

Contacts:
Rachael Thompson
Glynn Environmental Coalition
912-466-0934
gec@glynnenvironmental.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lawsuit Filed to Protect Twitty Park and Defend the Public Trust Doctrine

Brunswick, Georgia - Tuesday, August 4th, 2026 - The Glynn Environmental Coalition, joined by descendants of T.L. Cain, and Glynn County resident Jane Fraser, has filed a lawsuit asking the Superior Court of Glynn County to protect Twitty Park. The filing asks the court to decide whether Glynn County's plans to relocate utilities and construct a roundabout through Twitty Park violate Georgia's public trust doctrine, the historic Cain Deed, and longstanding protections afforded to public parkland.

"Twitty Park, and all publicly held lands like it, belongs to the public," said Rachael Thompson, Executive Director with the Glynn Environmental Coalition. "This case has always been about more than a single project; it's about protecting public assets for future generations and honoring both the letter and spirit of commitments made over a century ago."

The complaint alleges that Glynn County has approved utility relocation work that would facilitate construction of a roundabout through Twitty Park, including impacts to a significant portion (approximately 40%) of the historic park and many mature 200-year-old oak trees that are enjoyed by the public.

These actions are inconsistent with the County's duty to preserve the property as a public park held in trust for current and future generations. "The public trust doctrine exists to ensure that governments act as trustees—not as owners free to dispose of public resources," said Thompson.

The Coalition emphasizes that this lawsuit is not intended to oppose transportation improvements generally but seeks to ensure that infrastructure projects respect legal protections for public lands and are pursued in ways that preserve community resources. The lawsuit follows the Superior Court's May 2026 order, which determined that questions regarding the County's proposed project must be addressed through a new action for declaratory relief rather than through contempt proceedings.

At the heart of this matter is a principle that has guided public land stewardship for generations: land dedicated to the public for use as a park to be enjoyed by the public should remain protected for that intended purpose.

For more than a century, Twitty Park has served as a public green space at one of Glynn County's most recognizable gateways. Preserving this historic park honors both the intent of T.L. Cain's original gift and the generations of residents who have enjoyed the park since 1924." This lawsuit is about safeguarding a public promise that has endured for generations - our community deserves growth that respects our history and our natural resources," said Thompson. "Public lands are part of our shared heritage, and once they are lost, they cannot be restored."

About the Glynn Environmental Coalition

Founded in 1990, the Glynn Environmental Coalition works diligently to assure a clean environment and healthy economy for citizens of coastal Georgia. It is a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the health, environment, and quality of life of coastal Georgia communities through advocacy, education, civic engagement, and environmental stewardship.