

**BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
270 WASHINGTON STREET, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-1450**

A RESOLUTION OF

THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

WHEREAS, Fort McPherson, a 488-acre U.S. Army base in Southwest Atlanta, is scheduled to close by September 2011, and is undergoing a planning process for disposition and redevelopment led by the McPherson Planning Local Redevelopment Agency (MPLRA); and

WHEREAS, due to its size, characteristics, and uniquely strategic location on the MARTA rail line between Downtown Atlanta and Hartsfield Jackson International Airport, the redevelopment of Fort McPherson represents a key economic development opportunity for the State of Georgia and greater Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, Governor Sonny Perdue has asked the University System of Georgia to lead the state efforts in the creation of a world-class research park at Fort McPherson to provide “significant economic development for the State of Georgia for decades to come;” and

WHEREAS, Georgia has an opportunity to capitalize on its broad but dispersed base of biological and health science knowledge base by catalyzing growth in its native enterprises and integrating new commerce in what the Georgia Research Alliance has envisioned as “The Crossroads of Global Health,” which could be anchored in a research park at Fort McPherson; and

WHEREAS, the MPLRA has approved a redevelopment plan that recommends a high-quality urban mixed-use redevelopment at Fort McPherson with its core developed as an “employment generator” as an anchor, and has identified the State of Georgia/University System of Georgia (USG) research park as the potential target of an Economic Development Conveyance of a significant portion of the site at zero or nominal cost; and

WHEREAS, Sasaki Associates and Meadows & Affiliates have produced reports recommending that the USG pursue the research park concept but call for further study to refine the development concept and vision, and recommend the early establishment of a significant, branded anchor tenant;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That to ideally implement USG Strategic Goal Three, which calls for increasing the System’s participation in research and economic development to the benefit of a global Georgia, the Board of Regents commits to the goal of pursuing the development and stewardship of a research park at Fort McPherson with a target to acquire land and commence development as soon as practicable following the closure in September 2011; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents commits to achieving this goal through a strategic partnership between 1) the State of Georgia, 2) the USG, 3) the Georgia Research Alliance, and 4) a research park anchor tenant; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents hereby charges and instructs the Chancellor of the University System of Georgia and the presidents of the four USG Research Universities to work together and with other community and industry stakeholders to further develop and refine strategies for the physical planning and development, financial feasibility and approach, and industry sector focus of the research park; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents hereby charges and instructs the Chancellor of the University System of Georgia to work with all appropriate stakeholders to identify, engage, and secure commitments from a suitable world-class anchor tenant to enhance the park's development and enterprise; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board acknowledges that the dynamic and evolving nature of the base closure and redevelopment process will require a commitment to fund and undertake further strategic and implementation planning in FY2010 and FY2011 to optimize the outcomes for the USG and the state; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board recognizes the likely need for a significant investment of state funds beginning in FY2012 to properly seed the development of a successful research park and provide leverage for site acquisition and complementary investment by public and private partners.

RESOLVED, This 15th day of April, 2009 in Atlanta, Georgia

Chair, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia

Secretary to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia