# **DeKalb County Government**

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



# **Summary**

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 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 Jeff Rader, 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

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

This meeting will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Simultaneous public access to the meeting will be available (1) via live stream on DCTV's webpage, and (2) on DCTVChannel23.TV. Public Comment may be submitted by sending an email no longer than one page to PublicComment@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 and broadcast. Emails received outside of the allotted time will be included in the Public Comments record for the next meeting after the receipt of those emails. The body of your email must include your first and last name, followed by your address. By submitting an email at any time for public comment, you agree to have your name, address, and email broadcast on the teleconference (Zoom) and entered in the record/minutes. Abusive, profane or derogatory language will not be permitted. The Public Comment segment will not exceed 30 minutes and individual emails will be read by the Clerk for no more than 3 minutes each. The County reserves the right, at the County's sole discretion, to (1) add your email to the record/minutes without reading any of it into the broadcast or (2) add your email to the record/minutes and read all or a portion of your email into the broadcast.

#### A. INSPIRATIONAL

Pastor Troy Bush- Rehoboth Baptist Church

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson- District 5

#### **B. PRESENTATIONS**

COVID-19 Response

#### C. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public Comment may be submitted by sending an email no longer than one page to PublicComment@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 and broadcast. Emails received outside of the allotted time will be included in the Public Comments record for the next meeting after the receipt of those emails. The body of your email must include your first and last name, followed by your address. By submitting an email at any time for public comment, you agree to have your name, address, and email broadcast on the teleconference (Zoom) and entered in the record/minutes. Abusive, profane or derogatory language will not be permitted. The Public Comment segment will not exceed 30 minutes and individual emails will be read by the Clerk for no more than 3 minutes each. The County reserves the right, at the County's sole discretion, to (1) add your email to the record/minutes without reading any of it into the broadcast or (2) add your email to the record/minutes and read all or a portion of your email into the broadcast.

- 1. Anne DeMartini, 2 Interlock Ave NW, Atlanta, 30318- Hello, My name is Anne DeMartini (2 Interlock Ave NW, Atlanta, 30318). I write to request that you approve resolution 2022-1953 asking for additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. I do not support the creation of this police training facility, no matter its location. Georgia needs to be investing in resources that actually keep communities safe and healthy, rather than the expansion of law enforcement and the carceral system that disproportionately impacts Black and Brown people. Police, even if better trained, do not prevent crime. Access to housing, education and fair wages prevent crime. Additionally, this development process, from site selection and Atlanta City Council approval, to Stakeholder Committee engagement, has not adhered to principles of democracy and accountability. It is a simple ask for the site developers to follow standards that would be required in the normal zoning and land development approval process for any major development.
- 2. Karl Peterson (No Address)- This comment relates to the proposed APSTC development. I am a resident and taxpayer in southwest Dekalb county and I have been closely following the activity and public discourse around development in this area. I visit the area frequently and it is a special place. I have been appalled by the lack of public transparency and civic due diligence for this project. It has become clear that there is limited support and considerable concern from the public for this massive undertaking, and it begs the question whether the lack of accountability and appropriate process is an effort to minimize attention and resistance from the community in Dekalb County and further afield. I would like to say first of all that I oppose the facility for many good reasons. Here we have a public investment that touches on so many important modern issues: •

Historical reconciliation •Racial justice and healing Environmental responsibility and preservation •Police militarization and funding •Public transparency, accountability, and democracy In each of these respects, the APSTC project is a blatant example of backward •Indigenous land rights progress. We need to invest in resources that actually help improve the safety and health of our community and work towards healing past wounds. The land is publicly held for the benefit of the community at large, and the public deserves a voice in whether this project represents and productive or appropriate use of public resources. The process, so far, has sidestepped opportunities for democratic and responsible decision making. There has been no comprehensive Phase II Environmental Site Assessment, nor has their been a noise study relating to gunfire, etc. The Stakeholder Committee has been crippled and development activity has proceeded without permits or transiency. The ask here is that site developers and public officials respect the normal zoning and land development approval process, and that we take the time to have an appropriate public conversation about whether this development is what our county and community needs. Thanks for your time and please do the right thing.

- 3. Donald Fontenot, 3320 Beech Drive in Decatur, GA- I am Donald Fontenot, i live at 3320 Beech Drive in Decatur, GA and I am demanding an end to the hostile actions being taken by our local governments against our citizens and the forest. For months the public has expressed disapproval and outrage that Atlanta would destroy so many acres of wetland, forest, and history to create this huge, bloated cop training facility. Cops do not keep us safe. Housing keeps us safe, transit keeps us safe, WE keep us safe. And we have been ignored at the behest of the Police foundation and their corporate funders, all opposed to the public welfare and our beautiful forest. We're saying stop. Listen to us, even though we aren't bankrolling you.
- 4. Ashley Dixon, 5280 Golfcrest Circle, Stone Mountain GA 30088- Hello, my name is Ashley Dixon and I

am a homeowner at 5280 Golfcrest Circle, Stone Mountain GA 30088. I am in District 5 and my commissioner is Mereda Davis Johnson. My super commissioner is Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, District 7. I am asking for you to approve resolution 2022-1953 to ask the dekalb CEO to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. I live 15 minutes away from the forest and love to spend time there, and love that the forest is so close to my house. I have neighbors who visit there as well. I am spending more and more time there these days knowing my time may be limited and feeling extremely sad about it. Not only will this destroy a forest, but I personally will not feel safe visiting any remaining portion next to a militarized police center. I do not support the creation of this police training facility, which will be three times larger than the next major city's and be used as a recruitment tool to increase the size of Atlanta's police force. Citizens of Atlanta have already spoken saying they do not want this, but many residents of unincorporated Dekalb don't even have a voice although it is right in our backyard. As climate change worsens urban heat island effects and severe flooding in our region, losing 85 acres of forest will significantly degrade the cooling and stormwater infiltration currently provided in this community. Further action toward approving the land disturbance permit currently filed with the County would be unwarranted when there has been no comprehensive Phase II Environmental Site Assessment or noise study completed and the impacts on the ecology and surrounding community remain unknown. It is a simple ask for the site developers to follow standards that would be required in the normal zoning and land development approval process for any major development. As a resident I ask for you to do the right thing and at minimum follow these standards.

- 5. Kyle Megrath, 807 Monmouth Dr, Stone Mountain- Dear Commissioners, My name is Kyle Megrath. I am a resident of Dekalb County and I live at 807 Monmouth Dr, Stone Mountain. I am submitting testimony in support of resolution 2022-1953. I'd like to start by thanking my Commissioner, Commissioner Ted Terry for doing what is right in the face of an illigetimate, opaque, and corrupt development and planning process. By offering this resolution, there is hope for some small measure of accountability for building this ridiculous, over-the-top, \$90 million dollar training facility that will destroy 85 acres of forest. Atlanta and Dekalb residents have made it clear with hours upon hours of public testimony that our county's future is one that invests in community efforts that actually address crime. My support for this bill hopes for transparency... but I want to be clear. A \$90 million-dollar police playground does not belong in our back yard and I urge all of you to do whatever you can to stop the lease and development of this sacred, treasured, and historical forest. The future of Dekalb county, as outlined in countless planning and visioning efforts, is a livable, walkable, vibrant, safe, and prosperous community. Police have proven time and time again that they cannot and do not impact crime rates, regardless of budget and training. In fact, the police represent an occupying threat to life and safety in poor communities and communities of color. Why not work to address issues that underly crime: education, housing, access to healthcare, and poverty. We must have transparency and the development and planning process needs to stop what it is doing. We need several rounds of community input and engagement. We need a community lead committee to look at other options for reducing police budgeting and investing resources that actually impact crime rates. Our county and our environment demand it. Thank you,
- 6. Jake (No Address)- I want the Dekalb Commissioners to approve resolution 2022-1953 A 20+ year Dekalb County resident
- 7. Reverend Trish Chenard, 1361 Lochland Rd SE- My name is Reverend Trish Chenard. I am a local minister and East Atlanta community member. I have lived at 1361 Lochland Rd SE in unincorporated Dekalb

county for 15 years. I am in district 3 under county commissioner Larry Johnson, and district 6 under super commissioner Ted Terry. I am writing today to to ask that the board approves resolution 2022-1953 asking the CEO to request additional studies and accountability measures for the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. I do not support the creation of this police training facility. We need invest in resources that actually keep communities safe and healthy instead of expanding the violent carceral systems that disproportionally impacts Black and Brown people. I am concerned about the noise produced by this new development. I already hear the gun range from the police academy and the development team for this project has not disclosed the anticipated noise increase. Dekalb residents deserve to know, understand, and ask for mitigation of noise violence that already impacts our quality of life. It is grotesque to create a police training facility at the expense of community safety and losing 85 acres of vital canopy and essential watershed while climate change worsens. As a citizen living near this proposed project, I have already seen a drastic uptick in wildlife in my neighborhood since heavy machinery has moved into the forest. It is my understanding that there has been no comprehensive Phase II Environmental Site Assessment nor noise study completed to show the impact on the ecology of the forest, it's waterways, and the surrounding communities. These studies and assessments MUST be completed and reviewed before any further action toward approving the land disturbance permit currently filed with the county. This entire development process, from site selection to Atlanta City Council ignoring 17 hours of public comment opposing the project to Stakeholder Committee engagement, has disgraced the principles of democracy and accountability. It is essential for site developers to follow standards that would be required in normal zoning and land development approval processes for any major development. Thank you for your time and consideration,

- 8. Gayle Christian (No Address)- I am Gayle Christian from District 2 and Super district 6. I urge the Commissioners to approve the Resolution 2022-1953 that the County CEO require the proper and normal environmental procedures be followed before approval of the APSTC project. The fact that it would be 3 tImes the size of the next largest city begs question on the need for such a large plot which has not been adequately studied. Also the need for maintaining healthy green space is so critical to the well-being of the environment and the citizens. Thank you for considering this!
- 9. Martín Aramayo, 750 East Lake Dr. Decatur, GA 30030- Hello CEO Michael Thurmond, I would like to request that additional studies be done and accountability measures be put in place for the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. This project has been started without proper communication with communities that will be affected by it and against the wishes of the general public. How will spending this money help the city of Atlanta or Dekalb county is unclear. In fact little attempt has been made to demonstrate that it will not be detrimental and a waste of taxpayer money. Ideally, this project would be halted completely. Please take the time to consider this project fully and properly. Pushing it through against the wishes of the constituency is a mistake.
- 10. Lila Givens, 807 Monmouth Drive- Hello DeKalb County Commission, My name is Lila Givens and I live at 807 Monmouth Drive. I live in Commissioner District 4 and are represented by Commissioner: Steve Bradshaw. I live in Super Commissioner District 6 and am represented by Super Commissioner: Ted Terry I am asking the commission to approve resolution 2022-1953 which asks the CEO to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. I do not support the creation of this police training facility. Our region needs to be investing in resources that actually keep communities safe and healthy, rather than the expansion of the violent carceral system that

disproportionately impacts Black and Brown people. The City of Atlanta operated a prison farm in Southwest DeKalb County for 70 years, and newspaper accounts as late as the 1980s compared the work undertaken by people incarcerated at the farm to "slave labor" with this work undertaken disproportionately by Black prisoners. The City of Atlanta then abandoned the property for 30 years. It would be a continuation of injustice to develop this property without any public reconciliation with the history and impact of the last 100 years. Further action toward approving the land disturbance permit currently filed with the County would be unwarranted when there has been no comprehensive Phase II Environmental Site Assessment or noise study completed and the impacts on the ecology and surrounding community remain unknown. This development process, from site selection and Atlanta City Council approval, to Stakeholder Committee engagement, has trampled on the principles of democracy and accountability. It is a simple ask for the site developers to follow standards that would be required in the normal zoning and land development approval process for any major development. Thank you for your time,

- 11. Susanne King, 467 Clifton St. SE Atlanta GA 30316- For decades open spaces in South DeKalb have been used for unsightly enterprises such as the prison farm, junk yards, and dumps of unknown substances. It was treated as a no-man's land and the South River allowed to become polluted and trashed. So it seemed "easy" to select it as the site of a new public safety training facility. This decision was made without consulting Atlanta city planning, without meaningful public input, and without environmental compliance required by law. But a new awareness of the value and potential of this green space is now raising important issues. We need to stop and begin again with a legal, transparent, and well-planned approach and a new mindset—the great potential of this land for the people of DeKalb County, the City of Atlanta, and the State of Georgia.
- 12. David Tyberg (No Address)- Good morning, My name is David Tyberg. I am a resident of Atlanta-in-Dekalb and I request that the Dekalb County Commissioners approve resolution 2022-1953 that asks DeKalb CEO Michael Thurmond to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. I speak for many of my neighbors when I say that we have grave concerns about the repercussions of building the training center, including both the environmental impact of razing the Old Atlanta Forest to the ground and the public safety concerns of allowing APD and APF to build their urban combat training facility when they have a proven record of excessive violence. I regularly bicycle on the South River Trail and watching both the destruction of the forest and the increased runoff on the trail has been horrifying. Additionally, the Old Atlanta Forest is vital to maintaining air quality throughout the region. Time and again the citizens of Atlanta and Dekalb have spoken out almost unanimously against this project. We demand that you listen to us and find better ways to allocate our tax dollars. And if that can't be done, we demand that you at least conduct thorough studies and take measures to ensure accountability and transparency. If you think this development benefits your constituents, the least you can do is openly stand by your actions instead of trying to sneak them past the public outcry that has been sustained over these many months. Most sincerely
- 13. Jan Rivers (No Address)- Greetings DeKalb Commissioners, My name is Jan Rivers, I'm a lifetime DeKalb County resident and a City of Atlanta resident. Larry Johnson is my commission representative. I'm asking for you to approve resolution 2022-1953 to ask the CEO to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. This project was kept secret and funded by the APF in an attempt to railroad it through before the Public could weigh in. As

county commissioners, you have the power to do what's right for the people of DeKalb. I wish the project had had full transparency from the beginning, but alas, we can't turn back the hands of time. However, we can pump the brakes and do the right thing by requiring complete and transparent environmental studies and public input. Our region must invest resources in keeping communities safe and healthy in ways that prevent the conditions for crime. Expanding the violent carceral system that disproportionately impacts Black and Brown people, is going in the wrong direction. The proposed facility is 3x larger than the next major city's - this is not a solution to crime, although I understand that it would be an enticement to recruits who want to blow things up and arrest people. The County has the right and in fact, the obligation to its residents, to ask for noise mitigation, yet the project development team has not disclosed information about anticipated noise increases from the outdoor gun range and motorized vehicle course. Of greatest concern, DeKalb residents on the Stakeholder Committee repeatedly requested thatt the new gun range be enclosed instead of outdoors, and this request was ignored. There are no plans to publically reconcile the history of this land and its impact from the slave labor of incarcerated humans when it was home to the prison farm. This alone should stop the project and be addressed. And finally, 85 acres of forest is irreplaceable. Planted saplings will not have anywhere near the benefit of 85 acres of old growth forest. There has been no comprehensive Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment or noise study completed. This factility cannot be allowed to progress in the steamroller manner it's been, without an honest and straightforward analysis of its environmental impact. Engagement is the heart of democracy, and this project has from its inception in the shadowy backrooms of the APF, trampled on the principles of democracy and accountability. It is fair and reasonable to require site developers to adhere to the same standards that would be in place for any normal zoning and land development process for any major development. In thanks for your service to the citizens of DeKalb County,

- 14. Katie Vernon, 3954 Tipperary Trail, Tucker, GA 30084- Please approve resolution 2022-1953 which asks for more studies regarding the development of Cop City. We need more accountability for use of Dekalb County land for the Atlanta Police Department. Thank you
- 15. Jonathan Wierenga, 767 Twin Oaks Dr Decatur- To the Dekalb County Board of Commissioners,
- 16. My name is Jonathan Wierenga, and I am a resident of Dekalb County at 767 Twin Oaks Dr, apt 3, Decatur, Ga 30030, in district 4 and super district 6. I am contacting you today to voice my support for resolution 2022-1953. I think that additional studies and accountability measures for the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center are desperately needed. Please pass this resolution. I have many concerns around the building of this training center. I'll start with the environmental concerns. With climate change already severely impacting our weather, we cannot afford to be destroying existing forests. The flood mitigation and natural cooling effects would be entirely lost by cutting down these trees, and paving the land would increase the urban heat island effect, which is already devastating to the health and air conditioning costs of Georgians, and that need for AC further exacerbates climate change. Beyond that, I am concerned that the lead and other metals from the spent munitions will leach into the groundwater in Dekalb County. Another concern I have regarding the training center is how it will further entrench a violent and antiquated form of law enforcement that the community does not want. Our current system of policing creates a cycle of harm that negatively impacts the health, finances, and overall quality of life of residents, especially the BIPOC members of our communities. The resources spent on policing are much better spent on programs that actually address the cause of crime: underinvestment in education, housing, and mental health. For the good of Dekalb County, representatives would do well to do

everything in their power to prevent the "Atlanta Public Safety Training Center" from being built. The absolute bare minimum that the county government could do is pass this resolution, to make sure that the impacts of this construction are properly studied, and weighed against the value of the lives this project will probably harm. The resolution seems a small positive against this morass of bad policy and shortsightedness, but it's an important step. Please pass resolution 2022-1953. Thank you,

- 17. Lorraine Fontana, 410 Candler Park Dr, NE Apt. C-5 in Atlanta 30307- Dear Commissioners, My name is Lorraine Fontana and I live at 410 Candler Park Dr, NE Apt. C-5 in Atlanta 30307, which sits in Dekalb County. I am asking for you to approve resolution 2022-1953, and that our CEO request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. I do not support the creation of this police training facility, which will be three times larger than the next major city's, and be used as a recruitment tool to increase the size of Atlanta's police force. Our region needs to be investing in resources that actually keep communities safe and healthy, rather than the expansion of the violent carceral system that disproportionately impacts Black and Brown people. The City of Atlanta operated a prison farm in Southwest DeKalb County for 70 years, and newspaper accounts as late as the 1980s compared the work undertaken by people incarcerated at the farm to "slave labor" with this work undertaken disproportionately by Black prisoners. The City of Atlanta then abandoned the property for 30 years. It would be a continuation of injustice to develop this property without any public reconciliation with the history and impact of the last 100 years. Not to speak of the destruction of some of the Weelaunee (aka South River/Entrenchment Creek) Forest, which, in itself, is the opposite of what we need to be doing to save our forests to respond to our climate emergency. Further action toward approving the land disturbance permit currently filed with the County would be unwarranted when there has been no comprehensive Phase II Environmental Site Assessment or noise study completed and the impacts on the ecology and surrounding community remain unknown. Thank you for your time and I hope you will do the right thing. Hopefully,
- 18. Mike Brune (No Address)- Dear DeKalb Commissioners: My name is Mike Brune and I live in Parkview in unincorporated DeKalb County. I have many concerns about the development of land for the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. I am writing to you today to ask you to approve resolution 2022-1953. I think additional studies and accountability measures need to be taken before developing this land for this Training Center. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely,
- 19. Miranda Esguerra, 909 United Ave SE- We need more studies and accountability measures before the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. This part of the city already has limited access to clean and safe parks and wildlife areas (unlike the northern, more wealthy part of Dekalb county). Please don't take away this beautiful area after already trading away Intrenchment Creek Park to Blackhall studios. These actions indicate that you, our county officials, do not care about the residents in this area and making this part of the county and city a good place to live.
- 20. Kari Lloyd, 1555 Clifton Downs Drive SE Atlanta, GA 30316- Dear Commissioners, My name is Kari Lloyd and I am a resident of District 3, Super District 6. I have lived here for several years after purchasing my first home, and this has become an area that I value and care about. I am writing to ask that you approve Resolution 2022-1953 to ask the CEO to request additional studies and accountability measures around the

development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center, also known locally as "Cop City." I feel that this training center is detrimental to the residents of this county and will negatively impact both home values and quality of life for those who have come to call this area home. One of my main areas of concern is the anticipated increase in noise, and how these violent noises of gunfire and explosions will impact both the residents and nearby schools. I believe this will negatively impact property values as well, as who wants to live in an area that sounds like a war zone? We deserve the ability to understand and ask for mitigation of noise that will impact us. Additionally, I strongly believe "Cop City" is an unnecessary investment for our area. Our region needs to be investing in resources that actually keep our community safe and healthy, rather than expanding on a system that disproportionately impacts black and brown people. As a voter, resident, and someone who truly cares about this community, I would appreciate your voting to approve this resolution. Yours sincerely,

- 21. Matt Davenport, 909 United Ave SE Atlanta GA 30316- We implore you to approve resolution 2022-1953 to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. Y'all already sold the majority of the intrenchment creek park to a massive production company controlled by an investment firm, and developing the historical prison farm area would further reduce Atlanta's tree canopy and damage the South River watershed.
- 22. Alyssa Cobbs (No Address)- Good morning, DeKalb County Commissioners, My husband and I moved to unincorporated DeKalb a couple miles north of the S River Forest. We take our dogs to walk at Constitution Lakes on a regular basis and were excited about the earlier plans for the S River Forest as the headwater area of a large watershed and conservation area. With so many plans to repurpose land in this area, and the ramifications being faced with this property being in in DeKalb and the City of Atlanta, as a resident with an Atlanta address in unincorporated DeKalb County I urge you as leaders in DeKalb to approve this resolution to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of this land that is now planned to be use for a training facility instead of the initially planned green space and conservation area. Thank you,
- 23. Organic Ereal (No Address)- More accountability, please!
- 24. Masha Kurbatova (No Address)- Hello, My name is Masha Kurbatova and I am a resident of DeKalb county. I ask that Resolution 2022-1953 be approved for additional studies and accountability measures surrounding the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. Thank you.
- 25. Ella Slidell, 1750 Briarwood Road NE- Hi, my name is Ella Slidell and I live at 1750 Briarwood Road NE, Apartment HH-2. I would like to leave my comment on the Key road / south river forest / police training facility. I am extremely disappointed with the way this plan passed city council despite over 16 hours of mostly negative public comment from constituents. It makes me feel like the city of Atlanta government is more beholden to special interests like the Atlanta Police Foundation and Cox Enterprises than the people who they are supposed to be responsible for. Even the limited manner in which the board of commissioners are allowing us to submit public comment only from 9-10 am on one single day is undemocratic and stifles the ability of the public to express our opinion. Also, the way that the sole critical member of the citizen review board has been voted out by a group that is mostly yeasayers is just ridiculous. This proposal has been rammed through without the consent or input of constituents, Commissioner Terry, or anyone who is in any way skeptical. Also,

APF has been completely dishonest about the environmental impacts of this plan. I am calling for you to approve resolution 2022-1953, which will demand more accountability and a study of the environmental impacts of the proposed Key Road facility. Best,

- 26. Wendy Hughs (No Address)- Hello, I live in DeKalb County District 3, within a mile of the new Atlanta Police Training Facility site. The current training center is very loud there are some days when I cannot participate in work meetings because of disruptions from explosives and I am very concerned about any additional noise from the proposed new facility. Please ask Atlanta Police Foundation to address noise and quality of life issues for Dekalb County residents. Thank you,
- 27. Laura (No Address)- Hello, I am demanding you approve resolution 2022-1953 to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the APSTC. The ecological impacts would be devastating while the history as researched by the Atlanta Community Press Collective revealed considerable harm being done to those incarcerated. Newspaper articles, letters from nurses, legislative and inspection records, and folk stories tell tales of overcrowding, "slave conditions," lack of healthcare, labor strikes, deaths, and unmarked "pauper's" graves. How does the county plan to reconcile with its past?
- 28. Marissa Lapedis (No Address)- Hi there, I am asking you to approve resolution 2022-1953 -- the request for additional studies and accountability measures around the development of Cop City. I would like more information done and think we as Dekalb residents deserve this before going forward with this plan. Including community in decision making is the bare minimum and we want to be heard and we want more info! Thank you. Sincerely,
- 29. Chris Everett, 2450 Hillside Ave, Decatur, Ga, 30032- Hello, I am requesting the Commissioners approve resolution 2022-1953 to request additional studies and accountability measures around the development of the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. The further development of large green spaces in the area is a concern. Thank you,
- 30. Kay Heffernan, 1617 Columbia Cir, Decatur, GA 30032- To the Dekalb Commissioners, Please approve resolution 2022-1953 to demand accountability around and further studies to oversee the development of Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. Training center development has been obscured and moved forward without the additional requisite environmental studies including noise control and erosion maintenance. I urge Dekalb CEO Michael Thurmond to halt the training center land development until these studies are completed and shared with the public for review, public comment, and public approval.
- 31. John Conners (No Address)- Hello, The south river forest, specifically the Intrenchment Creek Park trailhead that has been recently blocked off and marked as private property, is a huge asset to the East Atlanta community and used daily by so many people and dogs. How can public land just be sold and made private? Please approve resolution 2022-1953 and do some additional studies and accountability measures regarding this land use. Isn't there plenty of other abandoned land the cop training site can be? Why do we need to build n

#### D. 10:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING

The DeKalb County Board of Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing during its Regular Business meeting on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. This meeting will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Simultaneous public access to the meeting will be available (1) via live stream on DCTV's webpage, and (2) DCTVChannel23.TV. The public is invited to watch the broadcast on DCTV's UStream link (https://video.ibm.com/channel/dctv-channel-23), or join the meeting using the Zoom link (https://dekalbcountyga.zoom.us/j/7753778046), or by telephone (602-333-0032 or 888-270-9936, conference code: 217687). For those joining the meeting by telephone, please be aware that your phone number may be displayed to the public viewing or participating in the online meeting. The Board will provide 15 minutes of time for citizens to speak in favor of an agenda item, and 15 minutes for citizens to speak in opposition. Citizens who attend the meeting via the Zoom link above may join the public comment queue by raising their hand in the Zoom application, while citizens who attend the meeting via telephone may join the comment queue by pressing # followed by 2. There will be no comment cards, so when you are called upon, please state your name and address for the record. Also, please be conscious of speaking time so that everyone has an opportunity to provide input in the allotted time. Citizens may also email documents for inclusion into the official record by submitting such materials by 9:00 a.m. on the date of the public hearing to PublicHearing@dekalbcountyga.gov.

#### Planning & Sustainability

2021-3522

Commission District(s): Commission District 04 Super District 07 Application of Kyle Williams to rezone properties from R-100 (Residential Medium Lot-100) to R-60 (Residential Small Lot-60) Zoning District to allow for the construction of single family detached residences, at 4994 Rockbridge Road.

Deferred for two full cycles to the Board of Commissioners - Zoning Meeting, until January 26, 2023

2022-1821

Commission District(s): Countywide

Public Hearing to Authorize Transmittal of the 2050 Comprehensive Plan Update

Deferred for 30 days, until September 13, 2022 for Public Hearing

Commission District(s): County-wide

Application of the Director of Planning and Sustainability to approve the

2022 Service Delivery Strategy.

Deferred for 30 days, until September 13, 2022

**Public Works - Transportation** 

2022-1869

Commission District(s): 1 & 7

Traffic Calming Petition - Chesterfield Dr between Greenbrook Way and Lavista

Rd. No Cost to County.

**Approved** 

<u>2022-1889</u>

Commission District(s): 2 & 6

Traffic Calming Petition - Briarwood Dr between Hancock Dr and Briarcliff Rd.

Cost to the County is \$14,825.00.

**Approved** 

2022-1892

Commission District(s): 3 & 7

Traffic Calming Petition - Collier Drive between Pinewood Drive and Tilson

Road. Cost to the County is \$19,900.

**Approved** 

2022-1893

**Commission District(s):** 5 & 7

Traffic Calming Petition - Browns Mill Ferry Road between Browns Mill Road

and Browns Mill Ferry Drive. Cost to the County is \$10,100.

**Approved** 

"DECISION ONLY" ITEMS - NO PUBLIC HEARING

#### **GIS Department**

2021-3047

Commission District(s): 2 & 6

Resolution to Consider Abandonment of a 0.066-Acre Section (2,892 Square

Feet) of Oxford Road NE Right of Way.

Deferred 60 days, until October 11, 2022

#### Planning & Sustainability

2022-1179

Commission District(s): Commission District 03 Super District 06

Application of Clark Property and Porch & Square for a Land Use Plan amendment for properties at 1058 and 1078 Moreland Avenue from TN (Traditional Neighborhood) to CRC (Commercial Redevelopment Corridor), at 1078 Moreland Avenue.

**Approved** 

2022-1731

Commission District(s): Commission District 03 Super District 06

Application of Clark Property and Porch & Square to rezone from RSM (Small Lot Residential Mix) (conditional) to MR-2 (Medium Density Residential-2) at 1058 and 1078 Moreland Avenue.

**Approved with conditions** 

## E. APPEALS

NONE

#### F. APPOINTMENTS

**Chief Executive Office** 

2022-1939

Commission District(s): All

Appointment to the DeKalb County Historic Preservation Commission -

Dr. Pamela Scully

Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

#### ITEMS FOR RECORDING IN THE MINUTES

**Board of Commissioners - District 1** 

2022-2020

Commission District(s): District 1

Recording of the Appointment of Will Childs to the Airport Advisory Board

Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

**Board of Commissioners - District 5** 

2022-2005

Commission District(s): District 5

Recording of the Appointment of Jan Costello to the DeKalb County Planning

Commission, District 5 Post

**Approved** 

**Board of Commissioners - District 6** 

2022-1968

Commission District(s): District 4, District 6

Recording of the Appointment of Richard "Rich" Pasenow to the District 4

Community Council.

**Approved** 

## G. CONSENT AGENDA

Airport

2022-1918

Commission District(s): 1 and 6

Standardized Lease Agreement with Jurgen R. Ihns. There is no cost to the

County.

Commission District(s): 1 and 6

Standardized T-Hangar Shop Space Lease Agreement with John M. Garrett.

There is no cost to the County.

**Approved** 

**Board of Commissioners** 

2022-1960

**Commission District(s):** All

Approval of Minutes for the August 2, 2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting

**Approved** 

**Board of Commissioners - District 4** 

2022-1954

Commission District(s): District 4

Allocate District 4 ARP funds (Not to exceed) \$75,0000 of Federal America Rescue Plan Funds reserved for District 4 in POETA Account # ARP POETA #105726-69110-521209-01-602476 to support Soccer in the Streets programs located at Kensington MARTA station for elementary, middle, and high school students and community light play and full league - and the community garden as these encourage physical activity and increase access to healthy foods.

Commission District(s): District 4

Allocate District 4 ARP funds (Not to exceed) \$25,000.00 of Federal America Rescue Plan Funds reserved for District 4 in POETA Account # ARP POETA #105726-69110-521209-01-602476 to Project Pinnacle to support intensive in-court experience to young and first-time nonviolent defendants to deter future offenses by providing nonviolent offenders under the age of 25 with life skills training, legal rights and responsibilities education, and career development opportunities.

## **Approved**

**Board of Commissioners - District 7** 

2022-2006

Commission District(s): District 7

To Appropriate \$100,000 In American Rescue Plan Grant Funds Assigned to POETA Account 105744.63258.521209.01.07.602479 Reserved For The District 7 Appropriation To The Gregory B. Levett, Sr. Family Foundation To Mitigate The Public Health Emergency Created By The COVID-19 Pandemic

**Approved** 

2022-2007

Commission District(s): District 7

To Appropriate A Total Of \$25,000 From The Reserve For Appropriation To The 100 Black Men of DeKalb County

**Approved** 

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and CEO

Commission District(s): All

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of July 26,

2022

Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

**GIS Department** 

<u>2022-1930</u>

Commission District(s): 2 & 6

Resolution to Set a Date and Time for a Public Hearing Related to Consideration of Abandonment of a 0.14-Acre Section (6,000 Square Feet) of Right of Way

East of Palafox Drive.

**Approved** 

**Juvenile Court** 

2022-1920

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

Approval to Accept the Grant Award from the Administrative Office of the Courts, Georgia Court Improvement Program for Juvenile Court in the amount of \$9,450.

**Approved** 

**Tax Commissioner** 

2022-2000

Commission District(s): All Districts

First Amendment to Agreement for Ad Valorem Tax Billing and Collection between the City of Atlanta and the Tax Commissioner of DeKalb County.

**Approved** 

## H. PRELIMINARY ITEMS

#### **Chief Executive Office**

2022-2011

Commission District(s): All

The Carl Vinson Institute of Government Contract

**Approved** 

**Board of Commissioners - District 2** 

2022-2021

Commission District(s): District 2

District 2 ARP Funding for Center for Pan Asian Community Services (CPACS)

Withdrawn

**Board of Commissioners - District 3** 

2022-2022

Commission District(s): District 3

The VOTE (Voting Opportunity and Translation Equity) Ordinance

Deferred and assigned to the County Operations Committee (OPS) and return to

the Board on August 23, 2022

**Board of Commissioners - District 6** 

2022-2004

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution to Protect Abortion Access and Protect Reproductive Health,

Rights, and Justice for DeKalb County Citizens

Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

Fire & Rescue

Commission District(s): Commission District 3

Approval of the Usage of SPLOST Funds (in an amount not to exceed \$199,650.00) in Category 2A, Replacing Existing Fire Stations (2) and Construction New Fire Station(s) and Related Capital Equipment, for the purchase of equipment and services related to Fire Station 7.

# Approved

## **Public Works - Transportation**

2022-1730

Commission District(s): 2 and 6

Funding for Orion Drive Bridge Replacement or Upgrade

# **Approved**

## **Purchasing & Contracting**

Purchasing & Contracting - to OPS Committee

2022-1826 Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No.: 1116360 for Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) Program Management Services: for use by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). This contract consists of providing program management services for projects funded by SPLOST. Awarded to Atlas Technical Consultants LLC. Inc., for an Amount Not to Exceed: \$2,764,502.36.

Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

#### 2022-1858 Commission District(s): ALL

REN - Duct Cleaning and Sanitizing Services at County Facilities (Annual Contract - 1st Renewal of 2 Options to Renew): Contract No. 1262959 for use by Facilities Management (FM). This contract consists of providing air conditioning (A/C) duct cleaning and sanitizing services at County-owned facilities. Awarded to 5 Seasons Mechanical LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$377,759.89.

## **Approved**

#### 2022-1860 Commission District(s): ALL

REN-Maintenance, Cleaning & Inspection of Fuel Tanks including Removal, Relocation & Installation (Annual Contract-2nd of 2 Options to Renew): Contract No. 1221710 for use by Public Works-Fleet Management. This contract consists of maintaining, cleaning & inspecting multiple fuel tanks as needed to ensure clean fuel is dispensed to County fleet. Awarded to SP Petroleum Transporters. Amount Not To Exceed: \$160,000.00.

# **Approved**

#### 2022-1898 Commission District(s): All

REN - Engine and Generator Maintenance and Repair Services (Annual Contract - 2nd Renewal of 2 Options to Renew): Contract No. 1228720 for use by the Departments of Watershed Management (DWM) and Facilities Management (FM). This contract consists of providing maintenance and repair of engines and generators. Awarded to Power and Energy Services, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$1,150,000.00.

#### 2022-1899 Commission District(s): ALL

CO-Change Order No.1 to CPA. 1223703- Microsoft Enterprise Software: for use by the Department of Innovation and Technology (IT). Consists of piggybacking off the competitively let Statewide Contract (SWC) 99999-SPD-SPD0000060-0004 for software licenses and technical support for Microsoft Security enhancements. Awarded to CDW-Government. Amount Not To Exceed: \$895,608.00.

# **Approved**

Purchasing & Contracting - to PWI Committee

## 2022-1725 Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract 1275646 for Manhole Castings and Accessories (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for the use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of the purchase of manhole castings and accessories. Awarded to Ferguson Waterworks. Amount Not To Exceed; \$50,000.00.

#### **Approved**

#### 2022-1772 Commission District(s): All

SS - Repair Parts and Services for HVAC Systems by Trane Company (Sole Source): for the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of providing 3 years of repair services and parts to the Scott Candler Water Treatment Plant, Snapfinger Wastewater Plant, and Pole Bridge Wastewater Plant. Recommend award to Trane Company. Amount Not To Exceed: \$690,000.00.

#### 2022-1804 Commission District(s): All

LB - Invitation No. 22-101482 Cement (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by Public Works - Road and Drainage (R&D) and Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of the acquisition of various cement products for day-to-day operations. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder: Quiet Link, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$2,001,000.00

# **Approved**

## 2022-1808 Commission District(s): All

LB - Invitation No. 22-101484 for Panel Vaults and Traffic Meter Boxes (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM) and Public Works-Roads and Drainage (R&D). Consists of providing panel vaults and traffic meter boxes. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder: KHAFRA Operations, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$1,350,000.00.

# **Approved the substitute**

## 2022-1852 Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 5 to Contract Nos.: 1115899, 1118591 and 1118593 for

Asphaltic Concrete Pavement Repairs (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew):

for use by the Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D) and Department of

Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs (RPCA). These contracts consist of completing

paving repairs. Awarded to A&S Paving, Inc., Greenway One, Inc., and HEH

Paving, Inc. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$2,900,000.00.

## Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

#### 2022-1862 Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract Nos.: 1176675 and 1272165 for County Street and Roadway Litter Removal (Annual Contract with 2 Options To Renew): for use by Public Works - Sanitation and Beautification. These contracts consist of litter removal services at 37 locations within the County. Awarded to Russell Landscape. LLC and American Eagle, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$342,059.22

#### 2022-1863 Commission District(s): All

ITB No. 22-101492 Tree Cutting and Removal Services (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by Departments of Watershed Management (DWM), Facilities Management (FM), Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA), Public Works - Beautification (PWB) and Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D). Consists of providing tree cutting and removal services countywide on an as needed basis. Recommend award to all responsive and responsible bidders: Casey Tree Experts, Inc., One Two Tree, LLC, Neda, Inc. dba Garden of Aden, and Sesmas Tree Service, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$7,554,975.00.

# Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

## 2022-1885 Commission District(s): All

LB - Invitation No. 21-101361 Inspection of Sanitary Sewer Stream Crossings (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of inspection and assessments of sewer stream crossings. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder: Integrated Construction Management, Inc. (ICM). Amount Not To Exceed: \$1,050,000.00.

## **Approved**

#### 2022-1894 Commission District(s): All

LB - Invitation No. 21-101473 2022 Gas Collection and Control System (GCCS)

Expansion at Seminole Road MSW Landfill: for use by Public Works - Sanitation.

Consists of the construction and expansion of the GCCS at the Seminole Road

Landfill. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder:

Carlson Environmental Consultants, PC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$3,045,848.00.

Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

## 2022-1936 Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 4 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 add the Department of Public Works - Roads and Drainage (PW-RD) to the contract and increase the scope of work and funding. Awarded to AECOM Technical Services Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$2,000,000.00.

## **Approved**

## 2022-1940 Commission District(s): All

C - Cancellation of Contract No. 1263590 SPLOST Phase II Road Resurfacing

Project, Area A (365 Day Contract): for use by Public Works - Roads & Drainage

(R&D). Consists of patching, milling, and resurfacing of DeKalb County roads.

TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE.

#### **Approved**

## I. ITEMS FOR DECISION BY THE BOARD

**Board of Commissioners - District 2** 

2022-1837

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution by the Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Georgia, to make

Amendments to the County's Debt Management Policy

Deferred for 30 days, until September 13, 2022

**Board of Commissioners - District 3** 

Commission District(s): Districts 3 & 6

2022 Mid-Year Budget Request to Support Cedar Grove Traffic Calming

Initiative Phase II Easabouts/Roundabouts

**Approved** 

#### **Board of Commissioners - District 6**

2022-1258

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

Adoption of a Resolution to establish an Advisory Committee of the Board of

Commissioners to explore and make recommendations related to affordable

housing within DeKalb County.

Deferred for 30 days, until September 13, 2022

2022-1949

Commission District(s): All Districts

To Approve the Continuation of the Governing Authority of DeKalb County to Intervene in the 2022 Public Service Commission Rate Case, as a Member of the "Local Government Coalition."

**Approved the substitute** 

#### **Board of Commissioners - District 7**

2022-1299

Commission District(s): District 7

A Resolution Requesting The Governing Authority Of DeKalb County Amend

Chapter 15 Of The Code Of DeKalb County, Georgia As Revised 1988; To

Provide For The Mandatory Used Of Video Surveillance Systems at

Convenience Stores, And For Other Purposes

Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

#### **Chief Executive Office**

2022-1989

Commission District(s): All Districts

To enter into a Reciprocal Easement Agreement with Henrico 183, LLC for park improvement and economic development purposes.

# **Approved**

#### **Human Services**

2022-1849

Commission District(s): All

Acceptance of a Grant from the Atlanta Regional Commission for DeKalb Senior Services in the Amount of \$2,109,586.94- At A Cost to the County of \$160,564.73

## **Approved**

#### **Purchasing & Contracting**

Purchasing & Contracting - to FAB Committee

#### 2022-1845 Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1092093 for Auditing Services

(Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Finance. This contract consists of auditing services of the County's financial statements. Awarded to Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$29,500.00.

# Deferred to the next meeting, until August 23, 2022

## 2022-1896 Commission District(s): All

REN - Family Function Therapy FFT and Multisystemic Therapy (MST) Services (Annual Contract - 2nd Renewal of 2 Options to Renew): Contract No. 1219482 for the use by the Juvenile Court. This contract consists of therapeutic services. Awarded to Evidence-Based Associates. Amount Not to Exceed: \$383,700.00.

## **Approved the substitute**

Purchasing & Contracting - to PECS Committee

#### 2022-1692 Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement Contract No. 185181 for Sports Lighting with Related Supplies and Services: for use by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA). This contract consists of the purchase, installation of lighting and related supplies and services. Awarded to Musco Sports Lighting, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$733,047.00.

## **Approved**

# **2022-1832** Commission District(s): ALL

LB - Invitation No. 22-101510 Feed, Hay and Shavings for Little Creek Horse Farm (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA). Consists of the purchase of Feed, Hay and Shavings for Little Creek Horse Farm. Recommend award to the sole bidder who is responsive and responsible: Conyers Pet and Livestock Supply, Inc. dba The Stock Market. Amount Not To Exceed: \$224,773.92.

## **Approved**

#### WorkSource DeKalb

#### 2022-1917

#### 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 2022 and not to exceed \$160,000.

#### **Approved**

#### 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.