

DeKalb County Government

*Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

9:00 AM

Manuel J. Maloof Auditorium

Board of Commissioners

*Comm. Robert Patrick, Presiding Officer, District 1
Comm. Mereda Davis Johnson, Deputy Presiding Officer, District 5*

*Commissioner Robert Patrick, District 1
Commissioner Michelle Long Spears, District 2
Commissioner Larry Johnson, District 3
Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, District 4
Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson, District 5
Commissioner Edward "Ted" Terry, Super District 6
Commissioner Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, Super District 7*

Present: 7 - Commissioner Robert Patrick, Commissioner Michelle Long Spears, Commissioner Larry Johnson, Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson, Commissioner Ted Terry, and Commissioner Lorraine Cochran-Johnson

Administration: Michael Thurmond, CEO, Zachary Williams, Executive Assistant/ Chief Operating Officer, Barbara Sanders-Norwood, County Clerk, Viviane Ernstes, County Attorney

A. INSPIRATIONAL

None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Steve Bradshaw- District 5

B. PRESENTATIONS

Mental Health Awareness

C. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The purpose of public comment is to allow the public to voice county-related requests, concerns or opinions during the Commission meeting. Speakers will only have the opportunity for one public comment per meeting. Public comments may be made in person or submitted by sending an email no longer than one page to PublicComments@dekalbcountyga.gov which must be received between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. Only those emails received during the allotted time may be read aloud. Public comment emails received outside of the allotted time will be included in the public comment record for the next meeting after receipt of those emails. The body of your email must include your first and last name, followed by your address. By submitting an email for public comment at any time, you agree to have your name, address and email entered into the record/minutes. Each in-person speaker must complete a speaker card and present it to the clerk before the beginning of the public comment portion of the meeting.

Cards must be turned in to the clerk from the time the general meeting is convened (generally 9 A.M.) and by the beginning of public comment portion generally following presentations on the agenda. The clerk will accept cards on a first-come, first-served basis. Prior to the clerk's call for public comment, in-person speakers who are residents of DeKalb County shall be allowed to speak before residents of other counties are allowed to speak. Once the public comment portion of the meeting begins, speaker cards will no longer be accepted. Speakers will be allowed to speak for three minutes each and public comment shall not exceed 30 minutes in length. When the buzzer sounds to indicate that time has run out, the speaker will be expected to immediately cease speaking and to yield the podium. Those in-person attendees who submitted speaker cards but did not speak because of the time allotment will be allowed to speak first at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting without regard to residence. If time remains in the proscribed public comment portion of said meeting, email comments will be read into the record by the clerk or designee. Any remaining email public comments received between 9:00 am and 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting not read into the record will be submitted into the minutes by the clerk or designee and shall be forwarded to each commissioner by email. Speakers should always talk directly into the microphone and begin by stating their name, full address and the name of any organization they represent. Abusive, profane or derogatory language, holding up signs, clapping, yelling, standing or laying in the aisles to show support for or opposition to a speaker will not be permitted, but a show of hands or quietly standing in place will be permitted to show support for or opposition to a speaker's position.

Public Comments: May 9, 2023- Unread Emails

1. *Alia Toorani (No Address)- Hello, I cannot make it to the Tuesday meeting, so I'm emailing to make sure my voice and opinion are heard. I want Intrenchment Creek Park reopened. Thank you,*

2. *Diana Valk, 2309 Wineleas Road Decatur GA 30033- Dear Commissioners, I am writing to show my support for reopening Intrenchment Creek Park and for having more green infrastructure in our storm water system. There are more and more cars and developments in DeKalb County. Parks are areas where people can enjoy nature and participate in recreation away from cars and concrete. Please reopen Intrenchment Creek Park. It's not fair to take a park away from people when there is not an accessible replacement. With more developments and houses being built I agree we need to improve our storm water system. I am fine with paying a fee increase, but I want the fees to be used to improve the system in an environmentally friendly way. This means not simply creating more concrete storm drains, but perhaps promoting systems that soak up water instead of pouring it into drains. Systems like planting more trees, installing water butts, and using surfaces that soak up water. I see developers clear cut parcels of land and fill them with buildings and concrete. This is land that would have soaked up water and now it just produces more run off. Developers should be required to develop in a green way that doesn't produce more run off. I don't mind paying a fee increase to improve our storm drainage system, but I hope developers are asked to pay an increase too. Thank you for your time,*

3. *Rachel Parish (No Address)- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead.*

Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you

4. Ellen Lipo (No Address)- Hi: I am asking that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). I'm calling for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. Thank you.

5. Terri Leonard, 928 Sycamore Drive Decatur GA 30030- Hi DeKalb county Commissioners, I am a 30+ year resident of DeKalb County. Please restore this public space. Since 2020, it's been closed to the public. Please restore the greenspace, replant the trees that have been taken, restore the PATH and PATH access for public use. Thanks so much.

6. Sara Bresee, 1422 Sargent Ave SE, Atlanta GA 30316- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: I live at 1422 Sargent Ave SE, Atlanta GA 30316, United States. I'm a resident of Dekalb county and vote in every election. DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's

responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them.

7. Erin Daniel, 778 Gresham Avenue SE Atlanta, GA 30316- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you,

8. Bert Skellie, 2303 Dancing Fox Rd Decatur, GA 30032- Greetings DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: I have been a resident of DeKalb County for most of my 76 years, and I have been in the South River Watershed for the last 23 years. I urge you to reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). I join others in the South River Watershed Alliance in asking for strict adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County. It states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". As a regular bike rider on the Michelle Obama trail and other parts of the South River Trail, I urge you to quickly restore and replace broken parts of the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree

destroyed at the trailhead. We residents of south DeKalb want to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. Our county government should take care of this. Best regards,

9. Debra Miller (No Address)- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them.

10. Wilson Stiner (No Address)- The park and the river have returned my affection ten fold. Seeing the removal of my friends and web of beings interconnected by that which sustains life has sparked a grieving process. Although much damage has already been done against the will of the community, it would be a true boon to grant the public access to the portions of the remaining South River watershed system. I have hiked and paddled, conversed and taken silent refuge in Intrenchment Creek and Weelaunee. So many have done the same. Please hold yourselves and the 2020 REal Estate Agreement parties to their word. Respectfully,

11. Sarah Birdsong, 722 Ormewood Ave, Atlanta GA 30312- Hello. My name is Sarah Birdsong. I live at 722 Ormewood Ave, Atlanta GA 30312 and I am begging you to prioritize public health and safety by reopening entrenchment creek park. DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the

2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and DeKalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Best,

12. Sandra- Lee Phipps, 309 S McDonough St Decatur GA 30030- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and DeKalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you.

13. Ray Craig (No Address)- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta,

GA 30316). This is not a big ask. The people are simply asking you to adhere to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County. The Agreement states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens." Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Please fight for this right. Thank you.

14. Hamza Ahmed Dudgeon (No Address)- To whom it may concern, Re-open Intrenchment Creek park, as the propaganda of dangerous traps is yet another ruse for the élites to suppress the will of the people, intentionally designed to suppress the public's voice in regards to Cop City and how DeKalb county should be allocating funds and land usage/zoning. I would kindly ask Michael Thurmond to resign as CEO of DeKalb country for suppressing the people's voice, and overall violence towards the community. Countless dissertations and monographs have been written outlining the empirically proven danger that policing and the carceral state poses to public safety, as well as alternate plans for public safety beyond policing, beyond the prison-industrial complex.

15. Traps (if thats even true), rioting, and looting are cries for change when the voice of the people is surpressed, and Michael Thurmond should expect plenty more of that if he continues his current course of action (not from me, but surely from the people). I strongly predict that the recent course of events, including the murder of Tortuguita, will only escalate unless other policies are chosen. We should have the freedom of choice, knowing the risks, whether or not to bring our children to Intrenchment Creek Park, not the government again stealing civil liberties away from the people, with our own tax dollars no less! Thurmond's executive order should be expected to be challenged in court, as preparations are already underway. Why abide by an unjust law? Shall we not violate this unjust executive order in the spirit of the Boston Tea Party?? Sincerely,

16. *Dr. Ed Williams (No Address)- Good Morning Commissioners, My name is Ed Williams. I am chair of the group Concerned Citizens for Effective Government. I am a taxpayer and resident of DeKalb County. The 1971 Rapid Transit Contract Assistance Agreement (“RTCAA”) has been a primary and essential financial revenue resource that MARTA has depended on to fund its operations for over fifty years. The contract agreement expired on August 31, 2021. MARTA and the local jurisdictions have illegally extended the agreement and sales tax without a referendum as required by the MARTA Act. MARTA has illegally extended its existing contract and sales tax to 2057. The RTCAA contract did not have an extension or renewal clause in it. It was a fifty-year final and binding contract. The RTCAA amendment provision was intended to allow for changes to the transit system plan, and for local jurisdictions to be added to the contract within the term of the contract, not for the final and binding contract terms and sales tax levy to be changed. The RTCAA has never been terminated or renewed. However, it has been amended 15 times. MARTA bond debt is not secured by sufficient revenue streams unrelated to taxes. The projects’ costs are not disclosed thus the public can’t see that they are woefully underfunded. A sales tax has been obligated to undefined project costs that seem to have no end. The project costs are not disclosed in the MARTA Board resolutions or in the RTCAA amendments. MARTA has engaged in accumulating bond debt exceeding 2 billion dollars with a current limit of 6 billion in an attempt to obligate the local jurisdictions without adequate revenue to secure the bonds other than to continue to illegally extend an expired 1971 RTCAA contract and sales tax levy. MARTA has 2.11 billion in revenue bond debt. MARTA bond debt payments are currently 145 million per year. This is 22 percent of the MARTA’s annual total sales tax revenue of 664 million. . The RTCAA contract nor the MARTA Act contemplates or authorizes the imposition or collection of any ad valorem tax for the purpose of financing the System. MARTA’s 2023 annual capital expenses of 716.9 million are more than its primary source of revenue which is 362.4 million (50% of the annual sales tax revenue). The remainder of the capital revenue is federal funding in the amount of 108 million. In 2022 MARTA spent more in capital expenditures on debt service than it did on any other single capital expenditure including facilities and stations. The passenger revenue is 67 million dollars, only 10 percent of its operating budget. MARTA passenger ridership revenue has dropped by half since 2018. MARTA’s operating budget of 652 million is supported by federal funding to the tune of over 203 million compared to the tax revenue of about 321.4 million a year. MARTA expenses exceed its operating revenue by almost 11 million dollars and are being subsidized by 75.5 million in capital outlay funds. It is safe to say if the federal funding was reduced MARTA would not be financially sound and fares would have to be increased. MARTA in 2022 collected in sales taxes over*

\$664.6 million dollars from DeKalb, Fulton, and Clayton, and is projected to collect 683 million in 2023. MARTA has collected since 1973 over 12.5 billion dollars in sales tax revenue. The FY2023 budget totals \$1.3 billion and includes \$587.6 million for operating expenses and \$717 million for capital programming. MARTA's revenue bonds are being paid and secured by an illegal sales tax levy of the 1971 RTCAA and the sales tax levy beyond the August 31, 2021 authorization voted on in 1971 by the citizens of DeKalb County without a referendum. MARTA and the local jurisdictions cannot pledge sales tax revenues without a binding contract approved by the majority of the voters in the local jurisdiction. The 1971 RTCAA expired on August 31, 2021. The bond debt and agreements made between the MARTA and the bondholders are inconsistent with the MARTA Board fiduciary duties and is not in the interest of the citizens and taxpayers of DeKalb, Fulton, Clayton, or the City of Atlanta. These bond obligations exceed the contract revenue stream and extend well beyond the contract terms and authorities. MARTA has refinanced the bonds seven times since 2003, each time the total bond increases, and the obligations get extended further and further into the future without end. The miraculous thing is that there have been no major projects, yet MARTA continues to manufacture ways to spend and justify the increases in bond debt. All MARTA projects that were envisioned in the 1971 RTCAA contract were completed decades ago, yet MARTA continues to amend its system plan and extend and amend the expired 1971 RTCAA contract without a referendum instead of renewing or entering into a new agreement with the local jurisdictions. Thank You

17. Emily Damrel, 2525 McCurdy Way Decatur, GA 30033- Hello Dekalb County Commissioners, As a Dekalb homeowner and taxpayer, I have been dismayed by the blatant betrayal of public trust displayed by the Dekalb County Commission and CEO Michael Thurmond. When I pay tax dollars towards public amenities, I expect that they will not be destroyed by a corporate entity in direct contradiction of the binding legal agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County. While Blackhall Studios clearly has no vested interest in the wellbeing of our community, Dekalb County elected officials have a solemn duty to work for our common good. It makes my blood boil to see Intrinishment Creek Park, a public greenspace, ripped apart in spite of the mounting evidence that this development as a whole could go down as one of the greatest environmental injustices in Atlanta's history. It's an outrage, and I am now calling on you, my elected officials to please step in and restore the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Thank you,

18. *Steve Williams, 1015 Arden Ave Atlanta, GA 30310- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: I as a resident of the South River in Atlanta and a member of the South Riverside Watership Alliance call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Based on this legal mandate, I call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park Regards*

19. *Yonah Solomon, 1864 Flintwood Drive 30316- Board of Commissioners, It's been over a month since Intrenchment Creek Park was closed to the public citing safety concerns but there have been no updates as to the reopening timeline. There are no cited ongoing safety hazards so what is keeping the county from reopening the park? Thank you,*

20. *Katie Chesnut, 93 Bear Run Cir Ellijay GA 30540- DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you*

21. *Erica Meade, 1021 Edie ave SE Atlanta, GA 30312- My name is Erica meade and my address is 1021 Edie ave SE Atlanta, GA 30312. I would like to say that the park needs to be reopened. Anyone who pays taxes should be able to enjoy the park without fear of being arrested.*

22. *Manisha Lance, 8060 Adair Lane, Apt 33008, Atlanta, GA- Dear Board of Commissioners. My name is Manisha Lance . I live at 8060 Adair Lane, Apt 3308 , Atlanta, GA. I live in Fulton county but I work and recreate in Dekalb county. I am writing to you to ask that you reopen Weelaunee People’s Park/ Intrenchment Creek Park. I love hiking and exploring the trails. We need more public green spaces in the community. Thank you*

23. *Susanne Blam, 191 Locust Street NE Atlanta, Ga 30317- Dear Esteemed Commissioners, Thank you for hearing and hopefully acting upon my comments this morning. My first concern relates to Intrenchment Creek. I am sure you are well aware of the legal requirements established in the agreement with Blackhall Studio's. Therefore I ask that you please stop delaying and immediately restore access to all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park and all its public amenities. Your southeast Dekalb County residents have been disenfranchised far too long and deserve better. Secondly, I ask that you please do something immediately about the Dekalb County Animal Shelter crisis. A few weeks ago there were over 600 dogs at the shelter. This building was designed for far less than that. You now have an opportunity to right a shortsighted wrong. Please allocate SPLOST funding to expand the capacity of the shelter and build another wing as well as additional outdoor amenity space. These dogs are suffering greatly. We also need a short term solution that doesn't include euthanizing hundreds of dogs for space. A temporary space must be found to help meet the current needs. This goes hand in hand with resources to support that space. We need to implement policies to prevent more homeless pets and do a better job enforcing existing laws. There are many things we can do to improve this situation and we as a society have a moral obligation to provide humane treatment to these animals. Thank you for your time. Sincerely,*

24. *Susan Firestone, 1227 Church Street Unit E, Decatur, GA 30030- Commissioners, I urge you as commissioners on the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People’s Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). I call on you for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are*

"replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Thank you,

25. Mike McCord, 1029 Hillcrest Dr SE, Atlanta, GA 30316- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). My house is at 1029 Hillcrest Dr SE, Atlanta, GA 30316 in the same zip code as the park. We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you.

26. Lorraine Fontana, 410 Candler Park Drive, NE, Apt. C-5 Atlanta, GA 30307- Good morning, Commissioners. My Name is Lorraine Fontana and I'm a resident of Dekalb County who lives at 410 Candler Park Drive NE, Apt, C-5, Atlanta, GA 30307. During your 5/2/23 Committee of the Whole meeting, this item on your Agenda: Resolution 2023-0526 to Encourage DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond to End the Executive Order Closing Intrenchment Creek Park and to Reopen It to the Public As Soon As Possible. I later found out via an email response from Commissioner Lorraine Cochran-Johnson (the ONLY Commissioner who responded to my email to you ALL) that there never was a vote on this at that meeting, She did not say why. If you do vote on this today please vote to reopen the park once again for public use. After CEO Thurman closed it over safety concerns, there WAS a complete walk through of the property and it was made safe from any dangerous conditions you say were found. It has been closed since then so there should be no NEW dangers created since then, but the County has kept its citizens from using and enjoying this Park. I also want to say I feel Mr. Thurman defamed the previous forest defenders who had been camping in the park by saying that dangerous objects found were

INTENDED to injure the adults and children who would use the park. We all know that claim is ridiculous, and a politically motivated attempt to further paint the picture of activists as evil people intent on hurting others. The same goes for the unconstitutional charges of domestic terrorism against many of those arrested. Start doing the RIGHT thing and open that park...AND Stop Cop City!

27. Bill Eisenhower, 354 9th Street NE Atlanta, Georgia- Good morning, Reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park. It is Dekalb County government's responsibility and mandate to ensure access to public assets. Many of us who live in adjoining counties like to come to Dekalb County to spend money. Thank you.

28. *Mike Brune (No Address)- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: My name is Mike Brune and I'm a native Georgian and resident of Unincorporated DeKalb County. I live in the Parkview neighborhood. I am very disappointed in the development of Intrenchment Creek / Weelaunee People's Park, but I understand that it is moving forward. DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. DeKalb citizens and taxpayers and their rights and needs should take priority over the interests of for-profit businesses like Blackhall Studios. Don't you agree? Thank you for your time. Sincerely yours,*

29. *DJ Fontenot, 3320 Beech Drive Decatur GA- Good morning, I am writing to express my disgust at Dekalb County leadership for facilitating the destruction of acres and acres of forest against the will of our residents, in service to corporate interests who seek to further militarize our city. Whom do you actually serve? Why should I vote for you when I see my tax money being spent on violent goons that kill and cage our neighbors? Why should I respect you when you are clearly taking orders from people that have a lot of money? Reopen OUR park and Stop Cop City.*

30. *Wilson B. Stiner (No Address)- The park and river have returned my affection beyond my imagination. Seeing the removal of my friends and webs of beings interconnected by that which sustains life has sparked a deep grieving process in me and many others who draw from love and oneness. Although much*

damage has already been done against the will of the community, it would be a true boon to grant the public access to the portions of the remaining South River watershed system and do whatever possible to let it regenerate. I have hiked and paddled, conversed and taken silent refuge in Intrinchment Creek and Weelaunee. So many have done the same. Please hold yourselves and the 2020 Real Estate Agreement parties to their word, and reconsider plowing forward into a culture of fear. Respectfully,

31. Sasha Von Hanna (No Address)- Sharing a poem written by my child & I. Our family found sanctuary in Weelaunee Forest, during this pandemic. It was a safe place until the police started coming around. Please reopen the park. There is a magical forest. It has magic swirling all around. With plants and mushrooms to learn about animals, bugs and discoveries abound. The police don't like this forest. They want more power. They want to make us cower. Said, no more playing here, so we can clear..the trees and pioneer a city of fear. Friends of the Forest said "No!" They came in droves. We gathered, played and planted. Some friends even made the Forest their home. This made the police angry. They attacked the Forest time and time again. Then a loved one was killed Manuel "Tortuguita" Paez Teran. We've occupied, called in, and marched. Wrote letters and shouted in the streets, "Don't don't don't cut down the trees." Mayor Dickens listen to what we really need. Solidarity and awareness growing. More friends coming and going to defend the Atlanta Forest. No Cop City here or anywhere! Please Save Weelaunee!

32. Bill Eisenhower, 354 Ninth Street NE Atlanta, Georgia 30309- Good morning, Please reopen all 136 acres of Intrinchment Creek Park. It is Dekalb County government's responsibility to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Restore the greenspace starting by replanting all trees. We like to spend money in Dekalb County. Thank you,

33. Kira Hynes, 2037 Brannen Rd SE Atlanta, GA 30316- To Dekalb Co Board Of Commissions, I have lived in Dekalb county just short of my whole life. Intrinchment Creek Park is one of Dekalb's most beautiful green spaces and an integral part of the community which surrounds it. Keeping this park closed is a disservice to the taxpayers and community memebers who have been asking for years for the preservation of this irreplaceable space. Your constituents have been clear- we want the park NOT cop city! At any rate, we deserve to enjoy it for as long as possible, which should be forever. Lest you forget the health of earth and, more closesly, Atlanta's green cover, impacts us all. Regardless of class or race or politics, nothing can wash away the reality of the healing and

balance this park and it's many old growth trees provides for Atlantans. Let our children play in the park, let our adults relax with the beauty of nature. Please let us all stay connected to our planet! Re open Intrenchment Creek Park Today!
Sincerely,

34. *Randi Brant, 2071 Cavanaugh Ave SE, Atlanta, GA 30316- DeKalb County Commissioners and CEO Micheal Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you.*

35. *Lisa Jouet, 433 Highland Ave NE Apt 1110 Atlanta, GA 30312- DeKalb County residents and taxpayers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Michael Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). Atlanta residents feel the same way, I know I do. We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of*

6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you,

36. Matt Heuser (No Address)- I'm a dekalb county resident who live in the Brook Glen subdivision. For the nearly two years we have lived in this subdivision we have dealt with speeders coming down the hill in our subdivision to the point that it is so common and so dangerous we don't feel it's safe for our children to play outside in the front yard unsupervised. We need to put some speed bumps in on John Carrol Drive, Seton Hall Way, and Brown Drive just to name a few. This is also a subdivision with many elderly people who like to walk. It's unsafe with the already narrow roads we have to do so. Thank you.

37. Derek Jaworski, 307 Adair St C5, Decatur, GA 30030- Hello, My name is Derek Jaworski. I live in Decatur and I am urging you to reopen Intrenchment Creek park. The county should adhere to the legal requirements established between Blackhall Studios and DeKalb County which requires that public amenities remain accessible to the public. Because of this legal mandate, the amenities of Intrenchment Creek Park should also be restored including the PATH trail, the parking lot, gazebo and any trees that have been cut down. DeKalb County has a responsibility to provide amenities such as public parks and trails to its residents and to work to create a healthier environment. The closing of intrenchment creek park is part of a broader issue of DeKalb County not valuing urban forests, the health of the South River watershed and the health of the communities along this river.

38. Gale Blitzer (No Address)- As a resident that frequented the Weelaunee park before the illegal land grab for the construction of cop city and Blackhall studios, I am very disappointed in the leadership of this county. You have sold out this community for greed, you are condoning terror perpetuated by law enforcement, enough is enough reopen the park and end this madness.

39. Margaret Spalding (No Address)- DeKalb BOC, CEO Thurmond, and Parks officials: Nearly 800 people, 75-80% of whom are DeKalb residents (as of yesterday evening), have signed a petition asking DeKalb County to Reopen Intrenchment Creek Park. The petition was opened by myself, Margaret Spalding, on 4.25.2023. I am a resident of unincorporated DeKalb County living at 2053 Edgemore Dr SE, Atlanta 30316. I frequent and value Intrenchment Creek Park, and am the Executive Director of the South River Watershed Alliance. As of late

yesterday: Approx 88% of signees live in Georgia Approx 80% of signees live in metro Atlanta A community advocacy campaign targeted at DeKalb County taxpayers and voters from all Districts will continue until the park is reopened. Petition language reads as follows: DeKalb Commission and CEO Thurmond: DeKalb County residents and taxpayers and ICP park-goers demand that the DeKalb County Commission and CEO Micheal Thurmond reopen all 136 acres of Intrenchment Creek Park / Weelaunee People's Park (3251 West Side Pl, Atlanta, GA 30316). We call for adherence to the legal requirements established in the 2020 Real Estate Agreement between Blackhall Studios and Dekalb County which states that existing public amenities remain accessible to the public until they are "replaced" at Michelle Obama Park. Verbatim: "Blackhall will employ a phased construction where the improvements on the new County property will be constructed in a coordinated schedule with the removal of any improvements on the current County property (Intrenchment Creek Park) to minimize the loss of use by citizens.". Based on this legal mandate, we call for the swift restoration and replacement of all public amenities including the South River Trail PATH, PATH trailhead, gravel parking lot, park sign, gazebo, trashcans, restoration of greenspace, and replanting for all trees of 6" or more diameter that have been destroyed as well as replanting for every tree destroyed at the trailhead. Residents of southeast DeKalb County have the right, like all DeKalb citizens, to access and enjoy taxpayer assets. And it is DeKalb County government's responsibility and mandate to protect public assets and ensure access to them. Thank you.

40. Stephen Wingeier, 296 Arizona Ave. NE Atlanta GA 30307- Dear Commissioners: As democratically elected representatives of the people of Dekalb County, we expect and insist that you obey the letter of the law. A forest that is legally "protected" by government should not need to be "defended" against that same government when it reneges on its legally enforceable promises. It is outrageous that the citizens are forced to do the job we are paying you to do. Please restore the public amenities of Intrenchment Creek Park immediately. Thank you.

Public Comments: In Person

Noah Grigni-329 W Howard Avenue Decatur GA 30030, Joaye Crawford- 184 Rogers Street Northeast #304 Atlanta GA 30317, Zoey Laird- 469 Chevelle Lane Decatur GA 30030, Stephen Binney- 1083 Seville Drive Clarkston GA 30021, Frank Aumam- 1975 Lakeside Parkway Tucker GA 30084, Laura Kearns- 2149 Azalea Circle Decatur GA 30033, Ryan Richardson- 1446 Bouldercrest Road Apt C3 Atlanta GA 30316, Sarah Gill- 1648 Berkeley Lane Northeast Atlanta GA 30329, Matthew Johnson- 1742 McLennon Avenue GA 30307, Sabrina Benson- 3683 John Carrol Drive Decatur GA 30034, Carol Hayes, 2665 Spicer Lane Decatur GA 30033, Amy Taylor, 1162 Key Road Southeast Atlanta GA 30316

D. 10:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING

Citizens may speak for or against an item that is considered by law to be a zoning ordinance and each side will have ten minutes to present its case. Citizens may also speak for or against an item that is placed on the public hearing agenda but is not a zoning ordinance. In that case, each side will have five minutes to present its case. In the event there is more than one speaker per side, speakers must divide their time in order to complete their full presentation within the ten-minute time allotment, or the five minute time allotment. When the buzzer sounds to indicate that time has run out, the speaker will be expected to immediately cease speaking and to leave the podium area. Prior to speaking, a speaker shall complete a speaker card and present it when approaching the podium. If a speaker has any documents for the commissioners, the speaker shall provide 10 copies when approaching the podium. Seven copies are for the commissioners and the remaining copies are for the planning director, the county attorney and the clerk. In all zoning ordinance and traffic calming cases, staff shall make their recommendation for action to the Commission first followed by applicants or citizens speaking in favor of the item. Applicants in zoning ordinance cases shall have the right to reserve time for rebuttal. Opponents of a zoning ordinance item shall have no right of rebuttal. For all other items placed on the public hearing agenda, applicants or citizens speaking in favor of the item shall speak first followed by opponents of the item. Once the citizens have finished speaking, staff shall make a recommendation for action to the Commission. At this point, citizens are no longer allowed to speak unless called to the podium by an individual commissioner to answer questions or provide information. Speakers should always talk directly into the microphone and begin by stating their name, address and the name of any organization they represent. Abusive, profane or derogatory language will not be permitted. Holding up signs, clapping, yelling, standing or laying in the aisles to show support for or opposition to a speaker will not be permitted, but a show of hands or quietly standing in place will be permitted to show support for or opposition to a speaker's position.

Public Works - Transportation

[2023-0428](#)

Commission District(s): 3 & 7

Traffic Calming Petition - Brown Drive between Belmont Abbey Drive to Holy Cross Drive. No Cost to County.

Support: Evan Lawson- 3691 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034, Shirley Hill- 3693 Brandeis Court Decatur GA 30034, Jerry- 3748 Brown Drive Decatur Ga 30034, James A. Bailey- 3817 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034, Violet Seals-Clark- 3731 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034, Sabrina Benson- 3683 John Carrol Drive Decatur GA 30034

Opposition: None

MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0429](#)

Commission District(s): 3 & 7

Traffic Calming Petition - Brown Drive between Brookside Parkway to Cul-de-sac. No Cost to County.

Support: Sabrina Benson- 3683 John Carrol Drive Decatur GA 30034, Violet Seals-Clark- 3731 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034, Gwendolyn Hannah- 3723 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034, Shirley Hill- 3693 Brandeis Court Decatur GA 30034, Evan Lawson- 3691 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034, James A. Bailey- 3817 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034

Opposition: Vickie Seals- 3707 Brown Drive Decatur GA 30034, Stephan Binney- 1083 Seville Drive Clarkston GA 30321

MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0430](#)

Commission District(s): 4, 5 & 7

Traffic Calming Petition - Mainstreet Park Drive between Bridgewater Court and Martin Road. Cost to the County is \$24,900.

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0434](#)

Commission District(s): 5 & 7

Traffic Calming Petition - Swift Creek Drive between South Deshon Road and Swift Creek Lane. No Cost to County.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

“DECISION ONLY” ITEMS – NO PUBLIC HEARING

Planning & Sustainability

[2022-2254](#)

COMMISSION DISTRICT(S): Commission District 04 Super District 06
Application of Avondale Park, LLC c/o Felipe Castellanos for a Major Modification to zoning conditions pursuant to CZ-21-1245061 in the MU-5 (Mixed-Use Very High Density) Zoning District for a mixed residential, office, and commercial development to change the use of the office and retail buildings designated as "A", "B", and "C" on the approved concept plan, to now combine those buildings into one mixed-use building with up to 49,000 square feet of commercial and up to 202 apartment units, at 3458, 3468 and 3478 Mountain Drive.

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

E. APPEALS

Planning & Sustainability

[2023-0413](#)

COMMISSION DISTRICT(S): 2 & 6

Appeal of a Decision of the Historic Preservation Commission at 1853 North Decatur Road

MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be approved to reverse and remand the Historic Preservation Commission's decision with direction. On remand, the Commission should explain its application of the factors in Section 13.5-8(3) and the Design Manual for the Druid Hills Local Historic District to the facts of this case, including whether it is feasible to rehabilitate the property as currently constructed, and whether its decision is consistent with prior decisions of the Historic Preservation Commission involving similar properties. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

F. APPOINTMENTS

NONE

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Board of Commissioners

[2023-0531](#)

Commission District(s): All

Approval of Minutes for the May 2, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 1

[2023-0545](#)

Commission District(s): District 1

Appropriate \$100,000 from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant funds assigned to Account 105744.63258.521209.01.01.602479 reserved for District 1 to St. Vincent de Paul to provide emergency eviction assistance.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 3

[2023-0544](#)

Commission District(s): District 3

Commission District(s): District 3 District 3 Allocation to appropriate American Rescue Plan Award funds assigned to POETA Account

#106388.63230.602778.01.03.602778 reserved for District 3 (Amount Not to Exceed) \$160,000 to Community Based Organizations to assist with Rent, Mortgage, Utilities, Food and any other essential needs caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 4

[2023-0374](#)

Commission District(s): District 4

Allocation to appropriate (not to exceed) \$30,000.00 of District 4 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) from POETA account #106388. 63230.521209.10.4. 602778 to Live Healthy and Thrive Youth Foundation Inc. to assist youth and families impacted by COVID 19 Pandemic

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0510](#)

Commission District(s): District 4

Allocation (not to exceed) \$50,000 of District 4 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) from POETA account #106388. 63230.521209.10.4. 602778 to the Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence to assist women and children impacted by COVID 19 Pandemic.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0511](#)**Commission District(s):** District 4

Allocation (not to exceed) \$30,000 of District 4 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) from POETA account #106388. 63230.521209.10.4. 602778 to the Junior League of DeKalb County to assist individuals impacted by COVID 19 Pandemic.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0512](#)**Commission District(s):** District 4

Allocation (not to exceed) \$15,000 of District 4 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) from POETA account #106388. 63230.521209.10.4. 602778 to BeSome One, Inc. to provide resources, life skill education and training through the game of chess to Wade Walker YMCA youth impacted by COVID 19 Pandemic.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be to approve the substitute. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0513](#)**Commission District(s):** District 4

Allocation (not to exceed) \$30,000 of District 4 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) from POETA account #106388. 63230.521209.10.4. 602778 to We Love Buford Highway, Inc. to assist individuals impacted by COVID 19 Pandemic.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 6[2023-0524](#)**Commission District(s):** District 6

To Appropriate a District 6 Reserves to Support Phase II of the DeKalb Village Conservation Community Strategic Plan

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be rescinded during the May 23, 2023 Board of Commissioners Meeting via Item 2023-0651. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved during the May 26, 2023 Board of Commissioners Meeting via Item 2023-0653. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and CEO

[2023-0514](#)

Commission District(s): All

Approval of Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of April 25, 2023

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Solicitor-State Court

[2023-0496](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

Approval to Accept the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) FY23 Grant Award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) for the Solicitor-General’s Victim-Witness Assistance Program.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0531, 2023-0545, 2023-0544, 2023-0374, 2023-0510, 2023-0511, 2023-0513, 2023-0514, 2023-0496 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

H. PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Board of Commissioners - District 6

[2023-0526](#)

Commission District(s): District 3, 6, and all commission districts

A Resolution to Encourage DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond to End the Executive Order Closing Intrenchment Creek Park and to Reopen It to the Public As Soon As Possible

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be deferred for 30 days, until June13, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Chief Executive Office

[2023-0533](#)

Commission District(s): All

To Approve the 2023 Capital Project List

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Finance

[2023-0532](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A resolution authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Tax Anticipation Notes for 2023, due December 19, 2023 in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$80,000,000, to YYY, for the purposes of obtaining a temporary loan to pay current expenses during the 2023 calendar year. PFM Financial Advisors LLC, the County’s Municipal Advisor, will conduct a competitive process.

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Fire & Rescue Services

[2023-0508](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

Mattress Donations from Tempur-Pedic North America LLC

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Medical Examiner

[2023-0315](#)

Commission District(s): All Districts

Acceptance of Grant Funding in the Amount of \$100,000 from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for the DeKalb County Medical Examiners Office

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be to approve the substitute. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Public Works - Roads & Drainage

[2023-0353](#)**Commission District(s):** All Districts

Stormwater Fee Increase - The proposed fee increases are from currently four dollars (\$4.00) per month per equivalent residential unit to; Eight dollars (\$8.00) per month per equivalent residential unit for the year 2023. Nine dollars (\$9.00) per month per equivalent residential unit for the year 2024; and Ten dollars (\$10.00) per month per equivalent residential unit for the year 2025 and for every subsequent year, subject to adjustment through official action of the DeKalb County Governing Authority.

Out of these fees, an annual fund of \$350,000.00 from the Stormwater Utility Fund shall be established for the purposes of supporting a Green Schoolyards and Educational partnership with the DeKalb County School System (DCSD).

MOTION was made by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be deferred to the Committee of the Whole, and return to the Board on May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Purchasing & Contracting

Purchasing & Contracting - to ERPS Committee

[2023-0244](#)**Commission District(s): ALL**

CO - Change Order No. 7 to Contract 1010560 Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System (Multiyear): for use by the Departments of E-911 and Fire Rescue. This contract consists of providing an enhanced CAD system for receiving and responding to the County's emergency 911 calls. This request seeks to: (1) rescind Change Order No. 3 of an obsolete module that has been replaced with the updated CAD Text-to-Speech module; (2) requests approval of the Rapid IOS module which will put up locations of the callers; and (3) the implementation of CAD interface for Fire Rescue. Awarded to CentralSquare Technologies (TriTech Software Systems). Amount Not To Exceed: \$58,445.07.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0244, 2023-0396 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0396](#)**Commission District(s): ALL**

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1220675 Demolition of Residential and Commercial Buildings (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Departments of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA) and Fire Rescue Services (FR). This contract consists of asbestos abatement, demolition of commercial and residential buildings and debris removal. This request is to add the Department of Fire Rescue and funds to complete required demolition. Awarded to: Complete Demolition Services, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$41,910.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0244, 2023-0396 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Purchasing & Contracting - to OPS Committee

[2023-0293](#)

Commission District(s): ALL

LB - Invitation No. 22-101540 DeKalb County Courthouse Parking Deck Renovation Project (445 days): for use by the Department of Facilities Management (FM). Consists of repairs to concrete and steel beams, columns, connections, steel plates, expansion joints, waterproofing, new electrical LED lighting, inspection of existing panel boards, plumbing, HVAC unit, fire protection piping, etc. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder: Restocon Corporation. Amount Not To Exceed: \$9,895,518.75.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0323](#)

Commission District(s): ALL

RAT - Contract No. 1313602 Mailing Equipment, Supplies, and Maintenance (Statewide Contract No. 99999-SPD-T20271514-0001) (Multiyear): for use by the Department of Facilities Management (FM). This contract consists of the leasing of postage mailroom equipment. This request seeks to ratify the replacement contract executed under the new SWC for mailing equipment, supplies, and maintenance. Awarded to: Quadient, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$115,091.40.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0323, 2023-0359, 2023-0397 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0359](#)

Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1279477 Microsoft (MS) Azure SCE Services: for use by the Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT). This contract consists of piggybacking off the competitively let Statewide Contract (SWC) 99999-SPD-SPD0000060-0006 for the purchase of thirty-six (36) months of MS Azure SCE service credits to operate the County's business systems and data storage. Awarded to Dell Marketing, LP. Amount Not To Exceed: \$1,300,991.40.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0323, 2023-0359, 2023-0397 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0397](#)

Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 9 to Contract No. 10-901833 Systems Maintenance and Support Agreement for Construction and Use Permits, Code Enforcement, Cashiering, Customer Services and Licensing: for use by the Department of Innovation and Technology (IT). This contract consists of the implementation of mobile capabilities. Awarded to Infor Public Sector, Inc. Amount Not to Exceed: \$98,765.00.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0323, 2023-0359, 2023-0397 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

2023-0433

Commission District(s): ALL

REN- Contract Nos.: 1296353, 1296358, 1296360, 1295907, 1296448, 1295914, 1296454, 1296417, 1296362, 1296020, 1296458, 1321602, 1296027, 1296365, 1296467, 1296559, 1296815, 1296651, 1295939, 1298227, 1296826, 1296828, 1295932, 1296472, 1295979, 1295933, 1296529, 1295934, 1295945, 1296668, 1295952, 1296803, 1296574, 1295957, 1296535, 1296957, 1296434, 1295975, 1300505, 1295981, 1296971, 1296829, 1295992, 1295997, 1296000, 1295994 and 1296008 Parts for Vehicles and Off-Road Equipment (1st Renewal of 2 Options to Renew): for use by Public Works-Fleet Management, Police Services, the Department of Fire & Rescue. These contracts consist of repair parts for all types of vehicles and equipment. This request is to exercise the 1st renewal option through June 30, 2024. Awarded to: below listed 47 vendors. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$6,280,000.00.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Purchasing & Contracting - to PECS Committee

[2023-0326](#)**Commission District(s): All**

REN - Contract No. 1226949 Meal Services for Seniors: Provision of Congregate & Shelf-Stable Meals at Senior Centers (Annual Contract - 2nd Renewal of 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Department of Human Services (HS). This contract consists of the provision of congregate and shelf-stable meals for seniors. This request seeks to ratify a previously provided forty-five (45) day contract term increase. This request also seeks to exercise the 2nd renewal option through April 30, 2024 and add a service location. Awarded to Meals On Wheels Atlanta, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$773,768.72.

MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. Commissioner Steve Bradshaw was absent during this vote. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Bradshaw

Purchasing & Contracting - to PWI Committee

[2023-0325](#)**Commission District(s): ALL**

REN - Contract No. 1290916 Ready Mix Concrete (Annual Contract - 1st Renewal of 2 Options to Renew): for use by Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D). This contract consists of providing ready-mix concrete for the construction and patching of sidewalks, curbs, headwalls, and driveways. This request is to exercise the 1st renewal option through May 31, 2024 with a price increase. Awarded to F.M. Shelton, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$375,000.00.

MOTION was made by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be approved. Commissioner Steve Bradshaw was absent during this vote. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Bradshaw

[2023-0356](#)

Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1201890 Consent Decree - Gravity Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement (CD-GSRR): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists primarily of providing gravity sewer rehabilitation and replacement via cured in place pipe (CIPP) with internal and external point repairs, as well as open cut pipe bursting. This request seeks to utilize the Engineering News Record - Construction Cost Index (ENR-CCI) to calculate and pay additional cost impacts incurred due to the current market's supply chain issues. Additionally, this request seeks to amend and utilize the existing Owners Allowance line item to pay for these additional cost impacts with existing funds. This request also seeks to increase the contract term through December 31, 2024. Lastly, using existing funds and based upon the ENR-CCI, this request seeks to address retroactive payment of increased costs for periods prior to 3rd quarter 2022. Awarded to The Renee Group, Inc. Amount Not to Exceed: \$2,141,078.00

MOTION was made by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0435](#)

Commission District(s): 2 and 6

CO - Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 1288704 North Decatur Road Roundabout Improvements (120 days): for use by Public Works-Transportation. This contract consists of the construction of mini-roundabouts at the North Decatur Road intersections with Springdale Road and Oakdale Road, including related curb, ramps, and sidewalks. This request seeks to increase the contract funds and term through December 31, 2023. Awarded to: S D & C, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$25,035.00.

MOTION was made by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be approved. Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson was absent during this vote. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

Watershed Management

[2023-0479](#)

Commission District(s): 2 & 6

Agreement for the Construction and Financing of Sewer Upgrades with Decatur East Phase II, LP for the Payment of \$97,000 to the County.

MOTION was made by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be approved. Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson was absent during this vote. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

I. ITEMS FOR DECISION BY THE BOARD

Board of Commissioners

[2023-0465](#)

Commission District(s): All Districts

To explore the option of including additional fees for expedited and/or after-hours water service reconnection

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be deferred to the next meeting, until May 23, 2023. Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson was absent during this vote. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 1

[2021-2855](#)

Commission District(s): All Districts

A Request to Consider Establishing County Website Update

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be withdrawn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 2

[2023-0285](#)

Commission District(s): All

A Resolution Establishing Regulation Informing Identification of a Project List for a Renewal of the DeKalb County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax

MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be deferred to the Committee of the Whole, and return to the Board on May 23, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 6

[2021-3338](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

To Amend Chapter 20, Article X concerning domestic partnerships.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

No: 4 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

[2023-0494](#)

Commission District(s): Districts 2 and 6

Ordinance to Amend the Code of DeKalb County, Georgia, Chapter 4, Article III, Pertaining to Retailers of Alcoholic Beverages and For Other Purposes

MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 7

[2023-0154](#)

Commission District(s): District 7

To Appropriate a Total of \$117,000 from the Reserve for Appropriation to Pond & Company for a Study on the Candler Rd. Corridor

MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be withdrawn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Chief Executive Office

[2023-0362](#)

Commission District(s): All

To Appropriate \$650,000 from the Tourism Product Development CIP Account to Fund Various Projects

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and CEO

[2023-0444](#)

Commission District(s): All

Approval of Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of April 11, 2023

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Finance

[2023-0352](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

Approve Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Loan DW2020036 Promissory Note and Loan Agreement modification documents. The substantive modifications include (1) a 14-month change in the estimated completion date for the project from March 2022 to May 2023 and (2) a related 14-month delay in the commencement of the 30-year principal amortization period for the loan.

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Human Services

[2023-0423](#)

Commission District(s): All

Transferring of Funds from the General Fund to Senior Citizens Grant Fund

MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Purchasing & Contracting

Purchasing & Contracting - to FAB Committee

[2023-0233](#)**Commission District(s): ALL**

SS - DeKalb LINKS (Sole Source - Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Department of Purchasing and Contracting (P&C). Consists of a customized, cloud-based application designed and integrated specifically for the DeKalb First Local Small Business Enterprise (LSBE) program. Awarded to: Georgia Minority Supplier Development Council (GMSDC). Amount Not To Exceed \$170,000.00.

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Purchasing & Contracting - to OPS Committee

[2023-0375](#)**Commission District(s): ALL**

REN - Contract Nos.: 1294461, 1294463, 1294464, 1294465, 1294470 and 1294469 Purchase of Tires (Annual Contract-1st of 2 Options to Renew): for use by Public Works-Fleet Management. These contracts consist of the purchase of new tires & tubes, tire recapping and/or repair services. Awarded to Action Tire Co., Atlanta Commercial Tire, Best Drive Tire, LLC., J&R Tire, Inc., Nextire Commercial Inc. & Southern Tire Mart, LLC. This request seeks to exercise the 1st renewal option through June 30, 2024. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$2,750,000.00.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be to approve the substitute. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Purchasing & Contracting - to PECS Committee[2023-0349](#) **Commission District(s):** 2, 4, 5, 6, 7

RA - Ratification of Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1307635 Cooperative Agreement for Playground Systems, Installation, Service and Related Items: for use by the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA). This contract consists of upgrades and renovations for Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreational Areas. This request seeks to ratify an increase to the scope and contract funds to complete a surfacing project for the playground at Medlock Park. Awarded to: BCI Burke Company LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$86,700.00.

MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Purchasing & Contracting - to PWI Committee[2023-0421](#) **Commission District(s):** All

CO - Change Order No. 5 to Contract No. 978332 (formerly 15-903011) CIP Program Management Services: for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of providing CIP Program Management Services; inclusive of program development and management, project controls, hydraulic modeling, master plan scope development, project management, technical specification and standards quality control, risk management, community outreach, technical support, and PMIS implementation support. This request is to increase contract funding, contract term, and scope of work to allow for the continuation of existing and new CIP program management tasks. Awarded to AECOM Technical Services Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$36,336,452.00.

MOTION was made by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be to approve the substitute. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

Superior Court

[2023-0363](#)

Commission District(s): All Districts

SPLOST Funding Contract with DKSO For Rekeying Upgrades For The DeKalb County Courthouse - \$167,696.53

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0363, 2023-0450 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

[2023-0450](#)

Commission District(s): All

SPLOST Funding Contract for Modernization of Existing Elevators for the DeKalb County Courthouse Judicial Tower - \$180,505.72

MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. Items 2023-0363, 2023-0450 were heard together. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

WorkSource DeKalb

[2023-0422](#)

Commission District(s): ALL DISTRICTS

Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between DeKalb County Government and Georgia Piedmont Technical College for the purpose of joint administration of the DeKalb Virtual Career Academy 2023 and not to exceed \$160,000.

MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

J. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY IN COUNTY SERVICES.

DeKalb County Government does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities or exclude them from participating in or receiving benefits of its services, programs, or activities, based on disability. Janet Essix, DeKalb County Government's Employee Relations Manager and ADA Coordinator, is designated to coordinate the County's compliance with Part 35 of the Department of Justice regulations regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act. Janet Essix may be contacted at 1300 Commerce Drive, 1st Floor, Decatur, GA 30030, 404.371.2309, to request information about access for persons with disabilities to County services, programs and activities, or to discuss a grievance regarding an impediment to such access. Ten days' notice is requested for special accommodations.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further official business, MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be approved to adjourn the May 9, 2023 Board of Commissioners Meeting at 12:18 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6- Commissioner Patrick, Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bradshaw, Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Cochran-Johnson

No: 1- Commissioner Terry



Robert Patrick
Presiding Officer



Michael Thurmond
Chief Executive Officer



Barbara Sanders-Norwood
County Clerk