

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2016-030

*A Resolution Requesting that the South Carolina General Assembly and Governor Haley Pass into Law Measures that will Enhance Dam Safety in South Carolina*

WHEREAS, on the weekend of October 4, 2015 the City of Columbia received more than nineteen (19") inches of rain in a 48-hour period; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City were severely impacted by this catastrophic weather event and the resulting consequences, suffering damage to homes, businesses, bridges, roadways, utilities and other City of Columbia infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia has been working with federal and state authorities, and coordinating with neighboring local governments, and working with non-profit aid organizations since October 4, 2015 to address the severe impacts of the flood and help the people of Columbia recover and return to normal life; and,

WHEREAS, the damages suffered by the citizens of Columbia in the October 4, 2015 flood may not have been as severe if dams in and near Columbia had been better maintained; and,

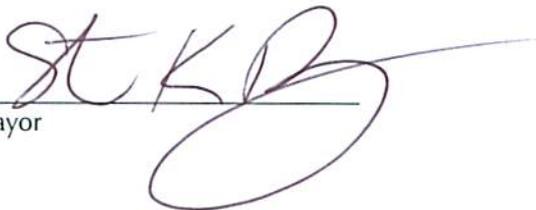
WHEREAS, the South Carolina General Assembly is considering legislation that would strengthen dam safety laws in the state, which would provide greater security for our citizens in future flooding events; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia, South Carolina this 5th day of April, 2016, that the City of Columbia urges the South Carolina General Assembly and Governor Haley to pass and sign into law legislation that would strengthen dam safety laws by requiring increased and regular inspections of dams by the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), encourage programs or creative funding models for dam owners to maintain and make improvements, with priority given to dams that pose a high or significant hazard to people or properties, by requiring remedial measures be taken by dam owners if the condition of a dam or reservoir appears dangerous to the safety of people or property, and by requiring that modifications to dams must be approved by DHEC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Columbia urges the South Carolina General Assembly and Governor Haley to provide in the 2016-2017 state budget adequate funding for the Department of Health and Environmental Control to carry out its responsibilities to properly inspect dams and take action to ensure the safety of people and property.

Requested by:

Mayor and City Council

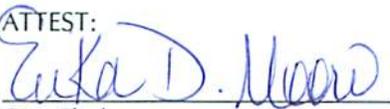
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

Approved as to form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

ATTEST:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Introduced: 4/5/2016  
Final Reading: 4/5/2016

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