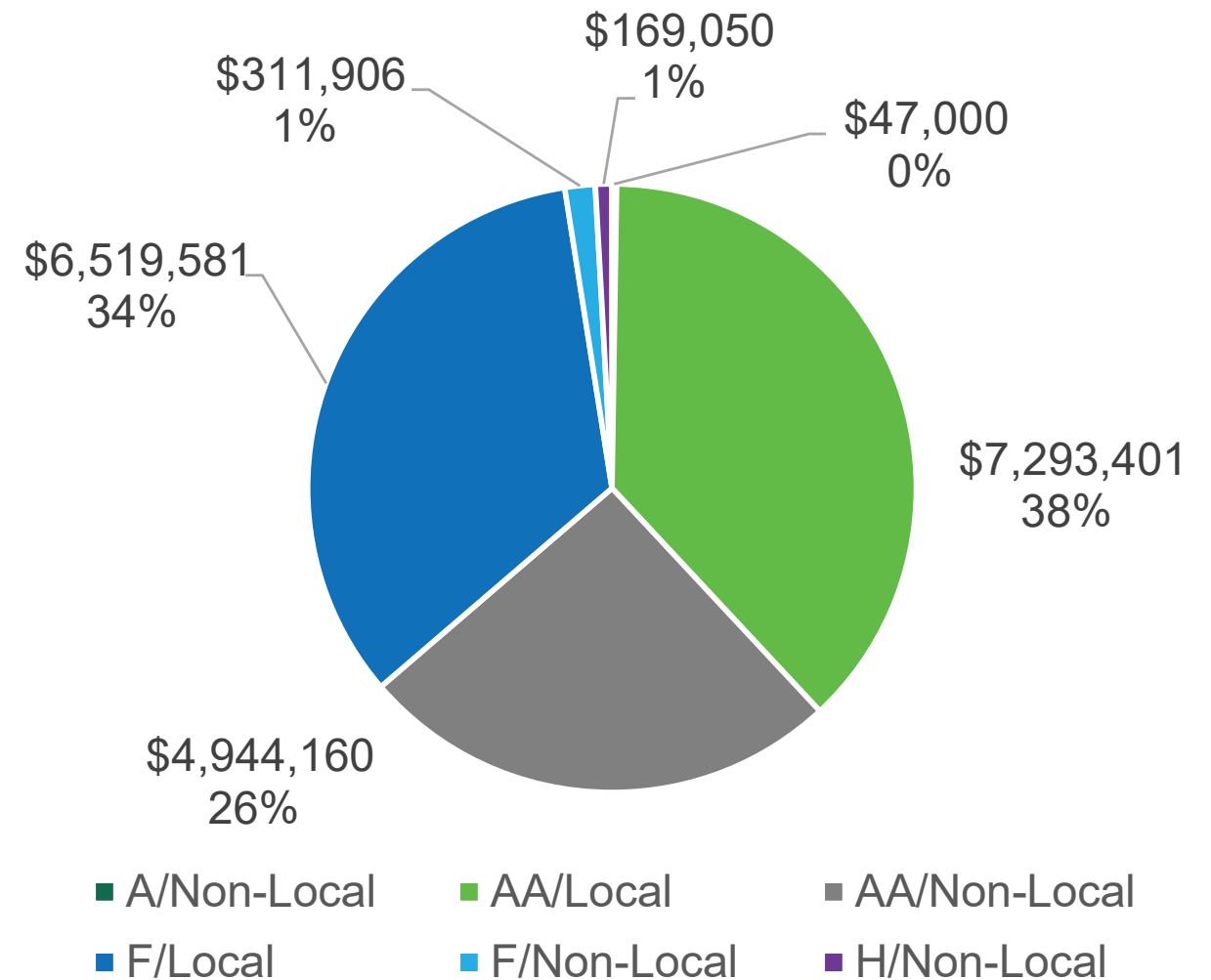
Major Increase in DBE Participation in City Contracts

In 2018 under the new Savannah Business Opportunity program, the percentage of City subcontract dollars awarded to disadvantaged business enterprises increased from 18% to **29%**, topping **\$20.3 million**.

Percent of Awarded Dollars (Subcontracting)



Race/Location Breakdown







The hard work and dedication of City staff led to the many accomplishments highlighted in the 2018 Annual Report. Let's keep moving **SAVANNAHFORWARD**.

Thank You.



SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL



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