ORDINANCE # 2026-21
INTRODUCED BY BURRALL
DATE INTRODUCED 07-07-2026
ITEM NUMBER 2026-07-02
PUBLIC HEARING 08-11-2026
ADOPTED/TABLED 08-11-2026
EFFECTIVE 08-26-2026
BOOK # _____ PAGE # _____
RECORDATION # _____
AMENDED BY ORDINANCE # _____
DATE AMENDED _____

ADOPTION

INTRODUCTION

CITY OF COVINGTON
STATE OF LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2026-21

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF COVINGTON, THROUGH THE MAYOR, TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN PARCELS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND/OR SERVITUDES FOR THE COLUMBIA STREET BRIDGE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Covington desires to acquire certain parcels, rights-of-way and/or servitudes as depicted and identified on the Right of Way maps and/or process verbal legal descriptions attached hereto (collectively, the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, there is a need and public purpose for the acquisition of the Property for the benefit of the Columbia Street Bridge Project, which will serve to replace the bridge over Mile Branch on Columbia Street, and

WHEREAS, the City of Covington desires to acquire the Property and authorizes the Mayor to take whatever steps are necessary to enter into negotiations for the acquisition of said Property and;

WHEREAS, the acquisition of the Property is in the best interest of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Covington, at its regular session convened, that the City of Covington, through the Mayor, is authorized to acquire by purchase, donation, or otherwise all or parts of the proposed parcels, rights-of-way and/or servitudes described and depicted on the Right of Way maps and/or process verbals attached hereto (collectively, the "Property").

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that pursuant to all applicable provisions of law, the Mayor is authorized to take all steps necessary to acquire said Property.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Mayor is authorized to exercise his discretion in acquiring the Property, together with all agreements and all transactions necessary to carry out the intent of this ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if purchased, the purchase price shall not exceed the fair market value of the property as evidenced by an appraisal, plus closing fees and costs.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any and all actions previously taken by the Mayor in furtherance of the actions contemplated and authorized herein are ratified and accepted accordingly.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid provision and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

WHEREUPON, this ordinance having been submitted in writing, having been read by title and adopted at a public meeting of the City Council of the City of Covington, State of Louisiana, was then submitted to an official vote as a whole, the vote thereon being as follows:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION by Botsford, seconded by Bushnell.

YEAS: 7 **ABSENT:** 0

NAYS: 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of August, 2026

/s/ _____
MARK W. VERRET
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

/s/ Jo Ann D. Rucker
JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK

Presented to the Mayor on this 12th day of August, 2026, at 8:45 o'clock A.M.

/s/ Jo Ann D. Rucker
JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK

Approved ✓ or Vetoed ___ by the Mayor on this 13th day of August, 2026.

/s/ Mark R. Johnson
MARK R. JOHNSON
MAYOR

Received from the Mayor on this 13th day of August, 2026, at 9:00 o'clock A.M.

/s/ Jo Ann D. Rucker
JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK