

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FIRST REGULAR MEETING**

May 06, 2026
10:00 AM



Fulton County Government Center
Assembly Hall
141 Pryor Street SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



MINUTES-RATIFIED

This document has been ratified or approved by the Board of Commissioners, and is not binding on the County or any officer.

Ratification Date: June 3, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts **10:01 a.m.**

ROLL CALL: Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)	PRESENT
Bridget Thorne, Commissioner (District 1)	PRESENT
Bob Ellis, Commissioner (District 2)	PRESENT
Dana Barrett, Commissioner (District 3)	PRESENT
Vacant (District 4)	
Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner (District 5)	PRESENT
Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Vice Chair (District 6)	PRESENT

INVOCATION: Reverend Donald Bolton, Jr., County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE SWITCH ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (CELL PHONES, PAGERS, PDAs, ETC.) TO THE SILENT POSITION DURING THIS MEETING TO AVOID INTERRUPTIONS.

IF YOU NEED REASONABLE MODIFICATIONS DUE TO A DISABILITY, INCLUDING COMMUNICATIONS IN AN ALTERNATE FORMAT PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO THE COMMISSION. FOR TDD/TTY OR GEORGIA RELAY SERVICE ACCESS DIAL 711.

CONSENT AGENDA**26-0226 Board of Commissioners**

Adoption of the Consent Agenda - All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the First Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. **(ADOPTED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts, and Arrington

26-0227 Board of Commissioners

Proclamations for Spreading on the Minutes. **(SPREAD ON THE MINUTES UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Proclamation recognizing "Youth Entrepreneurship and Career Expo Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
April 18, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "The Pink Awards Foundation Appreciation Day."
(Arrington)
April 18, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Coach Ayesha Watson Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
April 23, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "William Gilbert Remembrance Day." **(Arrington)**
April 25, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Ishaan Narayan Raj Appreciation Day."
(Ellis)
April 27, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "The A Stands for Art Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
April 30, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Alphas of Atlanta, Inc. Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
April 30, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Charles Johnson Remembrance Day." **(Arrington)**
April 30, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "ZenCare Express Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
May 1, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Mama Koku Appreciation Day." (Arrington)
May 3, 2026

**Development Authority of Fulton County TEFRA
(Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act)**

26-0228 Board of Commissioners

Execution by Chairman Robert L. Pitts of a TEFRA (Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act) for documentation pertaining to the proposed issuance of its Development Authority of Fulton County Revenue Bonds (Georgia Tech Athletic Association Project), Series 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000,000 (the "Bonds"). **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0229 Board of Commissioners

Execution by Chairman Robert L. Pitts of a TEFRA (Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act) for documentation pertaining to the proposed issuance of its Development Authority of Fulton County Revenue Bonds (Madrone-MS Student Housing I, LLC Project), Series 2026 in one or more series and in an amount not to exceed \$165,000,000 (the "Bonds"). **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Commissioners' District Board Appointments

26-0230 Board of Commissioners

FULTON COUNTY REPARATIONS TASK FORCE (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

The Reparations Task Force shall have the following members: Each Commissioner shall appoint two (2) members, for a total of 14 members. Each member shall be a resident of Fulton County at the time of the appointment. A member shall serve for a two year term and subject to removal by the appointing Commissioner for cause. No member's term shall exceed that of the appointing Commissioner, but shall remain as a voting member until replaced or reappointed by the successive Commissioner.

Term = 2 years. The Reparations Task Force shall sunset on December 31, 2025 unless continued by action of the Board of Commissioners. At the November 19th, 2025 Second Regular Meeting (Item #25-0891) the Fulton County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution that extends the term of the Fulton County Reparations Taskforce for a period of two (2) years after the December 21, 2025 end date.

Term below expired: 12/31/2025
Karcheik Sims-Alvarado **(Hall)**

Chairman Pitts nominated Karcheik Sims-Alvarado for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2027.

Open & Responsible Government**26-0231 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a change order less than 10% - Fulton County Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 24RFP101524K-CRB, Design/Build Services for the Fulton County Public Safety Training Center in the amount not to exceed \$597,580.00 with Hogan Construction Group, LLC/The Collaborative Firm, LLC (Joint Venture) (Atlanta, GA), to modify the existing contract scope of work and for the associated additional cost required to complete the design-build services for the renovation and retrofit of the two-story building (including the installation of an elevator) located at 1281 Fulton Industrial Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30336, which will accommodate the Fulton County Public Safety Training Center. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0232 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Resolution approving a Monthly Parking Agreement between Fulton County, Georgia, a political subdivision of the state of Georgia, and Legacy Parking Company, to provide parking for Superior Court Administration, the Clerk of Superior Court, Community Development, Senior Services, the State Court of Fulton County, the Fulton County Sheriff's Office, and Probate Court of Fulton County; authorizing the Chairman to execute the Monthly Parking Agreement and any related documents; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the Monthly Parking Agreement and any related documents as to form and to make any modifications thereto prior to execution; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0233 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of an Indemnification, Maintenance, and Land Use Agreement for Private Improvement (Indemnification Agreement) between Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, and Arkan Bethany, LLC, for the purpose of granting conditional approval to allow stormwater infrastructure to remain within a portion of the County's existing sanitary sewer easement at 3475-95 Bethany Bend, Milton, Georgia 30004. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0234 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Easement Dedication of 18,439 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from SWVP Alpharetta LLC, for the purpose of constructing the Continuum Alpharetta - Multifamily Project at 5555 Windward Parkway, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0235 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 8,946 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from CHIDF Atlanta Hunter Road II, LLC, for the purpose of constructing the Hunter Road Project at 5190 Mason Road, Union City, Georgia 30291. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Health and Human Services**26-0236 Community Development**

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Community Development, 25RFP1501517B-RT, Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program in the amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.00 with the Urban League of Greater Atlanta (Atlanta, Georgia) to carry out implementation of the day to day administration of the Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA), a federal government grant assisted program aimed at providing rental assistance to eligible low to moderate income households, specifically those at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI). The Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA) contract is 100% grant funded. Effective upon BOC Approval to December 31, 2026, with one (1) year renewal option. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Infrastructure and Economic Development**26-0237 Select Fulton**

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Department of Economic Development, Select Fulton Workforce Development Division, 22RFP0121B-PS, WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Services, to include required federal award identification information into sub-awards with Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (Equus) (Louisville, KY) to provide comprehensive career services for Adult and Dislocated Workers for the Fulton County Local Workforce Development Board. Effective upon BOC approval. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0238 Select Fulton

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Department of Economic Development, Select Fulton Workforce Development Division, 22RFP0120B-PS, WIOA Youth Services, to Include required federal award identification information into subawards with Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (Equus) (Louisville, KY) to provide comprehensive career services for Youth Workers for the Fulton County Local Workforce Development Board. Effective upon BOC approval. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0239 Select Fulton

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Department of Economic Development, Select Fulton Workforce Development Division, 22RFP0119B-PS, WIOA One Stop Operator Services, to Include required federal award identification information into sub-awards with Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (Equus) (Louisville, KY) to provide coordination of providers for the Fulton County Local Workforce Development Board. Effective upon BOC approval. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Justice and Safety**26-0240 District Attorney**

Request approval of the 2026 Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification with the U.S. Department of Justice for the Fulton County District Attorney Office, establishing the requirements for participation in the Federal Equitable Sharing Program and the restrictions upon the use of federally forfeited cash, property, or proceeds. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

FIRST REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**26-0241 Board of Commissioners**

Adoption of the First Regular Meeting Agenda. **(ADOPTED AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to adopt the First Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by removing item #26-0251; revising items #26-0243, #26-0247, #26-0254, #26-0255; moving up items #26-0253 and #26-0265. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

26-0242 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

First Regular Meeting Minutes, April 1, 2026

Second Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 15, 2026

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to ratify the meeting minutes. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Pitts

26-0243 Board of Commissioners

Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. **(PRESENTED)**

Proclamation recognizing “Mental Health Awareness Month.” **(Pitts/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing “Southern Center for Human Rights Appreciation Day.” **(Pitts/Abdur-Rahman)**

Proclamation recognizing “Older Americans Month.” **(Abdur-Rahman/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing “Fulton County Certified Public Managers Appreciation Day.” **(Arrington/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing “Public Service Recognition Week.” **(Pitts/BOC)**

*Proclamation recognizing “Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division Appreciation Day.” **(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Thorne)**

**added during the meeting*

Chairman Pitts asked for a moment of silence for Ted Turner.

PUBLIC HEARINGS**26-0244 Board of Commissioners**

Public Comment - Citizens are allowed to voice County related opinions, concerns, requests, etc. during the Public Comment portion of the Commission meeting.

Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County, including their employees, whether such persons are commenting in-person, via emails or via Zoom or other electronic media (i.e., phone call). Non-Fulton County citizens will only be heard after all in-person Fulton County citizens, representatives of business and organizations located within Fulton County, including their employees, have been heard and the time allotted for public comment has not expired, except as otherwise provided in this code section. County staff shall verify the residency of each public speaker prior to such person being heard by the board. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. Members of the public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The Public Comment portion of the meeting will not exceed sixty (60) minutes at the First Regular Meeting, nor will this portion exceed sixty (60) minutes at the Second Regular Meeting. In the event the 60-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. For more information or to arrange a speaking date, contact the Clerk’s Office.
(CONDUCTED)

46 Speakers: LA Pink (Sheriff/Jail); Mike Russell (Fulton Jail); Ben Crump (Jail/Rashaad Muhammad); Rashaad Muhammad (Fulton Jail); Eric Hertz (Jail/Rashaad Muhammad); Brandon Crum (Jail/Rashaad Muhammad); Liza A. Park (Jail/Rashaad Muhammad); Marcus Coleman (Fulton Jail); Reshard Snellings (District 5 Representative); Mike Johnson (District 5 Representative); Kevin A. Ross (#26-0252); Joshua Williams (#26-0252); Albert Edwards (#26-0252); Heather Fatzinger (#26-0252); James Washburn (#26-0252); Kimberly Brooks (Deed Fraud); Blake Feldman (HB295); Kendall Long (State Legislative Update); Kanette King (Just GA Coalition); Devin Franklin (Jail Population); Tiffany Roberts (Sheriff/Open Records Request); Chastity Dallas (Gangsters to Growers); Kirt Beasley (Sherriff/Jail); Lisa Jones (Animal Services); Jay Johnson (Community Violence Intervention); Dominique Grant (World Cup/Justice); Janet Hill (Deed Fraud); Gloria Buckner-Ledbetter (Fulton Jail); Abiodoun Henderson (Care First Funding); Maggie Goldman (Jail Staffing); Hazel Manatsa (HAFC Management); Victoria Bondurant (Civil Engagement Project); Owen Burke (Civil Engagement Project); Mira Ibister (Civil Engagement Project); MaKenzie Hoff (Civil Engagement Project); Margaret Deriso (Civil Engagement Project); Ryan McNeely (Civil Engagement Project); Lilian Hernandez (Civil Engagement Project); Joshua Muhammad (Deed Fraud); Khadaija Lemons (HAFC Management); Maria Gaudio (Sheriff/Jail); Grace Roth (#26-0258); Ms. Breedlove (Sherriff/Jail); Muhammad Hafeez (PAD); Melodie Rossoc (Women on the Rise); Keisha Dickerson (Women on the Rise)

2 Zoom Speakers: Robby Caban (Lifeline/Animal Services); Valencia Stovall (Senior Housing)

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS

Open & Responsible Government

26-0245 Finance

Request approval to accept the lowest acceptable bid for the County's 2026 Tax Anticipation Notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$325,000,000.00 and approval of an Amendatory and Supplemental Pricing Resolution which authorizes issuance and sale of the \$325,000,000.00 General Fund Tax Anticipation Notes of Fulton County, Georgia, with a maturity date of December 30, 2026.

(APPROVED)

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0246 Finance

Presentation, review, and approval of May 6th, 2026, Budget Soundings and Resolution. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0247 Finance

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Finance, 25RFP1512496C-MH - Healthcare Benefit Consulting Services in the amount of \$275,000.00 with Segal Consulting to provide Benefits Consulting Services (including: premium rate development, healthcare budget, claims analysis, plan design/cost share analysis, education/training, regulatory compliance, technical assistance) for the County's Medical, Dental and Vision programs. Effective ~~upon execution~~ **January 1, 2026** through December 31, 2026, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve as amended. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0248 Public Works

Request approval of change order greater than 10% - Public Works, 22ITB134130K-JAJ Graham Drive Pump Station Upgrades in an amount not to exceed \$1,444,447.60 with Reeves Young, LLC (Atl., Ga) to provide construction services associated with modernization and upgrade of the Graham Drive Pump Station. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0249 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of lowest responsible bidder - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 25ITB1393653C-MH, Medical and Clinical General Cleaning Services in the amount of \$288,684.13 with Intercontinental Commercial Services, Inc. (ICS) (Lawrenceville, GA), to provide medical and clinical general cleaning services for five selected Fulton County Health facilities: Adamsville Regional Health Center, Center for Rehabilitation, Fulton County Public Health at 10 Park Place, Oak Hill Child, Adolescent and Family Center, and College Park Regional Health Center for the remainder of FY2026 effective May 15, 2026, through December 31, 2026, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0250 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of lowest responsible bidders - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 26ITB1560484K-NJH, Roof Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Services Countywide in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 with (A) RYCARS Construction, LLC (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$500,000.00, (B) Ideal Building Solutions, LLC. (Norcross, GA) in the amount of \$500,000.00, and (C) Ben Hill Roofing and Siding Co, Inc (Douglasville, GA) in the amount of \$500,000.00, to provide standby roof maintenance, repair, and replacement services on an "as-needed" basis for Countywide facilities effective April 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Arrington

Health and Human Services**26-0251 Public Works**

Request approval to rescind a contract award - Public Works, #25RFP021025K-CRB Progressive Design/Build for the Boat Rock Sanitary Sewer Extension in an amount not to exceed \$637,000.00 with Garney + Gresham Smith. Additionally, request approval to award #25RFP021025K-CRB Progressive Design/Build for the Boat Rock Sanitary Sewer Extension to The Ganey Companies, Inc to provide progressive design services necessary to deliver an 80% design drawing set and a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) associated with completing the construction and design of the petition sanitary sewer project and all associated facilities in an amount not to exceed \$637,000.00. Effective upon execution of contract for 180 consecutive/calendar days upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed. **(REMOVED)**

26-0252 Public Works

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Public Works, 25RFP06272025K-DB, Operation & Maintenance Services for Wastewater Facilities & Pump Stations in the North Fulton Service Area in an amount not to exceed \$28,084,782.00 for the first year (September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027), with The Inframark-Slater Joint Venture doing business as Fulton County Wastewater Partners ("FCWWP") (Alpharetta, GA) to provide water and wastewater system operations and maintenance management systems in the North Fulton service area. The initial term of the contract is for a five (5) year period effective September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2031, with one (1), five (5) year renewal option. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, and Abdur-Rahman

Abstain: Barrett

Did Not Vote: Arrington

Justice and Safety**26-0253 Public Defender**

Request approval of a MOU between Fulton County, on behalf of the Office of the Public Defender, and the United Way of Greater Atlanta in the amount of \$70,000.00 to support a select group of chronically homeless individuals released from the Fulton County Jail by providing transitional housing with case management. The MOU will be effective upon approval by the Board of Commissioners until December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**26-0220 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution to establish a minimum annual funding level of two hundred fifty thousand dollars and zero cents (\$250,000.00) for Quality Living Services, Inc., and Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehabilitation Center; and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD ON 4/15/26) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yea: Barrett, and Arrington

Abstain: Thorne, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Ellis

26-0221 Board of Commissioners

Request approval a Resolution directing the County Manager to identify funding in the amount of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) for the continuation of Fulton County's Summer Youth Internship Program; and for other purposes.

(Arrington) (HELD ON 4/15/26) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED)

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to approve. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yea: Barrett, and Arrington

Abstain: Thorne, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Ellis

26-0254 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to establish proposed annual funding for Quality Living Services, Inc., and Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehabilitation Center, in an amount to be determined year to year; and for other purposes.

(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Arrington) (APPROVED)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0255 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution directing the County Manager to identify funding in the amount of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for the continuation of Fulton County's Summer Youth Internship Program; and for other purposes.

(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Arrington) (APPROVED)

A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0256 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing Fulton County, Georgia to accept a donation of office furniture with a total depreciated value of \$24,290.00 from Public Partnerships LLC; authorizing the relocation of the donated furniture from Public Partnerships LLC to various County locations, including but not limited to County Senior Service Centers and 4700 North Point Parkway; authorizing the Chairman to execute any documents needed to memorialize and accept the donation; authorizing the County Attorney to approve any necessary documents as to form and make modifications thereto prior to execution by the Chairman; and for other purposes. **(Thorne) (APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0257 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to support affordable housing in the English Avenue neighborhood by approving a grant from funds previously set aside to aid in the construction of a 26-unit affordable multifamily development, and for other purposes. **(Barrett/Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to approve with a friendly amendment from Commissioner Ellis to remove lines 3, 4, 5, and 6 on page 2 and on line 14, replace the word "review" with "approval." The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0258 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to support affordable housing in the English Avenue neighborhood by approving a grant from funds previously set aside to aid in the construction of 14 permanently affordable duplex and single-family homes for sale, and for other purposes. **(Barrett/Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve with a friendly amendment from Commissioner Ellis as in item #26-0257. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0259 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to accept a mural painting from the estate of Helene S. Mills; to designate its placement in the lobby of the Helene S. Mills Senior Center, if possible; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Commissioners' Full Board Appointments**26-0260 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF TAX ASSESSORS (APPROVED)**

The Fulton County Board of Tax Assessors shall be a five-member board, whose members shall be appointed by the full Board of Commissioners of Fulton County upon nomination by any member of the board of commissioners. Of the five members, at least one shall be a resident of the City of Atlanta, at least one shall be a resident of that portion of Fulton County that lies north of the municipal limits of the City of Atlanta, and at least one shall be a resident of that portion of Fulton County that lies south of the municipal limits of the City of Atlanta. Each such member of the board of tax assessors shall meet all eligibility and other professional and other statutory requirements and qualifications provided under Georgia law and shall, upon appointment, take an oath and shall be otherwise appointed as provided by Georgia law.

Terms = 4 years

Term below expires: 6/30/2026
Pamela J. Smith (**BOC/Post 2**)

Chairman Pitts nominated Pamela J. Smith to a Full Board reappointment to a term ending June 30, 2030.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Arrington

COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

26-0261 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: Naphcare (**Arrington**) (**DISCUSSED**)

26-0262 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: Executive Detail Policy (**Arrington**) (**DISCUSSED**)

26-0263 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: Elections - Voter Information (**Thorne**) (**DISCUSSED**)

26-0264 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: Utilization of funds committed for improving jail detention staffing and the detention staffing hiring process (**Ellis**) (**DISCUSSED**)

26-0265 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: World Cup Preparedness (**Pitts**) (**DISCUSSED**)

26-0266 Board of Commissioners
Discussion: Update: Implementation of five-point plan (**Pitts**) (**DISCUSSED**)

EXECUTIVE SESSION**26-0267 Board of Commissioners**

Executive (**CLOSED**) Sessions regarding litigation (**County Attorney**), real estate (**County Manager**), and personnel (**Pitts**). (**APPROVED**)

PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LITIGATION, REAL ESTATE, AND PERSONNEL: Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, Commissioners: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Arrington; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier.

a. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to enter into Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve an amended contract with Allied Universal to provide supplemental staffing, including detainee supervision at Grady Hospital, to support the Fulton County Sheriff's Office with Jail Consent Decree compliance, in an amount not to exceed \$1,913,431.49 for the remainder of fiscal year 2026 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

c. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve the requests for representation presented in items #3 and #4 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

d. A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve the requests for settlement authority presented in items #5 and #6 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Arrington

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
FIRST REGULAR MEETING
MAY 6, 2026
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solution, LLC
“A Court Reporting Firm”

(Whereupon, the meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.)

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Good morning, everyone. I would like to call the First Regular Meeting of May 6th, 2026 to order. Madam Clerk, please, sound the start of you session."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts. Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bob Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr. Vice Chair Khaijah Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chair, you have a quorum."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "We will now begin with our invocation. Following our invocation, please remind standing as we are lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you."

(Whereupon, the invocation was given by Reverend Donald Bolton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.)

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **26-0226**, Adoption of the Consent Agenda - All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the First Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioners, do we have anyone needing to make a change to the agenda -- the consent agenda?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes: four yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, First Regular Meeting Agenda, **26-0241** - Adoption of the First Regular Meeting Agenda. Madam Vice Chair and Members of the Board, we have some amendments to today's First Regular Meeting Agenda. First item to be removed on page 9, 26-0251, Public Works: Request approval to rescind a contract award with Progressive Design Build. This item will be included on the May 20th Second Regular Meeting Agenda. Items to be revised, on page 6, 26-0243, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. Item revised to include proclamation recognizing Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division. Also, we have a request to move down the Public Service Proclamation after the CPM Proclamation, so we'll just move that one proclamation down."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Madam Clerk and my Colleagues, I am requesting to move up item 26-0265, the World Cup Preparedness to be heard after -- immediately after item 26 -- the approval for the bid for Tax Anticipation Notes. I don't have the number in front here Madam Clerk, if you could help me out with that because we have the approval for the bid of the Tax Anticipation --"

CLERK GRIER: "-- that's on page 7."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- on page 7. I want the World Cup Preparedness to move directly -- immediately behind that for the sake of the stakeholders that are here to give the report."

CLERK GRIER: "So noted. Also, we have more items to be revised. On page 8, 26-0247, Finance: Request approval of recommended proposal for healthcare benefit consulting services. This item was revised to amend the effective date to January 1st, 2026 through December 31st, 2026. And also on page 10, Vice Chair, your two action items 26-0254 and 26-0255, items revised to include cosponsors, Chairman Pitts and Commissioner Arrington."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes. That's correct."

CLERK GRIER: "And that's all I have."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "All right. Colleagues, is there anything else that needs to be revised?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "All right. Motion by -- I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No, you're fine. I just -- because we moved something else up, now I thought we would be, okay, with the public defender is also here for item 26-0253, and they have indicated that they have a very busy court schedule today. Is it possible for them to go right after the World Cup conversation?"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I don't see any problem with that. We can amend it for them to go immediately after the conversation on the World Cup Preparedness. Madame Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "So noted."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "All right. Anything else?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett; second by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes: five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0242**, Ratification of Minutes, First Regular Meeting Minutes, April 1st; Second Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 15th, 2026."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Motion by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman; second by Commissioner Barrett."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes: five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0243**, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first proclamation is recognizing 'Mental Health Awareness Month' sponsored by Chairman Pitts with Full Board support.

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can we get all of mental health/behavioral health -- all of our stakeholders. All right. We get everybody? WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our communities and throughout our nation leading many people to face challenges in life that can impact their mental health, and mental health is essential to overall health and well-being; and prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and WHEREAS, one in five people will experience a mental health crisis during their lifetime, and there are practical tools that all people can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme, 'More Good Days Together', highlights connecting people to the right support, supporting people as whole individuals, and defining good through personal experience, fostering collective advocacy to improve mental health awareness; and WHEREAS, recovery is a unique and personal journey that requires trial and error to determine what works best for each individual; and all organizations and individuals in a community share the burden of mental health problems and have a dual responsibility -- a collective responsibility to promote mental health wellness and prevention efforts. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners calls upon the citizens, governmental entities, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools in Fulton County to commit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health -- the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need to provide appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions; and does hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Fulton County. Would you please put your hands together for this recognition that it is so hard, but needed."

MAJOR NIKKI DWYER, REICPIENT: "Okay. Good morning, everyone. I'm (inaudible) Deputy Director of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Services, Fulton County. This is my first time here. Thank you for the opportunity. I would like to thank everyone first starting with the Chairman Pitts and the Board of Commissioners for their tremendous support -- I mean their enthusiasm which I have seen at several events when I go to; and the constant encouragement for us to take the initiatives that we can on a routine basis to be able to help the communities that we serve right in Fulton. Thank you so much for that. And again, it is not a formality for the privilege of the proclamation here today. It is a sign to show that we are here to support, to break the stigma, to break the barriers, and to be able to encourage each other as a collective responsibility to take care of the communities and the people we serve and the people we care about. So thank you again for that. The first thing I would like to say is my mantra for the day, every day is, what did I do for someone today? Did I help someone today? When I go to my pillow, that's the first thing that I think about. And the second thing I think about is just do something very small, but it can be something very big for someone that is around you. So starting your day with doing something small with great love goes along way. Today again, it's about collective responsibility. I would like to thank my partners who are here, my community providers who are here, people who have been silently supporting us all along through these changes that we've gone through and all the new initiatives: thank you, thank you, thank you for being here and showing collective responsibility for the process that we -- in the process of supporting our communities. Again, call that person that you care about today, show that you love them, express your support to them, show empathy, and we are here to serve the best that we can every day. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Southern Center for Human Rights Appreciation Day' sponsored by Chairman Pitts and Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can all of the stakeholders -- the Southern Center for Human Rights and all of the stakeholders, please, please make your way down. Glad to have you this morning. Please fall in on both sides. All right. It is with great pride and honor this proclamation: WHEREAS, the Southern Center for Human Rights was founded in 1976 as the Southern Prisoner Defense Committee by ministers and activists concerned about reinstatement of the death penalty and the conditions of prisons and jails in the South; and WHEREAS, the Southern Center for Human Rights has upheld its mission of working for equality, dignity, and justice for people impacted by the criminal legal system in the deep South and fighting for a world free from mass incarceration, the death penalty, the criminalization of poverty, and racial injustice; and WHEREAS, the Southern Center for Human Rights has been a leading force in litigating capital cases in the deep South, including arguing and winning five death penalty cases at the United States Supreme Court, and successfully arguing before the Georgia Supreme Court that execution by electric chair constitutes cruel and unusual punishment; and WHEREAS, the Southern Center for Human Rights worked with grassroots community organizations to lead efforts to uphold the rights of inmates and has successfully engaged in litigation, addressing inhumane conditions on inmates and has been a critical partner to promote progress in criminal legal system; and WHEREAS, the Southern Center for Human Rights has had a profound impact on the landscape of the criminal legal system in the deep South and has championed dignity centered, reframing of how we look at issues in our criminal legal system. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commend the Southern Center for Human Rights for 50 years of advocacy in the courts, City Halls, and general assemblies to advance equality, dignity, and justice for people impacted by the criminal legal system; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 6, 2026, as 'Southern Center for Human Rights Appreciation Day' in Fulton County. Can you please put your hands together for a wonderful organization."

TIFFANY ROBERTS, REICPIENT: "Good morning. I will be extremely brief. My name is Tiffany Roberts and I am the director of public policy at the Southern Center for Human Rights and on behalf of Executive Director Terrica Ganzy and Deputy Director Atteeyah Holland, we thank Fulton County for lifting us up on the occasion of our 50th anniversary. Those of you who are familiar with Southern Center, and just heard this proclamation, know that for five decades we've been a community partner, often advocating for people whom society wants to discard. Sometimes we do this through criminal litigation; other times through civil litigation and policy work, but mostly black man in the Deep South, in the post- Jim Crow era we're being sentenced to death in less time than it takes to pick a jury; and also being represented by unqualified lawyers. Southern Center along with ministers, advocates, organizers and others said not on my

watch at night and not in my name. We knew that capital punishment in the deep South Fulton was but an extension of chattel slavery and we have been too dangerous places and really unpopular cases because we find it important to do this important work. When handshakes and winks substituted for the mandates of the right to counsel under our constitutions, we work with people like Joseph Echols Lowry to establish the statewide public defender system. The list goes on, but I will spare you the accolades because what is more important than an accolade is the spirit that brought those accolades to bear. We are watching the nation regress to the condition that cause Southern Center and other organizations to emerge as necessary. We have so much work to do. Day by day the most vulnerable people are being treated as the most dispensable. So today we're calling upon all of you to be much bigger than our worst instincts regardless of political affiliation. We must embrace, as Dr. Lowry often employed us to embrace, the essential goodness of humankind. This means diligence, candor, transparency, humanity, and integrity, and courage must permeate all of the work of civil servants and all of the work of civil society. This moment that we are in right now will make or break us. And we do not have resources to waste on hubris, and we don't have time to waste on vanity. Again, thank you; ever onward."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Older Americans Month' sponsored by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman with Full Board support."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "All right. All my older Americans, if you are an older American and what are called older Americans it means you can go through that line and say give me the senior citizen discount. So if you can do that come stand with us. Come on darling. You look so cute. Thank you, Commissioner Arrington. Now, some of you I'm not going to call out, but I know y'all get that senior citizen discount. I'm going to let you slide today. WHEREAS, Older Americans Month was established in 1963 by President John F. Kennedy and the National Council of Senior Citizens to recognize the contributions of older adults, and address issues impacting their health, independence, and well-being. WHEREAS, Fulton County government has a long-standing commitment to older adults, supporting senior services since 1973, and through the department of senior services, providing programs that promote independence, enhance quality of life, support healthy aging, and delayed cognitive decline; and WHEREAS, the department delivers essential services including: home delivered meals, transportation, in-home support, case management, AmeriCorps senior companion programs, kinship care, and programming at adult day neighborhood senior centers and senior multipurpose facilities; and WHEREAS, the 2026 theme, 'Champion Your Health' emphasizes prevention, wellness, and empowering older adults to actively manage their physical, mental, and social well-being; and WHEREAS, this theme aligns with Fulton County's effort to expand health, wellness, education, civic engagement, and community-based opportunities that support older adults in remaining active and engaged; and WHEREAS, a new Fulton County multipurpose and adult day health

facility will open May 11th, 2026 at the Health and Human Services North, 4700 North Parkway -- North point Parkway location improving access to senior programming for North Fulton older adults. And on a personal note, the Senior Summit 2026 was successful yesterday with a whopping 1200 seniors that came out to celebrate the 2026 Senior Summit sponsored by Fulton County. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners urges all residents, organizations, businesses, caregivers, and stakeholders to honor older adults -- I call them seasoned adults by participating in programs and initiatives that support their independence and well-being; and does hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as Older American Seasoned Americans Month of Fulton County, Georgia. Would you, please, put your hands together for our Seasoned Older Americans."

KWELI RASHIED-HENRY, REICPIENT: "Good morning. My name is Kweli Rashied-Henry, and I'm the Deputy Director for the Department of Senior Services. We are so happy today to receive this proclamation, and I'd like to introduce our esteem Bowden participant, who's going to receive the proclamation on our behalf. And i just want to say a few words because I just learned something very interesting here about Ms. Ruffin. But Ms. Ruffin has been a member of the Bowden facility since 2008. She worked for over 30 years -- almost 30 years as the director of human services for the state of Georgia. She enjoys making handmade cards, line dancing, and traveling. And she serves as the lead instructor and dancer for the Bowden Soul Strutters. And as a senior -- that is a senior line dance ensemble -- and the instructor of the advance card making class. She works with staff planning special events and she loves volunteering her time to serve the community. Now on a personal note, Ms. Ruffin has been my neighbor, growing up in East Point -- she known me since I was about seven or eight and just really excited to have you present today or received today's proclamation. Ms. Ruffin."

MS RUFFIN, REICPIENT: "I am honored to represent the Bowden Center. The Bowden Center has been a lifeline for me and other seniors as we retire finding things to do -- there's never a loss of finding things to do at the Bowden Center and the other multipurpose and senior facilities in Fulton County. Fulton County takes care of their seniors and I'm excited and just proud to be here to accept this proclamation. Thank you."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And on a personal note: If you've ever seen Ms. Ruffin, she would put Beyoncé and Tina Turner to shame. I call her -- that's my center - - I call her a little piece of leather sho'nuff put together because she really works that floor. Thank you for showing out for the seniors. Can y'all out your hands together one more time, please."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Fulton County Certified Public Managers Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Arrington with Full Board support."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. Yes. Good morning, everyone. This proclamation is for our certified public managers -- our county workers has taken a step to receive additional training, so that they can continue best practices -- learn the best practices and exercises those best practices for the benefit of our residents. And as you see, we got a big group of certified -- certified public managers. Always important when people take the time, right. They didn't have to go through this certified public manager program, so it's always important when they take the time to educate themselves and better themselves to provide services to the residents of Fulton. The proclamation reads as follows: WHEREAS, Fulton County government entered into a memorandum of agreement with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government to offer the certified public managers program to managers and supervisors within Fulton County; and WHEREAS, the University of Georgia is the only organization within the state of Georgia authorized by the National CPM Consortium to offer the CPM program. And Fulton County CPM Class of 2026 is the Tenth Anniversary Class to receive the CPM certification; and WHEREAS -- yes, you can clap for that. And WHEREAS, the CPM Class Cohort S organized a career day at Booker T. Washington High School to connect with more than 200 students featuring tables with branded materials, giveaways, mock interview station offering real-world feedback and interactive activities developing solutions to expose students to public service careers; and WHEREAS, the CPM Class Cohort T, supported seniors at Fulton County sites of Helene Mills Senior center, the Dogwood Senior Center, and New Horizons Senior Center building shelving, cabinets, creating the first dedicated food pantry, distributing food and other supplies, and at QLS Haven and Independent Living Facility focused on digital literacy; and WHEREAS, the CPM class has completed 300 hours of coursework in nine months; dedicating three full consecutive days per month to attending classes, completing out of class homework, and academic studies and giving back to the community of their time, talent, and intellectual capital. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners congratulates the CPM Class of 2026 for successfully completing the requirements to receive their professional certifications as certified public managers; and does hereby proclaim today, Wednesday, May 6, 2026, as 'Fulton County Certified Public Managers Appreciation Day' in Fulton County. Let's give them a big round of applause."

KENNETH L. HERMON, JR., FC CHIEF HR OFFICER, REICPIENT: "Good morning, everyone. Thank you Commissioners for once again entrusting the HR department with the resources to continue this program. I have to admit of all the -- I know some of the crazy stuff that I've suggested to you relative to the employees -- this is the one that I'm most proudest of because its investment in not only them, but the future of Fulton

County. So congratulations, and again thank, you to the Board of Commissioners for sponsoring the program. Thank you to the leadership of the county, Dick Anderson and Sharon, and all of those in the leadership positions; and all the department heads in allowing the employees to invest and take time away from their day-to-day responsibilities to do this job. And most importantly, I'd also like to thank the families for supporting the employees as they go to this endeavor. A ten year anniversary of this program again is very significant to both the county, UGA, and I'm hoping for the future employees of Fulton County. And now I'd like the presidents to say a few words."

CHRIS AVERY, REICPIENT: "Good morning, everyone. How you doing? My name is Chris Avery, and I work for the External Affairs team here in Fulton County; specifically in the digital unit where we help manage and create digital content for the county. As the saying goes, 'Fulton County is a Big Deal', but today's even a bigger deal as recognized and celebrates ten wonderful successful years of the certified public manager program. Throughout these past nine months, Cohort S became family as we navigated and learned what it truly means to be a leader in today's climate. Leadership to us meant giving back to those who helped us to get to where we are today. For our service learning project, we poured into Booker T. Washington High School and helped over 200 students learn about the different opportunities available here in Fulton County. These students were excited to see that people who keep the county running were right in their community. The goal was to spark interest and invest in the next generation of leaders for the county, and I believe we did well. If you'd like to see the results of that day, please visit our YouTube channel at Fulton County Government and watch our video. But on all honesty, thank you to the leadership here at Fulton County for making this program possible. Thank you to Dr. Marcie and the professors at the University of Georgia for teaching us about leadership. And most importantly, thank you to Cohort S for being the amazing leaders that you are and a shining example of what a leadership truly means."

JULIANA PETERSON, REICPIENT: "Morning everyone. My name is Juliana Peterson. I'm the Executive District Attorney over our special victims division in the Fulton DA's office. Thank you, Commissioners on behalf of the Fulton County CPM Cohort T, I want to express our really sincere gratitude to the Fulton County Board of Commissioners and each of our department leadership, as well as those who supported our participation in the certified public manager program. We deeply appreciate your commitment to investing in the leaders across Fulton County government. This program has been truly transformative. We learn how to be more proactive leaders, how to anticipate challenges, plan thoughtfully, and support our teams with clarity and confidence. We deepened our understanding of servant leadership; focusing on what it means to lead with purpose, and a genuine commitment to the people we serve. Through our capstone and service learning projects, where we indeed served four different senior community centers and an independent service facility, we saw firsthand

what we can accomplish when we work together. These experiences showed us that when we combine our strengths even across the departments in Fulton County, we're able to create meaningful solutions that truly benefit our community. Each of us has walked away better equipped to serve our community with excellence. Thank you for believing in our potential and for making this opportunity possible. We look forward to applying these skills to strengthen our departments, our team, and most importantly the Fulton County residents who depend on us every day. Thank You."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Public Service Recognition Week' sponsored by Chairman Pitts with Full Board support."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "All our public servants just come only in and join the party. All right. WHEREAS, celebrated nationally the first week of May since 1985, 'Public Service Recognition Week' is organized annually to honor the men and women who serve our nation, as federal, state, county and local government employees. I'm going to read it slow as you all make your way down. WHEREAS, during Public Service Recognition Week, we honor those who dedicate themselves to ensuring America's promise rings true in every corner of our country. And we commit to upholding the values they represent every day; and WHEREAS, the well-being of our Fulton County residents depends on the passion and dedication of our workforce and Fulton County leaders who have worked to recruit, uplift, and empower exceptional civil servants; and WHEREAS, the collective impact of Fulton County's workforce, is both profound and enduring as evidence by the remarkable accumulation of 42,313 years of service -- you can clap for that if you'd like. A testament -- a true testament to the unwavering commitment, institutional knowledge, and legacy of excellence demonstrated by those who have dedicated their careers to public service; and WHEREAS, this week and all month long, we urge citizens to embrace the hopeful spirit that embodies the extraordinary work of our civil servants, which is the same spirit that built Fulton County; from Palmetto to Alpharetta and because of the hard work of compassionate and determined public servants, it will continue to strengthen our nation for generations to come; and WHEREAS, our nation commemorates 250 years since its founding, we are reminded that through the strength and endurance of our democracy, it's made possible through the unwavering dedication of public servants; and without their commitment, the essential services that sustain our communities, safeguard our wellbeing, and uphold the promise of our nation and county would not be possible. And in the words of our Chair, Robb Pitts, it is because of these individuals that you see in front of us that Fulton County is a 'Big Deal'. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commends those employees and civil servants in Fulton County who work tirelessly to effectively serve Fulton County citizens, their visitors reaffirms our commitments to support and empower Fulton County employees; and does hereby proclaim the first week of May annually as public -- 'Public Service Recognition Week' in Fulton County, Georgia. Can you, please, put your hands

together for wonderful employees and public servants? Anybody other than, Ken Hermon want to speak? I'm just kidding."

KENNETH L. HERMON, JR., FC CHIEF HR OFFICER, REICPIENT: "Good morning, again. Commissioner, I'm having a great weekend. You know I was able to celebrate my 88 -- with my father his 88th birthday on May 1st, enjoy Carnival, and be able to come back and still support the employees of Fulton County. But, you know, I'll give you a saying from the Virgin Islands. In the Virgin Islands we say in the government, the government is all of we. In proper English it's all of us -- it's all of we. And we stand by that because we understand that even in Fulton County and Fulton County employees that all the small contribution that each employee makes on a day-to-day basis to make the life of a citizen of Fulton County better in any which way, is a great contribution. And my challenge to the employees of Fulton County is to continue to excel, contributing each and every way you can to make sure that Fulton County is always seen and represented as the best public employer of choice. And again that' all due to the support that we've been receiving from the Board of Commissioners and the leadership throughout the county; and again, implemented through you, the employees of Fulton County. So today if you have some time, please stop by some of the demonstrations that we have us on some of the departments and some of the services that they provide. And again, kudos to all the hard work that you have done over the course of the 42,000 plus year that you've contributed to the lives of the individuals within Fulton County."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Police Department."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division Appreciation Day' sponsored by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and Chairman Pitts."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can we get the Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division, Chief, all of the stakeholders. You all just bear with us -- this is the last proclamation, but definitely not the least. And as they are making their way, I just want to say on a personal note as a dog lover, that our animal services division -- has -- you call come in, come in, come in, come on -- have been doing some wonderful things. They've been recognized in the news and it would be remiss if we, as Commissioners, didn't recognize them as well. So as they fall in, I'm going to start reading the proclamation. We ready, Chairman? WHEREAS, on March 23rd, 2026, Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division received a complaint from a citizen advising that she had dropped her dog off at an address on Lansing Street in Atlanta for boarding and training. When she picked her dog up, it was emaciated, vomiting, and in unsanitary and unkept conditions; and WHEREAS, on March 28th, 2026, the Department of Agricultural received a complaint from a different citizen advising that they too had dropped their dog off for boarding and training at the same

address, and their dog was returned to them covered in the same unsanitary and unkept conditions; and WHEREAS, on April 2nd, 2026, Fulton County Animal Services, met an investigator with the Department of Agriculture at the Lansing Street address, and upon arrival, they were met outside by Christopher Floyd, who denied running a unlicensed training boarding facility from his residence. It was then discovered that he did not have a kennel license through the state of Georgia; and WHEREAS, officers observed several -- and I do mean you all, several neglected dogs, and obtained a search warrant for the property and discovered 15 neglected animals. All animals were removed from the residence and transported to Fulton County Animal Shelter. Mr. Floyd was charged with 15 counts of cruelty to animals, three counts of felony theft by deception, and two counts of misdemeanor theft by deception and booked into the Fulton County Jail. What I want you all to know on a personal note, this person was making anywhere from a thousand to \$1500 per animal that was there. These people had entrusted their animals to this unlicensed kennel. WHEREAS, in October of 2024, under the guidance of Major Nikki Dwyer, the Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division, began investigating animal cruelty crimes countywide, and has since worked over a hundred cases, executed 30 search warrants, and saved over 300 animals. In December of 2025, Fulton County Animal Services Field Operations was taken over by the Fulton County Police Department. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognize the Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division for their tireless dedication to the safety and welfare of our beloved pets and animals; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, 6th 2026 as 'Fulton County Police Department Animal Services Division Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Would you, please, join me in celebrating these individuals that do such a great work in Fulton County."

MAJOR NIKKI DWYER, REICPIENT: "Good morning, Major Dwyer. First off, I would like to thank the Commissioners and the County Manager for their support in us taking over animal services. Since we've taken over, our arrest for animal cruelty have quadrupled, and we're keeping people and pets safer. We realize that a lot of these cases we work are not just animal cruelty, it's often domestic violence, gang activity, aggravated assault; and so, we're able to keep the animals and also people safe. So we want to thank everyone for their support."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Testing. One, two, three. Testing. All right. Before we continue with our agenda, I'd like to -- in case you have not heard, Ted Turner, beloved citizen of Fulton County, Atlanta, state of Georgia died in his sleep -- not in his sleep; surrounded by family. He was a great, great person. I have the privilege of knowing him. And one of my fondest memory was when he invited me to be a part of his delegation to -- when he started the Goodwill Games to compete with the Olympics. And let's have a moment of silence for Ted Turner."

(Whereupon, a moment of silence was observed.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, Public Hearings, **26-0244**, Public Comment - Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing by registering on the county website www.fultoncountyga.gov. Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 60 minutes. In the event the 60 minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have received 47 speaker cards. Will the first speakers, please come forward: LA Pink, Mike Russell, Ben Crump, Rashaad Muhammad, Eric Hertz, Brandon Crum, and Liza Park.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. As you come from, let me remind you, first and foremost, there are 47 speakers which will, obviously, go beyond the one hour we have, so we'll try to accommodate as many of you as possible. When you have 15 seconds remaining in your two minutes, I'll say 15 seconds that should be -- that is rather, your clue to begin to conclude your remarks. And lastly, if someone has already said what you were going to say, please do not feel compelled to repeat it. We hear you. First speaker."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Absolutely. Well, good morning. As we come down here, again. This is five years straight that I've been in the building. And as we can see, the corruption has gotten comfortable --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- excuse me. Excuse me, one moment. Whoever has that sign, please lower your sign, please. Thank you. Anybody else? All right. You can begin again."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "You're going to start my ten minutes over?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Okay. So like I said, as I continue to come down here, corruption has gotten comfortable. We got the DA Willis that is gray goose getting loose; we have Tiffany that has now followed her and is comfortable to come here in Fulton County; we got Helen Willis and her husband taking money out of the inmate

welfare funding; very comfortable with that. Then we have the Sheriff that is high risk up under his security bond; and we have Ben Crump supporting him. What glorious is that? So as Ben Crump comes down here, we're only asking that not only the Sheriff to resign today, but for him to take the civil rights off of the front of his name and just be an attorney because what civil and what rights is he giving in to the people that he is representing. LaShawn Thompson's family stood up behind him and told him that the Sheriff don't need a new jail, they needed a new Sheriff. But he stood in front with brother Rashaad Muhammad, told the community that the Sheriff needed a new jail. Yet he rushed down here to come in front of y'all to grandstand and talk about what y'all ain't did. But what about the Sheriff? This man right now is sitting up under a bond that he's not sworn into. We don't even have a rank Sheriff in the building. Go do your research. Go check to see what exactly his rank is when he got in on December 10th when he was sworn in; and didn't get a valid surety bond until the 25th of December. Meaning that he swore in on an old surety bond, Kenya Johnson gave me the, okay, to that. So we are operating here up under corruption all the way --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds.

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- so what we're asking right now is for Ben Crump to take the civil rights off of his name and the Sheriff to resign."

MIKE RUSSELL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'm here to talk about the issues in the jail. And we have a horrible situation in our jail that some people refer to as the 'Trap House'. And the major issue with our jail is not the building, it's the person that supposed to be running the jail, Sheriff Labat. He's constantly lamenting and his cohorts that he has not gotten enough support from the Board of Commissioners. That is absolutely not true. Because the facts are since he's been sheriff, his budget has been doubled from a hundred and 77 million to 234 million. He says he doesn't have enough people to work the jail; the county hired a company to find workers. Over 7,000, 7,000 people applied, they screened all of those candidates, and they handed him a list of a hundred and 39 people to work in the jail. And Sheriff Labat, how many did you hire? To my knowledge, three. Why, because he's not trying to fix the jail, he's trying to make it a problem to shield his incompetence. Then you talk about the money; what did he do the money that they gave him? Well, he says he went out and gave frozen turkeys to homeless people. How many homeless people do you know can cook a frozen turkey? And then we know about the pimp mobile, where he tried to be slicky-boy, went to Florida, ordered a \$250,000 pimped out white Mercedes-Benz van; and then when he got discovered, he tried to hide it. And then we they found the van, he said it was a command center. I've been in the military for 28 years, I've never seen a pimped out white Mercedes-Benz command van. The Sheriff needs to go. And then you've got Mo Ivory down here singing his praises. He let her in that jail to take a film about a trumped up thing about a broken water pipe --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds.

MIKE RUSSELL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- when it was a toilet that was leaking all night. This Sheriff needs to go and this show today is just that. It's a show. Do not pay attention to it."

BEN CRUMP, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Members of the Commission, I'm, Ben Crump. And I come before you regarding tragic circumstances surrounding the Fulton County Jail and the services or shall we say, lack of services being rendered to detainees at the jail. Rashaad Muhammad, walked into the Fulton County Jail and articulated that he had a very serious medical condition -- a bladder infection and that he needed his antibiotics and his medicine to be able to survive. He told them that it was a matter of his life or death. He told them initially, and then he asked them every day, and then they turned in to, please, and then as other inmates have said him lying on the floor, unable to move, he was begging for his medicine for 11 days. Tragically, he didn't get those services; he went to the hospital. Upon going, he had septic shock, induced him into a coma, and LOL, life or limbs. They had to make a decision and he lost his hands, and he lost his legs. So since he can't stand for himself, we're coming demanding, but three things: one, an independent investigation; two, we want transparency. Who made the decision to keep the medical provider, whether it was the Sheriff or was it the County Commission after LaShawn Thompson."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds.

BEN CRUMP, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "And thirdly and finally, accountability. How will this Fulton County Commission give accountability, so he can get justice for Rashaad Muhammad. Thank you."

RASHAAD MUHAMMAD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "First, I want to thank, Almighty God Allah, for preserving my life and giving me the strength just to come before the Board today after such a painful and traumatizing ordeal that I went through in Fulton County Jail. On August the 11th, I was arrested; I told the officer that I have a suprapubic catheter and I needed my medication that was in the vehicle. My car was towed and I wasn't able to get my medicine. When I arrived in Fulton County Jail, I told the people at the intake, I told the CO's, I told everybody: I need my medicine because it's that serious. If I don't have the antibiotic, I can get really sick in here and go septic. I go up to my floor; they put me on a medical floor, an open dorm. I wasn't in an MOU, I told the provider up there that I need my medicine, can you, please, give me my medicine. I signed a form saying my medicine would come from the pharmacy and I would get it. A few days pass, I don't get my medicine. I asked CO's, I asked everybody, whoever I could talk to, can I please, get my medicine: I'm starting to get sick. I'm on the phone; I'm calling my family. Hey, family, I need y'all to advocate for me because I don't have my medicine. I really need my medicine. Days keep going by me; I'm getting sicker.

The inmates notice the smell of my urine because I have to empty my suprapubic catheter in the toilet. It's getting worse. It's starting to smell. Now everybody is noticing it. I'm telling the COs, I'm telling the nurses, I'm telling the pill call lady. I go to pill call -- hey, you go any pills for me? Muhammad, we don't have anything for you. How? I got to be the sickest person in here. I need my medicine. Okay, days go by; now, I'm lying on the floor. I can't get up. It just gets worse and worse and worse to the point where I can't get up off the floor; the inmates have to advocate for me, and I finally get a stretcher call. I get a stretcher call and they send me to Grady, and that's where they told me I needed a procedure and I want into septic shock. The whole time --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- about 15 seconds, sir."

RASHAAD MUHAMMAD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- okay. I just want to a -- I asked for my medicine and this happened in Fulton County Jail. We need some accountability. Thank you."

ERIC HERTZ, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Chair Pitts, Commissioners, my name is Eric Hertz. I represent Rashaad. I am a lawyer, I'm a member this community, and I'm a Fulton County resident. So I come here with three obligations to my client, to my community, and to the rule of law. I'm not asking this Board to decide a lawsuit today. I'm asking this Board to confront a question governments can never avoid. When Fulton County takes away a person's liberty, what responsibility does Fulton County assume with that person's life? Because custody is not a technical word: custody means control. The county controls the door, the county controls movement, the county controls transportation, and the county controls access to the doctors. So let's not hide behind labels. The question is not whether Rashaad was an inmate; the question is was he a human being in Fulton County secure. Rashaad, says he asked for help, he says treatable condition was allowed to become a catastrophic one, he went into custody with his legs and fingers, and he came out with neither. What is this Board going to do to change this before the next person is locked behind that door? If a bridge collapses, you don't call bad luck and reopen it: you inspect and design. If a man is in jail, please for medical care, the county cannot own the keys, own the clock, and then disown the consequences. The Old Testament says, Justice, Justice shall ye pursue. Justice Brandeis' Supreme Court wrote, 'sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectant'. So bring the sunlight, bring the records, bring the timeline, bring an independent review, bring public answers. Chair Pitts, Commissioners --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

ERIC HERTZ, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- this is not a campaign issues, its a governess issues. But you can restore something essential: public trust. That requires action, answers, accountability, and courage. Thank you."

BRANDON CRUM, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "11 days of neglect has resulted in a lifetime of suffering. 264 hours of indifference has resulted in a lifetime of pain. 15,840 minutes of failure has resulted in a man's life being altered and it will never be the same again. My name is Brandon Price Crum, and I am one of the attorneys honored to represent Rashaad Muhammad, alongside attorneys Ben Crump, Liza Park, Eric Hertz. The question before this Commission today is simple: how many more lives will it take before we see the inhumane treatment of our jail detainees like the crisis that it is? This should have never happened to Rashaad Muhammad; and he is still standing in spirit, in truth, and in the fight for justice. His limbs were taken, but his voice was not. And we are here to make sure that the world hears his voice. This is a pattern of injustice, a pattern of people crying out for help in them being ignored time after time. Mr. Muhammad, did not lose his legs because of unavoidable medical -- because of an unavoidable medical condition; he lost his legs because people in position of power, chose not to act because a system that is supposed to preserve life --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

BRANDON CRUM, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- instead ignored it. Rashaad, did not go back. Rashaad is 33 years old, he has a daughter that he has to care for. His life is forever changed due to the negligence while he was a detainee in Fulton County Jail."

LIZA A. PARK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Liza Park. I'm the senior attorney in Atlanta for Ben Crump Law. I'd like everyone in this room to remember one word in association to what happened to Mr. Muhammad: Preventable. Preventable. Preventable. He wouldn't be here today -- we wouldn't be here today. He would have his legs, he would have his fingers, and his family and Mr. Muhammad wouldn't be going through all of their trauma which will be generational trauma for this family. Please, consider also the financial perspective of what happened here. Mr. Muhammad, just needed a few antibiotics; a bottle of antibiotics. Instead while he was a pretrial detainee, of which those charges were eventually all dropped -- pretrial detainee. He asked for his medicine, asked for his medicine which was not given. And then he ended up in the hospital after several surgeries. Six months in the hospital, still a detainee. Please consider the cost difference between a few antibiotics that he begged for versus six months of cost in the hospital -- each day in the hospital. Thousands of dollars. So you're talking about hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical costs to the county --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

LIZA A. PARK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and to Mr. Muhammad, he's never going to get back. We just ask that you consider all of this and really the cost at this point is unknown."

MARCUS COLEMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Marcus Coleman, I'm from this county and I actually serve as a founding member, Vice Chair of the Fulton County Reparations Task Force, so what an awesome unique position I am sitting in today, as one who also was a formerly incarcerated -- wrongfully incarcerated individual, which is how I got started in this work. Why in the Hell, two years later is Fulton County back in the bull's-eye of the United Nations? Why is our county at the headlines of having human rights violations? And forgive me if I'm partial to my complexion, but why in the Hell is our black county led by black individuals, treating the least of these in our community that happen to be our brethren and sisters worse than some of the Caucasians we claim who are racist? Mr. Chairman, and I mean the future Mr. Chairman, that's part of our problem because we got dissension -- this man here is missing limbs and extremities and because I call the future chairman, someone says come on with the bullshit. The bullshit is happening right here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Excuse me. Just a minute. Just a minute. Just a minute."

MARCUS COLEMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "It's always interesting that one that's never seen the inside of a prison wall can tell someone who has, what they need to say when they're up here. Mr. Chairman, currently, this is embarrassing. Can I have my time back?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Go ahead."

MARCUS COLEMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you for pausing. It goes without saying, Sheriff Labat is incapable. There's been over 30 people that has either died or been maimed -- I don't have to keep reiterating the obvious. It is up to you guys to hold this man accountable; and honestly, since he's an elected official, it's actually up to us. So I'm sick of the blame game --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- about 15 more seconds."

MARCUS COLEMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- thank you, Chairman. I'm sick of the blame game when we are putting boots to the concrete to make sure that we're hold people that look like us accountable. Sometimes as black folk, we like the pass the buck -- Atlanta and this is not about race."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Next speaker."

CLERK GRIER: "Next speakers, please come forward: Reshard Snelling --"

(Whereupon, crowd outburst takes place.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, sir. You have the floor."

RESHARD SNELLINGS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "All right. My name is Reshard Snellings. I appreciate Commissioner Khadijah, Chairman Pitts for explaining it to me that the Sheriff's office has opted out of oversight by the county as it relates to open records. When it was eventually fulfilled, it was confirmed what we already suspected. A while back, I had a conversation with Helen Zenobia Willis about her use of these prison inmate funds, and she told me back then, she had no way of knowing where the funds came from, but she spent it. When reviewing -- when reviewing the documentation provided by the Sheriff's office, Helen requested this money. She said in her e-mail to her husband's employer to send the check directly to her. On the top left of the corner of the check, it clearly says it came from the inmate welfare fund. In our City Council meetings, Ms. Willis would often boast about her Master's degree, her accounting background, and how she does not want her husband taking her to jail. The inmates never consented to helping Helen promote Helen with misappropriated funds stolen from these inmates. Fulton County District Five residents, you do not want someone representing you who is dishonest and we'll take commissary funds from inmates to buy turkeys to give to her constituents. In a recent council meeting, we learned that Ms. Willis drained her city budget prior to resigning. Whomever is elected will have two weeks of budget to last for the remainder of the year. The money was once again spent on Helen promoting Helen, with parties and campaign expenses, including voter data files containing personal voter information from Chisholm Strategies. Fulton County needs to demand this money back from the city of South Fulton and have it returned. I understand that the Justice Department frequently watches these meetings and I really hope someone --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

RESHARD SNELLINGS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- looks at 18 USC 643-654. This is the federal code section for embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds by officials and custodians as it relates to prison inmate money."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. Next speakers: Mike Johnson, Kevin A. Ross, Joshua Williams, Albert Edwards, Heather Fatzinger, James Washburn, Kimberly Brooks."

MIKE JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "All right. Mike Johnson, District Four, South Fulton. Good morning, Commissioners. There's been a lot of talk in conversation about the Fulton County Jail and the mismanagement of money. It all depends on who you're talking to as to what alternative fact you received. Here's a few facts that are not alternative: Family members and friends of Fulton County voters and taxpayers are dying and experiencing life changing traumatic events from their time spent in the Fulton County Jail. Just because someone has been accused of a crime and is awaiting for their day in court in the Fulton County Jail, it should not lead to a death sentence, or amputations due to mismanagement of the jail. I'm sure all of you all are somewhat familiar with the inmate welfare fund from all these previous conversations. This money

is made or accumulated off the inmates purchasing snacks, personal hygiene items from commissary, store calls, and telephone calls. This money is allocated for the welfare and the well-being of the inmates. How is it that Helen Willis, who is currently running for one of those seats that you guys are sitting in right now, for District Five, is legally allowed to receive thousands of dollars from this particular account? To purchase, as Reshard stated earlier, turkeys to promote her own personal agenda in South Fulton. Is this ethical? Is this fair to the county? Is this even legal? Where is the procedure for you guys to get that money back out of her pocket; not taxpayer pocket?

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MIKE JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I just happened to have a copy of that check with me. It's check No. 9035 from Wells Fargo Bank out of the inmate welfare account. She need to be held accountable. She need to be paying that money back."

KEVIN ROSS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Kevin Ross, counsel to CERM, a joint venture on JC Water Partners. On September 19th, 2025, a Fulton County selection committee interviewed JC for the O&M RFP. We understand that in early October 2025, this committee in writing, ranked JC as the highest ranked firm technically. The firm before you scored a low C. We understand that JC's grade was an A. Also JC's cost proposal is \$5 million less over the life of the contract. Then on December 4 of 2025, JC's proposal was deemed nonresponsive based upon the failure to disclose litigation involving Jacobs. This was three months after RFP submission, two and a half months after the interview, and two months after the written evaluation. After JC's disqualification, new memorandum was written which did not inform you that JC has gone through the entire process. Based upon this memorandum it was as if JC's interview and evaluation never occurred. JC pursue administrative appeals, but elected not to pursue a judicial appeal. Instead we are appealing to the prudence and judgment of this Commission. Fulton County ratepayers should not be burdened with \$5 million in excess professional service cost for a firm rank significantly lower in its service quality. I make two requests: insist that the committee's written evaluation of JC be forwarded to you. It exists and it's a material document. And next, table this item before you until you've had time to review this memorandum or reject outright 26-0252."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

KEVIN ROSS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Fulton County ratepayers deserve a value base procurement decision. JC the highest ranked technical firm and the lowest cost is the best value for Fulton County. Thank you."

JOSHUA WILLIAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Joshua Williams. I'm the regional vice president with Jacobs, residing here in the Atlanta area. I'm here today on behalf of JC Water Partners a joint venture between OMI, a subsidiary

of Jacobs; and the corporate environmental risk management firm better-known as CERM. Together we bring decades of proven results, deep local partnerships, and an enduring commitment to the people in the communities of Fulton County. JC Water Partners is requesting transparency and fairness in the evaluation of the recent procurement for wastewater operations. Based on our understanding, JC Water Partners receive the highest evaluation score from the selection committee. This committee conducted a thorough and structured review and we believe their score reflects the true qualifications of the competing firms. We respectfully request that the Commissioners consult with the selection committee to verify the accuracy of those scores. In addition, it's our understanding that JC Water Partners submitted the lowest cost proposal. Our one year price is approximately \$27 million over \$1 million lower than the firm on today's agenda; and about \$5 million lower over the five-year term delivering meaningful savings to taxpayers. Our team was disqualified due to a legal technicality, not due to performance, qualifications, pricing, or committee scoring. JC Water Partners was not disqualified in the earlier 2024 procurement for the same project, nor was the entity disqualified in other recent county on-call engineering contracts. Together with CERMA, local minority owned small business, our joint venture bring stability, transparency, and long-term commitment. By contrast, the firm on today's agenda was acquired by private equity just two weeks ago with significant leadership turnover. Introducing uncertainty that warrants --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JOSHUA WILLIAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- careful consideration. Today we're asking that the Board of Commissioners consider the request that procurement provide the official scores and the pricing for the selection committee so that the award can be issued to the highest ranked, lowest price, and most qualified firm. Thank you for your time."

ALBERT EDWARDS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Al Edwards, and I'm the founder and CEO of Corporate Environmental Risk Management, commonly refer to as CERM. I'm here today on behalf of JC Water Partners, a joint venture between OMI, a subsidiary of Jacobs Engineering and CERM. Two long standing reputable firms with shared values and deep ties to this community and decades of proven service. For over 30 years CERM's history of technical excellence and community reinvestment is well documented. Our vision, building communities, creating opportunities, and inspiring the next generation is well demonstrated. Through advocating for small and minority own business, while mentoring and investing in countless students in vulnerable communities through workforce development initiatives and education partnerships. While we talk about workforce development, we're talking about an actual generation of engineers, environmental scientists, inspectors, operations professionals who found their start at CERM; many of which, as early as

high school, through shadowing programs. Our team has worked together for over 25 years, starting with the pilot mentor protégé program initiated by former Governor Roy Barnes, with shared values of community reinvestment and technical excellence. Our first project together was the formation of the Metro-North Georgia Water Planning District that has led to various projects and program across the region and state and the broadest Southeast to include Hartsfield Jackson, MARTA, GDOT, Fulton County, Tampa International Airport, and the Mobile Area Water Sewer Service. Together our joint venture brings invaluable experience in working together, long-term corporate stability --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

ALBERT EDWARDS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and commitment, demonstrated community reinvestment and transparency. Today we're asking the Board of Commissioners one simple thing: request that procurement provides the official scores and pricing from the selection committee, so that it could award --"

HEATHER FATZINGER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Heather Fatzinger with Full Circle Communications. And I'm here today on behalf of JC Water Partners. Full Circle Communications is a Fulton County certified minority woman owned small business enterprise specializing in public engagement, education, and stakeholder outreach. Our work centers around three priorities: being a good neighbor, proactively engaging the public, and building strategic partnerships that earn trust. Our firm brings more than 25 years of specialized experience, supporting utilities across the country including: water and wastewater infrastructure major capital improvements, disaster response, environmental justice, and regulatory communications. We know what successful utility communication looks like because we've done it consistently, under pressure and in highly scrutinized environments. Full Circle is proud to be a part of this team. We've work with Jacobs for over 20 years as well as CERM. And we have consistently experience them as supportive, collaborative partners who value and uplift small business, one of the reasons that our relationship has lasted so long. As Fulton County prepares to expand public education around capital improvement program, our team offers what matters most: local knowledge, trusted relationships, and the ability to communicate clearly and responsibly with the public. Fulton County's infrastructure improvements will impact hundreds of thousands of residents. We respectfully encourage a process that reflects the long-term best interests of Fulton County and its constituents. Thank you very much for your time."

JAMES WASHBURN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is James Washburn. I'm a long-time Fulton County resident and counsel for JC Water Partners. The county disqualified JC Water on the ground that it had not disclosed certain litigations in its proposal materials. The litigation the county cited for the disqualification did not involve any of the members of JC Water or its subcontractors, but instead, a corporate parent of one

of the members. This disqualification is strange for several reasons: First, the decision came at the end of the evaluation process long after qualification, interviews, and scoring. And second, the RFP did not specify that all litigation involving corporate parents should be disclosed. But that's how the county applied it at least as to JC Water. After the disqualification, we immediately filed a request for procurement records, including other bidder's material and how the evaluation process was conducted. The county denied that request taken the position that those materials cannot be made available to the public until after the award is approved. The county's denial of our request for records meant that we could not evaluate whether other bidders disclosed their corporate parents in litigation or how the county evaluated their bids. And it's a bad rock procurement requirement that every bidder be treated fairly and consistently. If other bidders did not disclose their corporate parent's litigation, but they weren't disqualified, then the procurement will be subject to invalidation even now. If the contract award is approved, we stand ready to submit a new request for all records, including those bid materials from the other bidders to evaluate whether all the bidders were treated --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JAMES WASHBURN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- fairly and consistently. But unlike members of the public, Members of the Commission can review those records now. And we urge the Commission to review those records before approving this contract. Thank you very much."

KIMBERLY BROOKS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "The Bible says it is better to live in the wilderness than with an angry and contentious woman. And I stand here today because I typically don't have a temper because I'm a godly woman, but when I saw Ben Crump come in to speak on behalf of those individuals and utilize a person that is handicap that pushes his ulterior motives as it relates to interest in Fulton County Jail, without mentioning the district attorney's office, without mentioning Sheriff Labat, without holding the people accountable that bothers me because too many people are dying in that jail right now as we speak and nobody speaks about that. If people like me, LA Pink, and the Southern Center can get that level of publicity to come here, then we probably could get the results that we want. I came here today to discuss an injunction that I'm filing for the federal government against Fulton County, the city of Atlanta, and Edgar Perry Integral Property Management Group because you've been committing fraud. Now, what that means is it translates into a language that people can understand is your court system is inadequate, and you lack the intellectual capacity of this staff that you had here today. And I know you had good intentions, but I finally got it: this same staff paid themselves to be off last year on New Year's Eve, by a Resolution that you passed, so everyone in the city, and this county paid for those public officials to take an extra day off for New Year's Eve. DeKalb County didn't get it off, Cobb County didn't

get it off, you guys are paying yourselves to be off. And do what you want to do with our money. That is not the way government works and it will not be tolerated. In the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, 'injustice anywhere -- the smallest bit of it is an injustice everywhere. You cannot overlook anything that anyone is saying. If Ben Crump and those people here claims are settled before my claim is settled, which has been in your office --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

KIMBERLY BROOKS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- there will be a problem. I stand to be corrected and ask the Commissioners, you have not acted on the claim against Kimberly Brooks in Fulton County. Please, respond immediately or action will be taken in the federal government. I digress."

CLERK GRIER: "Next speakers, please come forward: Blake Feldman, Kendall Long, Kanette King, Devin Franklin, Tiffany Roberts, Chastity Dallas, and Kirt Beasley."

BLAKE FELDMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. I'm Blake Feldman, senior policy counsel at the Southern Center for Human Rights. In my role, I focus on statewide policy. Included in the materials we submitted to the Board as a breakdown of all the bills we supported and opposed during this 2026 session. But I just want to focus my remarks on two of them. The first is House Bill 295. If not vetoed, the bill will allow property owners to sue local governments to recover compensation for an alleged decrease in property value, or expenses incurred because of the local governments failure to enforce quality-of-life crimes. The state pressuring counties to shuffle homeless people through jails and courts instead of providing real solutions, like housing, and supportive services and diversion strategies is cruel. It's counterproductive. But if the bill is not vetoed, there are opportunities to minimize harm. And we urge you to work with governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders to do so. Just a few examples enforced is not defined, and we should not concede that enforcement is synonymous with arresting and incarceration. Local ordinances can be revised and before suit can be filed, the property owner must file a claim with the county, and the county determines the administrative procedure for filing said claim. Secondly, I briefly want to address the failure of the legislature to raise the age limit of juvenile justice jurisdiction to include 17 years old. There was a bill that would have done so. We at the Southern Center believe that kids should be treated as kids. The science is clear, the data is clear; it makes sense for so many reasons."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Fifteen seconds."

BLAKE FELDMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "But I want to focus on this legislation because Fulton County knows better than most that jailing children encourages unique

burdens and challenges. The DOJ determine that 17-year-old kids were experiencing harm -- unique harm --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir."

KENDALL LONG, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'm Kendall Long, First Amendment, policy counsel at the Southern Center for Human Rights. My work centers on protecting free speech from the threat of criminalization. I'm here today to share updates from the legislative session that are wins for protecting the First Amendment and causes for concern for the next year's session that you should consider adding to the legislative priorities. These bills should be of concern because they unnecessarily create new criminal offenses, which will lead to more arrest and criminal cases that will only exacerbate the issue the county is already facing with the incarceration and the attack, the right of free expression here in Fulton County. Throughout the session our office and allies testified and met with legislators to stop the passage of as many of these bills as possible. First the good news, Senate Bill 27 was a bill that sought to address the issue of doxing, whether publishing of information about an individual online. This bill would have been the broadest criminal ban on doxing in the country and likely unconstitutional because of how it criminalizes innocuous and protected speech. Though it gets eerily close, Senate Bill 27 did not pass this session. Additionally, Senate Bill 268 made the new offense of obstruction law enforcement with a vehicle -- -- it created a new offense and it also introduced another Bill, a House Bill 1322, which increases the penalty for riding to a felony. Together these bills reflect the efforts by the legislature to criminalize and crackdown on protest. However, neither pass the session. One Bill that unfortunately did pass Senate Bill 443, which criminalizes protest by increasing the penalty for obstructing streets and highways; making it go from a misdemeanor to an aggravated misdemeanor. This bill has been sent to the Governor for his signature. As much of the high profile protest that happened in the state, happened in Fulton County, the state legislature attempting to criminalize free speech -- "

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

KENDALL LONG, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and free expression as it occurs in your jurisdiction. Going into the next legislative session, you should make it clear in your legislative priorities that you do not support any measure that (indiscernible.) free speech and unnecessarily create new criminal offenses."

KANETTE KING, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Kanette King, and I'm the movement policy associate at the Southern Center for Human Rights. And while I'm originally from Southeast Georgia, my work is based on and guided by the lived experience of communities most impacted by incarceration and state violence. In 2020 follow the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, the Southern Center for Human Rights and

alongside grassroots organizers, lawyers, and faith leaders across the state, formed the Just Georgia Coalition. This coalition was created in response to both state sanctioned violence and the influx and swift move of national organizations and attorneys who attempted to intervene without accountability to the grassroots movements that were already organizing on the ground. We believed then and continue to believe now that our movements, strategies, and expertise must be rooted in and led by those most directly impacted. After the publishing of the Federal Consent Decree of the Fulton County Jail, we created the People's Process because we firmly believe that communities have the right to define how safety, implementation plans, and resources should be shared with those who are or have experienced the harms of the incarceration. The People's Process was a platform for community to have input about what they envision because unless I've overlooked it, this Body has not convened a public forum to hear directly from the community about the federal investigations, the Consent Decree itself, or the findings and recommendations of the federal monitor's report. That gap in public engagement is significant, but it doesn't have to remain this way. Policies and legislations will continue to harm people unless you get close enough to hear people; not only what they say, but to move in their best interest. Today I urge you to commit to meaningful --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds"

KANETTE KING, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- partnership with the public by creating intentional, accessible public forums. These spaces should center directly impacted people and those who are advocating alongside them and they should allow for honest dialogue about concerns, accountability, and community driven solutions related to the Fulton County Jail. Thank you."

DEVIN FRANKLIN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Devin Franklin; I am senior movement policy counsel at the Southern Center for Human Rights. As you all know, I'm also a former public defender here in Fulton County with 12 years. Yesterday, I had the opportunity to access the Sheriff's Fulton data board -- dashboard and take a look at the current jail numbers. Yesterday, the current population at the Fulton County Jail across all campuses and across all out of the county leases was 2,877 people. I checked this morning it was 2,827 people, so it's actually going down about 50 folks in the course of one day. This of course is relevant because the overall capacity of the Fulton County Jail across all campuses is about 2,972 people; and even without Fulton County Jail operates at maximum capacity, what we can tell right now is that we have enough beds in Fulton County to accommodate those persons who are in custody. Now, that number should be significantly lower and I -- I believe that what we can say is that the work that we have done in the community, the work that you all have listened to and taken affront has done a lot to address the decrease in those numbers. I can recall a point in time when those numbers were

above 3500. What I would say today is that the Southern Center remains firm in our commitment to promote solutions that prioritize de-carceration over bed expansion. In that vein we remain huge supporters of PAD and the work that they do to lead the Center for Diversion Services. We believe that the potential of the Center for Diversion Services and other initiatives like The Last Chance Diversion Trailer that this Commission supports are the right path. At this time, we have in our possession open records that reflect that the city of Atlanta is intentionally and actively working to undermine and disrupt the work of the Diversion Center and PAD --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds.

DEVIN FRANKLIN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- we're particularly grateful for Fulton County. A special shout out to Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, for your work on the Justice Policy Board; for all you have done to promote and increase the use of diversion by the several police departments that respond to Fulton County and to work to expand the capacity of the diversion center (inaudible). It's what's wise --"

TIFFANY ROBERTS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, again. For the benefit of the record, my name is Tiffany Roberts. I am public policy director. You just heard from my staff, and I just want to address, really briefly, an issue that we are continuing to experience with Sheriff Labat's obstruction of the Open Records Act or his duty to fulfill requests filed pursuant to the Open Records Act. On March 4th, we requested just the SOP, Standard Operating Procedure related to bonding because we received credible information that the Sheriff was limiting members of the public to bailing out only three people a year as though there was not an injunction against that provision of Senate Bill 63. About every two weeks since that time, we have received boiler plate language from the Sheriff saying that he cannot provide the SOP, governing bonding; and I quote the Sheriff's office is currently receiving a high-volume of request. Request are processed in the order in which they are received. Additional time is needed to fulfill your open records requests. This is flagrant noncompliance. This is just as simple as pulling a one paragraph out of a digital file and if the Sheriff cannot manage open records request of his own rules, how on earth is he going to manage a two billion dollars jail or a \$1.2 billion special use facility? You have a lawsuit that he has filed where he has said to you; anything short of a blank check abridges his constitutional authority. What we want for you to know about Southern Center is that once you build a building for him, you will not be able to tell him what to do with it. He can with a stroke of a pen, change a special use facility into a solitary confinement unit because he is the chief custodian of the county. So you are on the right path --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

TIFFANY ROBERTS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- by emphasizing jail depopulation, but also holding him accountable. Sheriff Labat is a bad actor and people are suffering, as

you saw this morning, because of his malfeasance and because of his inability to hold himself to the highest --"

CHASITY DALLAS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. I'm Chasity Dallas with Gangsters to Growers an alumnus, yeah. So I just wanted to -- so, okay -- this is what I have: As we prepare for FIFA World Cup, we focus on the excitement and spotlight, but a truly successful event is how well we care for our people before and during and after the world is watching. A care first strategy means investing in our communities ahead of time; it means consistently funding youth violence intervention programs, such as Gangsters to Growers that teach self-sustainability, conflict resolution, and leadership because when our young people are equipped with those skills, they don't just stay out of harm's way, they become part of the solution. You should be looking for solution and this is the solution. Organizations like FairPlay ATL, Showhouse Sports and Mentorship can change lives. This kind of consistent investment doesn't just support youth, it also reduces strain on public safety during major events. Please remember our name, Gangsters to Growers and start funding youth programs. Thank you. Consistently. Bye."

KIRT BEASLEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts and fellow Commissioners. I am Kirt Beasley, a lieutenant colonel deputy sheriff retiree 2017 from the Fulton County Sheriff's office. I saw that press conference that was led by the attorney who was just here on behalf of Rashaad Muhammad. So words used were very deep; egregious, horrendous, deplorable, malfeasance, deliberate indifference to name a few. When I saw those words I thought about LaShawn Thompson who was found dead, body emaciated, covered in bedbugs. I thought about Noni Battiste-Kosoko, an 18-year-old child who drooled on a school building, was arrested for a misdemeanor, and dead within 52 days of being in the Sheriff's custody. Tyriana Ledbetter, beaten almost to death; left on life support. These two ladies were not housed at the Rice Street facility, so how can someone have the audacity to ask how much more does the Sheriff have to do to advocate for new jail? That building could not have done anything to save the limbs of Mr. Muhammad or the lives of those other three people that I named and many others. Let's be honest and real about the real truth. It's the overseer, it's the leadership. Fulton County taxpayers, I employ you all to hold those accountable for their continued deaths, assaults, wasteful spending of tax dollars, negligence that continue to lead to lawsuit, after lawsuit, after lawsuit. The problem is not the structure --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

KIRT BEASLEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- or the building. The problem is the overseer, the leader; and until we address that, nothing else will change."

CLERK GRIER: "Next speakers, please come forward: Lisa Jones, Jay Johnson, Dominique Grant, Janet Hill, Gloria Buckner-Ledbetter, Abiodoun Henderson, Ajontay [Phonetic.] Johnson."

JAY JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Lisa Jones, as a resident in the Mighty Six. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, I applaud today's Fulton County Animal Control proclamation. They're doing fantastic work. I stand here today on behalf of court case animals and Fulton's taxpayers. As live evidence animals continue to remain in legal limbo for hundreds of days, I encouraged the county to be more proactive in seeking legal disposition of these animals, after defendants fail to appear and the cases become dormant. Currently, they languish in shelter care. Many of them over 500 days. I'm also employing the Commissioners to direct the County Attorney's office to file cost of care petitions. I'm aware of multiple attorneys who would be glad to lift that burden off the county. They would do it pro bono or a nominal cost. We can save these animals lives and we can save the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Thank you."

JAY JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. I'm Jay Johnson from People's Town. I'm here as a member of the Circle of Safety, representing a network of individuals and organizations who have spent decades using a public health approach to prevent violence in our communities, with minimal support from local government. We utilize evidenced-based community violence intervention strategies. CVI works by leveraging trust-based relationships with those at the highest level, at the highest risk of being involved in gun violence to directly intervene in conflict, de-escalate tensions, and stop violence before it occurs. We provide services and support to young people, knowing that when people's material needs are met, that's when people feel safe and loved and supported: violence decreased. Even though we are the ones who know our community best, the CVI community has not been engaged by FIFA, City Council, the mayor's office, or other stakeholders preparing for the World Cup. The World Cup would be hosted in the middle of economically marginalized community that are disproportionately impacted by violence. Without deliberate planning and intervention, the World Cup will only exacerbate these conditions. But decades of research show a comprehensive approach to public safety using law-enforcement and community-based strategies is the most effective in preventing violence. You cannot police your way to Public Safety. We are here to support the care first strategy, which includes investment for CVI organizations to maintain a presence in communities where FIFA activations will be held, deescalating conflicts, and preventing violence --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JAY JOHNSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- beyond the World Cup itself, this moment presents an opportunity for us to make an investment in Atlanta community led public safety infrastructure. Thank you."

DOMINIQUE GRANT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. Long time no see. My name is Dominique Grant, and I'm the manager/director at Bar Business, a justice impacted lead organization focused on healing, resources, and building power with justice impacted communities, families, and people. And I'm also here today as part of the Playfair ATL World Cup Coalition. First off, before I get into what I really came here for, y'all know y'all dead wrong for funding the Sheriff this long. It's been three years of me coming up here and community coming up here watching consistent deaths happen and the taxpayers having to pay for it. Do something, please. But I want to express support for Fulton County adopting the same protections and commitments that have already been passed by the city of Atlanta, ahead of the World Cup to support justice impacted people. Making justice impacted people a protected class. As conversations continue around the World Cup and the investments going into our region, it is important that we are honest about the impact these events have on black communities, poor communities, un-housed people, and justice impacted people. Historically, moments like this have brought increased policing, displacement criminalization, and exclusion from the opportunities that are being created. Too often justice impacted people are expected to carry the burden of these decisions without being included in the planning, the resources, or the economic opportunities. And as we recognize Mental Health Awareness Month, I also want to acknowledge the mental and emotional toll that criminalization, incarceration, and instability, and over policed continue to have on our communities. Mental health cannot be separated from this conversation. Communities cannot heal while constantly living under surveillance, displacement, and punishment. Justice impacted people deserve access to opportunities, stability, safety, and care not just increased enforcement. One in three people in this country are justice impacted --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

DOMINIQUE GRANT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and these are separate communities from Fulton County; these are our people. The city of Atlanta has already acknowledged the importance of putting these protections in place and Fulton County now has the opportunity to do the same. If not, we are in danger. Because all of us are justice impacted.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you."

JANET HILL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'd first like to start by saying thank you to the few Commissioners and officials, and judges who are taking the steps to address deed theft crimes. Crimes. Felony crimes. We still have a long way to go and here's why: Fulton County is again in national news for a case out of the city of New York, where the Carrington family has had property and assets stolen, and the judge, Kenya Johnson, recused herself and now the guardian in Georgia has disappeared. Secondly, there's another New York deed fraud theft case that involves a grandmother

who was jailed, and shackled like a slave specific to properties or transactions that have happened in the state of Georgia, Fulton County. Thirdly, the company that's linked to a lot of these deed fraud crimes was operating out of Fulton County, and the owner of the company was sentenced to four to five years in jail. Lastly, we have a judicial officer, thankfully, who has reported these crimes to the DA. I'm not here just complaining. We have solutions. We have forwarded this information to the Attorney General in the state of Georgia. Do your job; return these stolen properties, and stop this inhumane treatment. All of these documents are in the custody of Che Alexander."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JANET HILL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and these courts. You have the information. You have all the power to do this work. Get it done. Thank you."

GLORIA BUCKNER-LEDBETTER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. Like to address to all the inmates or people that have been wounded in to Fulton County, I am Tyriana Ledbetter's mom; and for the facts of the matter of the record, I am very displeased with how she was treated, how she was overlooked, how she was not into where she was supposed to be as far as I'm concerned. I think Fulton County can do a better job as far as upgrading their security system, upgrading their cameras, getting these people the help that they need as for as when you lock away someone who has a special education. When it comes to that and you receive phone calls -- this girl is still fighting for her life. So at the end of the day, it's just makes me feel as if what are we doing as parents? What are we doing as the Board Members? What are we doing? Tyriana Ledbetter, also didn't get a chance to graduate yet, but hopefully that will be. But right now she's laying down looking like who speaking for her? What type of system -- what happened? My daughter is totally confused at this moment. And to this day, it has done a lot to my family. Mentally, physically, verbally -- all of the above is all I can say. And I pray that God have mercy upon whom and whomever that knows a lot about it. So all I'm asking is that you guys can do a lot as for as your jail system; who's the -- the system -- the medical system -- whatever steps that you're taking in the jail even though these kids were -- it doesn't matter the age. If they're locked up, they should have a better place somewhere safe. And if you're going to lock them up then lock them up the right way."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

GLORIA BUCKNER-LEDBETTER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "It's no reason for them to have to be treated like animals. It's no reason for them to have to be begging or calling their mom or looking around for help, and help should be in there as well. You know, hold them accountable for what they do; not treat them --"

ABIODOUN HENDERSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I am Abindoun Henderson, the founder and a community organizer with Gangsters to Growers, a workforce development program with formerly incarcerated 16 to 30 -year-olds that is paid. I'm also a member of the Circle of Safety, which is filled with community violence intervention organizations, and I'm here as a family member of PAD and the Southern Center, and a lot of the great organizations that are in the room (indiscernible.) and we are really, really trying to get funding for the care first proposal. We have PAD that has been doing a great job of mediating and diverting folks from the criminal justice system or not justice system -- I apologize -- the judicial system. And they need the funding to do their job right. I know in your heart, in your mind, and in your spirit you don't want to see citizens locked up. You want to see your citizens holding each other accountable with love; you want to see people taking care of each other, taking care of themselves. You want to see those jails empty. So we're just inviting you guys to be a part of the change that is happening within the city by legislating, funding --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

ABIODOUN HENDERSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- thank you very much. And we watching. We watching y'all. All right."

CLERK GRIER: "Next speakers, please come forward: Maggie Goldman, Joshua Muhammad, Hazel Manatsa, Victoria Bondurant, Owen Burke, McKenzie Hoff, and Margaret Deriso."

MAGGIE GOLDMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Maggie Goldman and I'm in District One. Commissioner Thorne, you made a few comments on Next-Door recently about the jail. You make a note that a \$2 billion jail would've raise taxes for everyone by 30 percent. So how much is a 1.3 billion dollars special facility raising taxes for? Because that still taxes that are being raised, right? So let's be on honest about the fact that you're still raising taxes regardless of how much the cost of the facility is. You also mentioned as someone else did today about how there's a goal of 50 new detention officers per quarter and that this consulting group had 7500 applicants; they vetted a hundred and 29 and gave them to the Sheriff to hire. There's some debate over how many he hired, but you can say it's in the single digits. Did you actually know that the county does the initial vetting of the regular employment things, then the Sheriff Department has to do the drug testing, the physical training test, the polygraph -- all the things that actually make them eligible to work at the jail. So I would say that he's not -- you want him to hire people who are not qualified because he has to do all of those extra pieces so that you can get to your 50 detention officer? Maybe you can increase the salaries or change the benefits to attract the right people for the job. You also mentioned that you approved the 16 million for signing bonuses and retention bonuses. Well, did you know that that document has several things that are tied to it? People

have to sign on and say that they'll be there for three years or they'll have to pay it back. They can't take a promotion to another part of the department --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MAGGIE GOLDMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- in the Sheriff's office. And I believe your personal friend; Brian Goldstone got a Pulitzer for his book. You've done absolutely nothing to help the people in our community that are living in hotels, so I hope he takes that up with you."

HAZEL MANATSA, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello, Commissioners. My name is Hazel Manatsa and I'm a registered professional nurse in the state of Georgia. I actually worked for NaphCare at the Fulton County Jail and I can say first-hand that it is as bad as everyone say it is, but that's not why I'm here today. I'm here today to speak on how bad the Housing Authority of Fulton County is right now. In June of 2024, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners executed a major leadership change at the Housing Authority of Fulton County, and that was because of mismanagement, unpaid vouchers, and a dysfunctional environment. I submit to you today that nothing has changed. And I'd like to know what oversight the Board of Commissioner is holding over Fulton County Housing Authority? Where is Felicia Moore? Mr. Pitts, I saw you on the news saying you were appointing Felicia Moore because of our background in Housing Authority. She's a ghost. No one knows where she is; they say, well, maybe she works from home. Where is Ms. Moore? There's no accountability. My mother is 80 years old right now, and she's homeless because the Housing Authority dropped the ball. My mother was forced to live in a dilapidated unit that had no HUD housing quality inspection for years. The one that they have -- I have documented proof that they were falsified. They have one inspector in that entire department. There's one inspector, Greg Collier, he's the only one there to inspect for that entire department through all the cities. My mother, right now, has been refused her RFTA to move in a handicap accessible unit: she's 80 years old. She wasn't able to use her bathroom for six months. She had to take wash-ups in her sink. The unit is so dilapidated; I sent pictures. There's no way in the world that landlord should been allowed to get any money for that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

HAZEL MANATSA, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- for that home, yet still they continue to pay them and give them passing inspection. It's falsified information. It's a crime and someone needs to be arrested. You guys need to do a better job. The Housing Authority is corrupt."

VICTORIA BONDURANT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'd like to take a moment to thank Commissioner Barrett and Commissioner Arrington for extending an invitation to myself and my students to come and speak with you today. With me are

members of the tenth grade class at the Howard School, an independent school here in Atlanta that serves students with language based learning differences. Our students recently visited the Equal Justice Initiative Legacy sites in Montgomery, Alabama on a school field trip. While there, they explored the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, which recognizes the victims of racial terror lynching in our country. They learned about the pillars that are there, which I'll let them tell you more about. The empathy and compassion that they displayed while there listening to the stories that they heard was one of the most powerful experiences that I've ever had as an educator. When we returned home to daily life in English-10, they advocated for the opportunity to do something with what they learned about. This project and our time with you today is the result of their energy and advocacy. It's with the utmost pride that I step aside now and let you hear directly from the students themselves. When I think about the future of our community and the future of our country, I'm beyond encouraged and a little overwhelmed because of the activism that these young people here engage with. These are the days that make me more proud to be an educator. Thank you for your time and attention."

OWEN BURKE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello and thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Owen Burke and I'm a student at the Howard School. I'm here today to discuss an issue that I believe is important to our community. My class recently visited the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. There we learned that each county with documented lynching's is represented by steel monument bearing the name of each victim. Inside the memorial these monuments hang together; outside identical copies have been created and are waiting to be claimed by a county they represent. Fulton County's monument is one of them. It's not just a symbol: it's an opportunity for our community to acknowledge it's history here at home. I'm asking that the Commissioners consider claiming our monument from Alabama and placing it here in Fulton County. Specifically, I propose it goes to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. I believe that claiming our monument is vital for our county because acknowledging the past helps us create a better future. Again, I'd like to thank you for letting my class and I share our ideas. We appreciate everything you do for Fulton County. Thank you."

MIRA IBISTER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello and thank you for your time today. Name is Mira Ibister. Today I'm here to speak about an issue that I believe is important to our community and local -- to our county and local community. The National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama has pillars/monuments stating on the people named and unknown who were lynched in our county. They are there for the county's to go and collect and Fulton County has not yet claimed our pillar. I asked thr Commissioners to consider claiming the pillar from Alabama and placing it at the Civil Rights Museum here in Atlanta. It is important for people to know that lynching happened not just in our state, but also in our county. Because people believe that

Atlanta did not partake in atrocity such as this. I strongly believe that if Fulton County goes and claims our pillars, it would be an appropriate step in the process of honoring the families that lost loved ones. Thank you for your time today."

MCKENZIE HALL, PUBIC SPEAKER: "Hello. First off, I want to say thank you to everyone for taking the time to hear and listen to what I have to say. I acknowledge your busy schedules and I truly appreciate your consideration. My name is McKenzie Hall, I'm 16 years, and I'm a student at the Howard School. I came here today with my English class to share about an experience that had a meaningful impact on me. This is an issue I believe is significant to every county. A couple of months ago, I had the opportunity to visit the National Memorial for Peace and Justice during a school trip to Alabama. The memorial honors victims of racial terror lynching through a series of pillars representing a county where these tragic events occurred. Each pillar list the names of the victims and the dates of their deaths; serving as a powerful reminder of this history. There are two pillars: one that will stay in the museum, and one that could, hopefully, come back to Fulton County. When asked (indiscernible.) the memorial, what stood out to me is the initiatives allowing counties to claim their respective pillars and bring them home to publicly acknowledge and remember these individuals. After learning about this, my school and I felt compelled to reach out and see what we could do. Therefore, I'm here today to ask the Commissioners to consider taking the pillar from Alabama and putting in Fulton County. This will helpfully inspire other counties all over to stand up and take this opportunity to bring in these pillars to our community would be a meaningful step toward acknowledging our history, and honoring those who were unjustly lost. Thank you again for your time and consideration. My classmates and I are grateful for the work you do for Fulton County. I greatly appreciate any thoughts you may have on this idea."

MARGARET DERISO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello and thank you for your time today. My name is Margaret Deriso, and I'm in the tenth grade at the Howard School. I'm here today with my class to speak about an issue that is important to our community. Recently, our grade has been studying the Civil Rights Movement. We took a trip to Alabama and saw Selma in Montgomery and Birmingham. We went to the Memorial of National Peace and Justice in Montgomery. At the National Memorial of Peace and Justice, they're pillars that can be claimed. The pillars represent the names of the people who were lynched and honors them. Currently, Fulton County has not claimed our pillar. This matters because our county needs to be held accountable for the violence faced in the past. This violence needs to be knowledge so that the family's pain can be recognized. This monument should be in Atlanta in a memorial that people can see. We could rent a U-Haul to get the monument from the Memorial of National Peace and Justice and put it in a park or place that people can properly see it. I encouraged the Commissioners to consider claiming our pillar, so that we can properly honor the people who face the violence by placing it in Fulton County. I think that

understanding our history is an important part of becoming better people in the future. I thank you for the Commissioners and what you do for the community; and I thank you for letting me and my classmate share ideas."

RYAN MCNEELY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'm Ryan McNeely. I'm a sophomore at the Howard School and I appreciate y'all allowing us to address the Commission this morning. I'm attending this meeting with my fellow peers to address an issue we have about acknowledging our past atrocities. We recently went to the National Monument for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, where they have created pillars to honor lynching victims and racial terror victims. They have also placed copy of each pillar so each county that has had a lynching can pick up their memorial and honor these victims. Currently, no county in Georgia has acknowledged our pass by claiming their respective pillars in memorializing the racial terror victims. Me and my fellow peers are requesting that our county be the first to claim our pillar and acknowledge our past by displaying it at the National Civil Rights Museum. It is crucial that we understand and acknowledge our past, so that we can help protect future generations and systems from facing racial terror. Once again, I appreciate you allowing us to speak and address the Commission. We appreciate what you do for our county."

LILIAN HERNANDEZ, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. Thank you, Commissioners for taking time to here. My name is Lilian Hernandez. I am a sophomore at the Howard School. Today I came to speak about the problem that's important to recognize. The National Memorial for Peace and Justice is located in Montgomery, Alabama; which has pillars that recognize victims of racial terror lynching. There's a pillar that is for Fulton County that has not been claimed. I am here today to ask you to claim the pillar from Alabama, and place it here at the National Center for Civil and Human rights because of its location and significance. This is important part of a history to make sure violence like this doesn't occur in our future. Thank you today for hearing me out."

JOSHUA MUHAMMAD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "(Indiscernible.) In the name of Allah, the benevolence, the Merciful. I bear witness that there is no God, but Allah and that Mohammed is his messenger and the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan, is his divine and holy reminder in our mist. I stand before you today, not asking you to do anything as a citizen of this state, net along a member of this county. I am doing what God has instructed us to do -- men of God, women of God; and that is to do his will, to take care of the poor, the needy. As Luke talks about when I was in prison, you visit me not. That covers the full circumference of everything we've dealt with today. We have a duty and a obligation to fulfill our oath of office, our lawyer oath of office because they're both intertwined in giving all of God's people the benefit of the doubt in due process. This is not a day for us, the citizens of the United States, net along the counties -- a hundred and 59 counties, 537 cities to be asking the elected official to do anything, but to instruct

them to do what the will of the people is. Proverbs 29:19 says, that a servant will not do God's will alone on instructions. Because of the fear that exist amongst the colleagues. We must do God's will today, regardless of whether we are blacked, brown, red, yellow, or white; we most issued freedom, justice, and equality --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JOSHUA MUHAMMAD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- thank you, sir -- for the people of God: black, brown, red, yellow, or white that these young people may know that they took -- they take up the banner of God and not servants of man. With that being said --"

CLERK GRIER: "Last speakers in Assembly Hall, please come forward: Khadaija Lemons, Maria Gaudio, Grace Roth, Ms. Breedlove, Muhammad Hafeez, Melodie Rossoc, and Keisha Dickerson."

KHADAIJA LEMONS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. My name is Khadaija Lemons and I am speaking on behalf of my grandmother, Benita Lee, who is 80 years old and a housing choice voucher participate with Housing of Fulton County. As my mother was up here earlier, I'd like to continue with for a few months -- for months my grandmother has been trying to transfer from her unit and has been going through ongoing issues of failed inspection concerns, yet instead receiving -- yet instead of receiving support for these proceedings, she has experienced delays, inconsistent information, and a lot of missed housing opportunities. At this point she has missed multiple choices -- chances of securing -- chances of securing homes. At one in particular Shannon Reserves which is a senior high-rise in Union City. This situation has created emotional and financial and physical hardship for the elderly woman who simply just wants a safe and stable and appropriate housing. No senior citizen should have to continuously fight through confusion, delays to just exercise their right to transfer to a decent living environment. I also want -- I also want to ask the Commissioners how is it that multiple officers including your own and departments were e-mailed regarding my grandmother's matter and yet no one has responded? The only office that acknowledged our matter was Commissioner Marvin Arrington office; and even still that led to an un-resolution -- in-resolution. Thank you, though, for your help -- at least for that. So my question there is are housing -- is Fulton County policy and a HAP contract required being applied consistently under the HUD regulations or different standards --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

KHADAIJA LEMONS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- apply arbitrarily. Thank you. That's it."

MARIA GAUDIO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Where did everybody go? Good morning. Sheriff Pat Labat, has been in trouble, ignored troubled, and facilitated troubled at the Rice Street Jail for over five years. In 2024 the DOJ found that the jail conditions are

unconstitutional, inhumane, violent, hazardous, and three times overcrowded. Earlier we heard a story about animal cruelty and felonies were issued. What about people? There is inmate cruelty. Pat Labat, is directly responsible. This is the trouble Fulton County can continue to expect when do not have free, fair, transparent, and accurate elections. What we have are selections via a compromised and incompetent, inept election staff and board. Staff reported zero votes for candidate Sheriff Charles Rambo two years ago. Zero votes they reported for many months, till they decided to change their minds after much protest. If we had Sheriff Rambo, this would not have happened. We would have had the last two years of a clean jail. I called on Governor Kemp to suspend Sheriff Pat Labat for dereliction of duty, long-term malfeasance, and misconduct as is his legal prerogative to do so per OCGA 15-16-26. Sheriff Labat's actions and interactions are far more egregious --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds.

MARIA GAUDIO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- then Sheriffs. Governor Kemp removed in Towns County and Hall Counties the last two years. Governor Kemp, the citizens of Fulton County need your action now. Thank you."

GRACE ROTH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon, y'all. My name is Grace Roth, and I'm the interim executive director of the Atlanta Land Trust. We're a non-profit with a mission to deliver and steward permanently affordable housing in Atlanta to support a vibrant and inclusive communities. I'm here this afternoon to encourage the Board of Commissioners to approve Resolution, 26-0258 to support our project in English Avenue that'll provide 14 permanently affordable homes in English Avenue. Besides the benefit of permanent affordability to those homeowners and the generations of homeowners, I do think this is a good move for the county because our program also establishes permanent regulations on having owner occupancy. And so, the folks who will live in these homes -- the people who will use these homes will be there and they will not be folks who are absentee property owners, who are letting property go to waste. Additionally, this project encourages the redevelopment of these properties who are formally vacant; a few of them owned by the Metro Atlanta Land Bank, and so we're now contributing to the tax base. So we will have 14 new homeowners who are contributing with this project. So I appreciate your support and hope that you approve the Resolution. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

MINISTER BREEDLOVE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Greetings. Greetings. I'm going to say hallelujah. Glory to God because children enough is enough. God is able to bring us together as a people. And we get up and we commit ourselves and we say to the flag and we say justice for all mankind, yet I was young and now I am old, and God said he'd never seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread. If we can make

laws for animals, what about the human beings? We got to serve the human. You all are young people and you can do this. Why do we have to keep coming back here over and over and over? Commissioner Pitts, hear me. All of you all. This is enough of this. I sat with daddy King for 18 years. I have walked the lines protesting. George Floyd read a message to me years ago. I was the mother that led the march in Minnesota. I sat with many of the older people. It's enough. I plowed the mules in the field. I picked the cotton for \$6 a day. Listen people, wake-up. Do your jobs. I am a big taxpayer. I pay your salaries and many others here. Enough is enough. We call the jobs of all of you all came to you job spirit you all can do this. You are smart. You went to school one we could go. But we have the knowledge on the understanding as the elders to tell you young people --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds.

MINISTER BREEDLOVE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- enough is enough. Get up and do your jobs. And I'm calling the governor, and I will be to see him this week. Enough is enough. God bless you love and stop --"

MUHAMMAD HAFEEZ, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Muhammad Hafeez, and I serve as the director of community engagement with Policing Alternative and Diversion Initiatives. I'm just here briefly just to kind of share a little bit about her work because it connects to the conversations that are happening today. Particularly, World Cup Preparedness and the plan to reduce the jail population. See every day our community responder team is out in the community responding to people experiencing mental health distress, property, and substance use. When we meet people, we meet them with what they need in that moment: whether it be food, clothing, hygiene kits, connection to resources; we meet people where they are. And we meet people with solutions to their unmet needs; not punishment for behaviors that are often rooted in people simply just trying to survive. And we work to reduce barriers that often keep people from accessing the help and support that is available to them. And we just don't stop there, our care navigators continue to walk alongside people over time helping them stabilize and connecting them to housing, treatment, employment, and supporting measures. This work can be challenging at times. And there are real complexities to what people are facing, but we continue to show up because we believe people deserve to be met with care and dignity and support. And in doing this work, we are helping to reduce the unnecessary incarceration by connecting people to the help they need instead of them being pulled deeper into the jail system. So as we prepare for the World Cup, we want the right response for the right situation. And as you continue the conversation about reducing the jail population, I want to share that the work is already happening every day in our communities through small and consistent --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MUHAMMAD HAFEEZ, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and meaningful interactions. Thank you. We are helping people move towards stability. We care deeply about this work. We are committed to it and we desire to continue to show up for our community. Thank you so much."

MELODIE ROSSOC, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. I'm Melodie Rossoc, campaign and membership supervisor with Women on the Rise. I am someone who spent 20 years in prison. I'm not speaking on theory; I'm speaking from lived experience. I am the subject matter expert in this room today. When it comes to living in jails and prisons. Fulton County does not need a new jail; they need a culture led with care. Care starts from the top with Labat and trickles down to the food service. If staff doesn't care enough about themselves or the jail population to perform proper intake procedures which include de-licing people coming in from the streets to the jail, then we will have bedbugs in the new jail. If staff don't make their rounds every 15 minutes, then we will have deaths in the new jail. And I'll be back here two years later to tell you guys I told you so. We do not need a new jail in Fulton County. We're dealing with the systems failure. People are sitting in jail for being poor: not dangerous. Building more cages doesn't create safety; it expands harm. Real safety equals care, resources, and accountability. Don't fund more incarceration; invest in people and not buildings. Thank you."

KEISHA DICKERSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. My name is Keisha Dickerson, and I'm a reentry specialist as well as a health organizer with Women on the Rise. I also come to this work with lived experience and I see every day what happens when people come home without the support they need. And from what I've seen, we do not need a new jail in Fulton County. What we need is to fix what's already broken. I work directly with women returning home, and too many of them were sitting in jail not because they were a threat, but because they didn't have access to resources, and care, and support. Building a new jail doesn't change that; it just creates more space for the same problems. It doesn't fix the delays, it doesn't fix the lack of medical and mental health care, and it doesn't make our community safe. What actually makes a difference is investing in the people, providing health care, reentry support, housing, employment, the real opportunities to reveal. Public Safety grows when we send help: not handcuffs. I see the impact of these systems every day and I know that the solution is not incarceration. It's more support and accountability. We don't need a new jail. We need real solutions that take care of the people. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have three speakers on Zoom."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good morning, Commissioners. The first person to speak is Robby Caban. Robby Caban."

ROBBY CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. Can you hear me?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes."

ROBBY CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Great. I'm here again listening to all of our taxpayers and we seem to have all something in common. You all have oversight. Oversight of the jail, oversight of the Housing Authority, oversight of a county contractor animal service shelter, so obviously the issue is you all. This impacts public safety, public health, animal welfare, housing. Now, I'm going to speak directly to the animal shelter even though there were people here discussing it. This includes shelter operations and enforcement. For ten years Fulton County taxpayers funded the contract with Lifeline Animal Project; millions of dollars in payment to Lifeline despite everything that has now come to light, despite your proclamations there still has never been a full forensic audit. The system has now been split enforcement responsibilities were removed from this county contractor shifted to the police department and Fulton County Department of Emergency Management. That along raises a fundamental question: what occurred under the prior structure that require this level of intervention and restructuring despite your proclamations? For years this contractor has handled cruelty investigations, dangerous drug enforcement public safety responsibility under assisted tied to the Sheriff's office. Now we know the laws were not properly enforced; cases were not properly handled; services taxpayers paid for were not fully delivered and the system failed in core areas tied to public safety and public health. People have died lawsuits taxpayers will fund. And the contractor still remains in control of shelter operations at a cost of 7 million taxpayer dollars a year under your supervision. Meanwhile, taxpayers do not use -- do not see a level of prevention, transparency --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

ROBBY CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- accountability, oversight that should exist in public safety services. The shelter operations include rabies, disease control, sanitation, illness prevention, dangerous dog behavioral evaluations and more. These are public safety and public health functions taxpayers are being told that larger shelters and overflow are warehouses that are warehousing --"

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is the Honorable Valencia Stoval."

HONORABLE VALENCIA STOVALL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners -- good afternoon now. I'm honorable Valencia Stovall, former eight year Georgia State Rep and daughter of Mr. Levett Stovall, who will be 86 next month and has lived in the same Fulton residence since 1975. Ha has a bridge named in his honor on 75/85 University Avenue for his years of service to his community. I'm here on

his behalf and those of over a hundred 33,000 seniors, who are suffering in silence from challenges with LIHEAP energy assistance, housing repairs, and housing affordability. Can you imagine them and their family members having to navigate between paying a utility bill and finding food, or just living an active life? Inflation costs are high and they're hitting our 65 and older the most. FACAA isn't working for many of them. It shouldn't be the only choice in the county for receiving helpful utility service. Since last April, seniors go online to get an appointment and at 11:00 a.m. and 11:01 the system crashes. It has happened again and again. And then this current April and in May, it happened again. So out of the hundred and 32,000 Fulton residents 65 and older, 35 percent of them which is about 46,000 have an annual income less than two times the poverty level. Sixty-eight percent of them are Fulton County homeowners. I have had e-mail correspondence with the Executive Director of FACAA, and his staff over a year - no real resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

HONORABLE VALENCIA STOVALL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- even told District Four Commissioner staff, no solution. I've e-mailed each one of you, Commissioners and I have not had a resolution. As you recognize Older American Month, remember seniors are suffering in silence."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is the DeOndre Morgan. DeOndre Morgan. With that said that concludes our Zoom public comments."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is that it? All right. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is that it? All right, continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 7, County Manager's --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hold it. Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. If you just indulge me for a moment. Before we get into the regular agenda, I would like to just take a moment of personal privilege. Today, we have sat in this chamber and listened to a succession of heartbreaking and harrowing accounts from our constituents, most notably the testimony provided by Mr. Rashad Muhammad. These are not just complaints, they are a collective cry for help from a community that feels its safety and its tax dollars are being treated with reckless disregard. As the current sitting Vice Chair, I cannot and will not sit in silence, while the performance of the Sheriff's Office continues to deteriorate to a level that can only be described as unconstitutional and dangerous. We have authorized, this Board has authorized hundreds of millions of dollars for jail

improvements, staffing, yet, the reckless performance cited by so many still persists. I know this is not going to be met with those who are loyalist to the Sheriff. But I was not elected to look the other way because we have the same skin, and I will not do it today. The Board of Commissioners has used every legislative tool at its disposal. But the ultimate, listen to me clearly, the ultimate oversight of an elected Sheriff in the state of Georgia rests with the Governor and the voters. Under Georgia code Section 15-16-26, the Governor has the explicit authority to investigate and suspend a Sheriff who has demonstrated incapacity to perform their duties. If you believe, as I have been vocal for over a year, I have been vocal and have come under fire, have been called Republican, everything but a child of God. But I would not serve on this Board, and look the other way, I don't care who has a problem with me. When we know, and let me apologize for what I'm getting ready to say, Chairman. If our Sheriff was a different color, you would see lines down the street, getting him out of office. But because he is the same color I am, I'm supposed to turn the other way. I'm not going to do it. I didn't do it as an unelected official, I won't do it as an elected official. And as a mentee of Emma Darnell, I ain't fixing to start doing it either. So I say to you today, I am publicly appealing to the voters of Fulton County to contact the office of the Governor, request he exercise his power to intervene, to investigate, and to consider the suspension of the office of the Sheriff, order safety and basic human dignity are restored in our jail system. We serve as your pleasure, and the Sheriff serves as your pleasure as well. Accountability is not a mere suggestion; it is a requirement of the law. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. I think we should be very careful to jump to conclusions. We need an investigation. I have an item on the agenda regarding this, and I've spoken with the Sheriff. We're asking the GBI to do an investigation. You know, certainly, what happened to Mr. Muhammad is unimaginable. But I don't know that I'll hold the Sheriff responsible for medical issues at the jail. I don't -- I don't hold him responsible for Rashad not getting the medical treatment that he needed. But I think we should all take a step back, get the investigation results, find out exactly what happened, because I've heard one story from the Attorney Crump. I've heard another from Sheriff Labat. And I think the first step in anything is an investigation. And I don't think the Sheriff's Office can conduct that investigation because they're part of it, right? And so there has to be someone on the outside. I spoke with Sheriff Labat, and he has contacted and reached out to the GBI to see if this is something that they, in fact, can investigate. But I think we should all be very careful, because to jump -- to jumping to conclusions. We need to find out the facts of what happened. And then once we find out the facts, we can reach whatever conclusions those facts lead us to. But we need to find out the facts."

(Whereupon an audience member from Assembly Hall speaks out.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just -- ma'am, excuse me, Miss, excuse me. Thank you. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No, that -- that's all that I wanted to say. We, you know, I've spoken with the Sheriff. He's reached out to the GBI and asked them about doing an investigation of this latest incident with Rashad Muhammad, which I think we all can agree is -- never should have happened. And I think we need to find out why it happened. And I think the only way to do that is through an investigation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Wow. Trying to think exactly where I'm going to start. I do want to say, as respect to Mr. Muhammad, what happened to him is tragic. That is one example of a pattern of behavior and actions that we have seen. And Commissioner Arrington, in all due respect, I think Mr. Crump endorsed you, maybe contributing to your campaign. That whole set of facts needs to not play out in an investigation that's led by the Sheriff or encouraged to -- by the Sheriff and you and this attorney in communication with him. That needs to play out in a court of law and the facts come out, and they all be determined and adjudicated in that fashion. That's what should have happened with Lashawn Thompson, too. Furthermore, this is straight from, you know, legal documents, custody of a defendant pending trial is in the Sheriff of the county wherein the offense was committed. And the responsibility for safe and sure confinement is that of the Sheriff. Operational responsibility for county jails is the sole responsibility of the Sheriff. I am sick and tired of sitting up here and listening to this same conversation going over and over and over. We -- this is not about finger pointing and blame. This is about a direct ask for accountability. I've got another discussion item coming up here that's about accountability, and we're going to talk about that, which you didn't -- which you wanted to have held in Executive Session, because you don't want the facts to come out. But yet, you blatantly wanted to bring up a situation which is a legal matter and make a spectacle of it. So I don't need to hear all of that, and I will join with the Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. I've been criticized by the Sheriff for trying to foster accountability. I've been personally targeted and attacked. I'm tired of it, the citizens are tired of it, and we do need accountability. And I will join with her in calling on all citizens to reach out to the Governor of Georgia, and encourage this specific action investigation to take place. That's the investigation and action that needs to occur, first and foremost. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a long agenda, Commissioners. Commissioner Arrington, followed by Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. So the GBI is an independent investigating entity. It is the juror -- Georgia Bureau of Investigations. And so that is who I am calling on to do the investigation. And I spoke with our Sheriff, and he

reached out to them. And just because he reached out to them does not mean that they will not perform an independent investigation. So the GBI is the entity that investigates most things that happen, particularly when it involves a different department like the Sheriff or the Atlanta Police. And so I believe that that is, in fact, the proper entity to conduct the investigation. The question was whether it is something that they can, in fact, investigate or not, or something that falls within their purview. Certainly, the Sheriff is the custodian of those people, right? But we have a contract with a medical provider. I don't know that our Sheriff or any of our deputies have the medical skills or know-how in order to know whether someone is, in fact, septic or not, I certainly don't. But again, there should be an investigation. It should be conducted independently, I believe the Georgia Bureau of Investigations is the correct entity to conduct that investigation. So I am going to withhold anything, and I will remind all of you, our Sheriff was just reelected without a runoff. The citizens had an opportunity to vote. They had an opportunity to vote and to choose him or any of the other five candidates that were all there. He was elected without a runoff. That, in fact, is a mandate. Now, if he is not performing his duties, that's one thing. But I don't know that the Sheriff has the know-how to know whether someone is septic or not. I believe that's why we have a medical contract. And my recollection is that the Sheriff came in here after the Lashawn Thompson incident, and asked for the NaphCare contract to be terminated. And this Board is voted to renew that contract. So the Sheriff asked for that contract to be terminated. This Board, against the Sheriff's will, asked for that contract to be renewed. So all I said was, hey, there needs to be an investigation. I believe the Georgia Bureau of Investigations is the proper entity to conduct that investigation. Certainly, you, and Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman can do whatever you want to do. You can contact whoever you want to, certainly, the citizens can contact whoever they want to. But I think everyone should slow down, let's have an investigation. Let's see what are the results of those investigations before we start pointing fingers at people, right? Because when anytime you point a finger at someone --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Just keep on waiting."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- there's always a finger to point back, right? So that is what we should do. That's what I'm going to be recommending, and that's why I put it on the agenda."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioners, it's 12:49. Again, we have a long agenda. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'm really tired of misinformation that's been going around. Commissioner Arrington, the Sheriff endorsed you to be the next Chair. He did, right, correct? So that's good to know. As a new Commissioner, I was faced with the death of Lashawn Thompson in April of 2023. It's a hard thing for me to face. Is there anything I could do? Is there anything more I could do to have pretended the loss

of that death by neglect? Like one commenter said, it doesn't matter, we could build the fanciest jail, we'd still get bedbugs. We paid for pest control. I believe it's half a million dollars, or somewhere around there. It doesn't matter. In that meeting before we had the announcement of Lashawn Thompson's death, we were approved contracts, emergency contracts. The Sheriff said, if we just had these things, we could, you know, prevent the death. And I was signed on. I'm like, great, if this will prevent deaths. But we had to cancel those contracts because they did nothing. They did nothing. The Sheriff got campaign donations from some of those companies. But it did nothing to help Lashawn Thompson or the current incarcerated people in our jails. I -- I want to join my fellow Commissioners. The Sheriff is suing us. He says we don't have enough money. We've given him money. We can't tell him how to spend that money, how to allocate that money. It is very clear, he's a constitutional officer. We can help him by hiring staffing firms to hire. They had 7,518 people apply. They vetted and sent the Sheriff 129 people to hire, yet he's only hired a handful. Our jail needs more detention officers. And I encourage you, the public, to get the real information out there, to talk to others. And I'm happy to do what I can as a sitting Commissioner and the ideas you have. I appreciate all of you that came down here today in a long meeting with lots of public comments. I've learned a lot. And I hope you'll continue to speak up. And please reach out to my office to speak up further if I can help you in any way. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington, you want to be heard again?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. I did receive the endorsement of the Sheriff. I also received the endorsement of our District Attorney and former Governor Roy Barnes. So I don't know what that has to do with this. We have an issue, a man has lost his limbs, which is a horrific issue. It needs to be investigated, and we need to find out who and what is responsible and how we prevent this from happening again. It had -- a similar, similar situation happened with Lashawn Thompson. And we should never be back in this situation again. But again, I don't think any Sheriff's Deputy has the medical know-how to know whether someone is septic or not. That's why there's a medical contract, and there are medical providers. So I, you know, I'm going to withhold judgment until there's an investigation. And if there is an investigation, and that investigation reveals that the Sheriff or some Sheriff's Deputy did something wrong, then I will happily hold him accountable. That just because -- just because the endorsement, doesn't mean I can't hold them accountable, right? So but rushing to judgment and pointing fingers is not the way to go. The way to do anything is to have the investigation, have the investigation, use the facts from that investigation to move forward. As you stated, the Sheriff is a constitutional officer. We are legislative creatures. We were part of -- what we -- we created by laws, not by the Constitution, just like the Clerk of Court, Probate Court, Tax Commissioner, they're all constitutional officers. And yes, the jail is under the Sheriff's purview. But there is a medical contract,

which we approved, which this Board approved. And for me, I rely on medical providers to tell me about medical conditions. And if the young man was in that jail and the medical providers saw him and did not provide him the necessary medicine that was necessary, then that is more, in my mind, I could be wrong, in my mind, that is something more on the medical providers, not on the Sheriff or the Sheriff's Deputy, because they don't have the medical know-how to know whether someone is septic or not. So you know, it is what it is, and -- and as the only practicing attorney, I'm happy to have -- for 30 years, I'm happy to have the endorsement of the District Attorney and the Sheriff, who are mostly responsible for what happens in our criminal justice system."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I'll say again, operational responsibility for county jails is the sole, sole responsibility of the Sheriff. Commissioner Arrington, I will say this, I want to also say this, this -- you're trying to create a fact pack -- fact-pattern narrative to support your friend, Ben Crump's potential litigation against the County. That is irresponsible as a County Commissioner. If you want to -- if you want to say, let the facts come out, let the facts come out, not presuppose them, and provide this little lecture here that you put forth, and try to, like, shirk the responsibility related to the Sheriff, or put in these little kind of anecdotes associated with it. Let the facts come out. Let there be litigation and let the facts come out, or let there be a GBI investigation and let the facts come out, not try to create a narrative in a public forum that's going to support a particular fact pattern that might be helpful to attorney who -- an attorney who's representing somebody who and -- and this attorney endorsed you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioners --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And also -- no, I'm going to -- I'm going to say this last piece. So I find that whole thing to be extremely irresponsible as a County Commissioner. The facts should come out, and they should -- they should be determined. You should not be up here presupposing and trying to put out a fact-pattern narrative, you know, that is of your own making or, you know, kind of then suits somebody else that endorsed you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, Commissioners, can we move on from this?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, you know, I -- I'm in the queue, and you know I'm going to respond to that. You know I'm going to respond to that. I'm in the queue. So when you call on me, I will go ahead."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, thank you. So I have not --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hold on, hold on, hold on --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Wait, you told me I have the floor."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute, just a minute."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You told me I have --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam County Attorney."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You told me I have the floor."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam County Attorney, if you --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Do I have the floor or not?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam County Attorney, if you hear us going too far, something may hurt this case, as was said at the last case when the information came out to the attorneys that hurt our case, stop us. Mr. Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So now, I have not put forth any fact pattern. What I said was that I was contacting the GBI to conduct an investigation. I don't know what the fact patterns are. What I also have said is that if the Sheriff is found as part of the investigation to be responsible that I hold him accountable. But I don't rely on the Sheriff or any Sheriff's Officer to conduct any medical assessments of any inmates. That's why there is a medical contract with doctors, nurses, and medical staff --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Wait a minute, I'm talking."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You had the floor, it's my turn."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I did not --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- interrupt you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I did not interrupt you."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's your point of order?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "You had directed the County Attorney ask her if you thought things were getting too far adrift with things that potentially would jeopardize the county related to any form of litigation that could come before us. And I would ask for her to speak upon that, or rule upon that if we are reaching the point where that is the case."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "She did not say -- it is my turn."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And you are interrupting --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- and that is improper."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That you --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm accepting his point of order. Commissioner -- Madam County Attorney are we okay?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "As the Board knows, it's always my preference not to speak on any matter that is either in litigation or reasonably anticipated to be in litigation. At this point I, think it's pretty obvious that this matter is headed towards litigation. So to the extent possible, I would certainly feel better if we limited any speculation as to -- as to who contributed to the outcome that's being described by Mr. Crump and his -- his team today."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah. The only point that I'm making is that I'm asking for an investigation by the GBI, the Georgia Bureau of Investigations, and an independent entity. Because I don't believe that the Sheriff or anyone in the Sheriff's Office can investigate this matter. And so that's why I'm asking for an investigation by

the GBI. And so there is nothing wrong with that, and that is not me pushing a narrative."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That is not me doing anything of the sort. That is me calling for an investigation so we can find out why this happened and we can try to prevent it from happening again. That is not doing anything to help anyone. The man already lost his limbs."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We'll take up --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "He already lost his limbs --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- the issue of the --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- there's nothing I can do about that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The issue of the --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I can't return that man's limbs --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The issue --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- and neither can you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The issue of an investigation, we'll take -- we'll take a vote on that at some point. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 7, County Manager's items --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Listen, y'all, it's 1:00 o'clock. What, do you want to continue now? What's your pleasure?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Mr. Chairman --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We do need to take care of the TAN bid if we could, please."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. All right, let's do that, and then we'll take a -- then we'll recess for lunch and Executive Session. Is that -- all right, you're always in -- okay, okay, that's fine, that's fine. We'll continue."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0245**, Finance request approval to accept the lowest acceptable bid from the County's 2026 Tax Anticipation Notes in the aggregate principle amount of \$325 million and approval of a Mandatory and Supplemental Pricing Resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Madam CFO."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did receive bids this morning. We received five bids. The bids came in from J.P. Morgan Securities, Bank of America Securities, Wells Fargo Bank National Association, Barclays Capital, and TD Financial Products, LLC. The lowest bid was received from J.P. Morgan Securities. It was true interest cost of 2.505439, and a net interest cost of \$5,081,194.44."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, any questions? All right, entertain a motion. Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: All right, let's continue. Next item.

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. Item that was moved up on today's agenda on page 11, **26-0265**, Discussion, World Cup Preparedness sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Mr. Manager, you want to start us off on this?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Let's see if we've got -- go ahead and come up, Alex. Yes, sir. So we have been consistent communications with the Host Committee. Personally, I have met with Dan Corso and William Pate several times. I think the summary is, of course, there are a number of games, only a subset of them are on work days. That's what we should be focused on I believe. The projections are not -- I won't say not meeting necessarily what they anticipated, but I would say that the hotel rooms and like, early indicators are that perhaps the crowds will not be what we thought. However, treating this as a weather event, Alex is here to talk through exactly what we've been discussing. We have teed up for all the departments that we would, about 30 days out, which would be within the next week or so, huddled back together and take everyone's best input in terms of either individual or remote work locations or if there were whole functions that needed to be relocated. Of course, the biggest single one would be with our courts. I have not been informed by them at this stage that they have decided to relocate. But that, of course, would be a significant undercut -- undertaken. So Alex, if you'll just detail for the Board, I think we have one chart or so to share with you, where you'll have the dates. And the -- the ones that may be most impactful for you as a group, the one that he'll show you, is July the 15th, which is the final game here in Atlanta. And it is one that could have, you know, high-traffic congestion. The good news is that it's a 3:00 p.m. game. The thing to consider is, as he discusses this, is that's also the date that we anticipate right now the millage rate being set. So I don't think there's the ability to cancel or move that date, because of --

and Sharon can, Ms. Whitmore can help with the logistics of that. But to get bills out and set that millage rate is critical, and July the 15th right now is the date that we have pegged for that. So Alex, let me turn it over to you."

ALEX ROBLES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: (Off-mic remarks.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speak up please, sir."

ALEX ROBLES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: "Sorry about that. So operational period for us is going to be starting June 11th. That's going to be the first Fan Fest Day. Fan Fest, the celebration is going to be primarily around the Centennial Olympic Park. In addition, we're going to have eight games that are being hosted at Mercedes-Benz, six of those are going to happen during the week. As Chairman mentioned -- or as County Manager mentioned, the one that probably is going to have the biggest impact for us is going to be the one for July 15th. That is a semifinal game, so lots of spectators, and obviously, street closures and a lot of traffic disruption around the area."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Let me ask the Clerk, if you have the -- do you have those two slides for FIFA. Okay, if we could bring those up, we would appreciate that. Sorry, Alex."

ALEX ROBLES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: "No worries. So the operational period, starting June 11th, going through July 15th. And that's where all the games end here in Atlanta. July 19th is actually the final game, which will be in New Jersey. Twenty-one operational days, of those, 15 fall on work days, so that's a combination of Fan Fest Days, as well as game days. Again, like I mentioned, July 15th is the one that will potentially cause the biggest disruption for operations in the county. If you can switch to the next slide. So here's a list of all the games and Fan Fest Days that are on work days. We kind of gave it a rating of potential impact to the county operations. Fan Fest Days, again, like I mentioned, primarily center around the Centennial Olympic Park. But obviously, they'll be traveling public going to these festivities, so they'll cause a moderate impact. High for all of games and the maximum level of impact would be for that semifinal game."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's it?"

ALEX ROBLES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: "That's it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So let's have a couple questions. The services that Fulton County Government will be -- is responsible for, and will continue to be responsible for during this period of time, have we been involved, Mr. Manager, to a meaningful degree? You mentioned the courts in your opening remarks, relocating. Because there was some talk at some point about, I guess there's going to be an alcohol-free area. And when you're in large crowds like that, there's going to be a number of arrests."

Have there been discussions about jail capacity, our Diversion Center, things of that nature that you're aware of?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. And Alex, you may want to comment if you know from Joe Barasoain. But we're a part of the overall operational planning group. And everything from mass casualty implications on the Medical Examiner's Office to the Diversion Center are being discussed."

ALEX ROBLES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: "And really, we're -- we're kind of the conduit to get everybody together and be part of the preparations. So we're there to support and coordinate."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, that's what I'm not clear on. You said we're there to support. What does that mean? I mean --"

ALEX ROBLES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: "So we are having meetings with internal departments. We're also offered some recommendations for each department to provide with their employees and make decisions whether they want to -- you know, for commuting into the city during the game days for the potential to do telework during some of these days, especially on the last date of July 15th to minimize the impact that it may have on operations."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I think that it sounds like from a mass-casualty point of view, and I'll put on my ARC hat now that we're pretty well prepared. But what I'm concerned is on bringing it down to a micro level of things that we're responsible for. That's what I'd like to hear about, because I've had some -- Mr. Collins, where are you? Is he still here? Come on down here for a minute if you don't mind. I want to hear what we're -- because this, these games are right around the corner. And I've been involved in a lot of major events like this from Ted Turner's Goodwill Games, well, they weren't here. But the Olympics, and I'm just concerned that we don't get a black eye as Fulton. I want to make sure that we're doing and are prepared for everything that we as a county government are responsible for."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah, I put together a presentation. I don't know if it's -- we're able to see it. But I'll so --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I mean, people are going to get drunk."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "People are going to fight. And so do we take them to jail? Do we use our Diversion Center? We're going to -- are those discussions taking place? That's what I'd like to hear. And if they're not, it's my position that they should be taken place."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah. No, we agree. So I'm here on behalf of Play Fair ATL. We are a coalition of 30-plus organizations that work across housing, immigration, labor, and justice. We do a lot of policy, work with a lot of education work. Oh, is this me coming up? Nope. You know, you recognize what the groups that are in our coalition. Southern Center for Human Rights, Women on the Rise, Working Families, Part A GLAHR. And that's no coincidence that it's a lot of the same groups that are focused on the jail population and Fulton County, because we've been worried from the start, for at least a year now, about the impact of the World Cup on the jail population. It's why I got involved in the work area last year when I was at Color of Change, and eventually became the Director of the Coalition. So bear that in mind today as we move forward with this presentation. We can go forward with the slides. We can click forward. Oh, you say next slide? Okay. I wasn't sure of the parlance. So yeah, we've got a lot of groups, next slide, at the table that you will recognize. We have two lanes where we operate. We do a lot of work on policy, and we do work on organizing. We've mostly focused thus far on the City Council, because the City is a member of the Host Committee. And Fulton County is not on the Host Committee. We've managed to pass legislation in the City that would increase the use of diversion. I don't know why this doesn't seem to come up with the right format, but I will persevere. We had a press conference last week with PAD, firefighters, community violence interrupters, sorry, two weeks ago. And you know, there's really a lot of organizations that are concerned about the impact of the World Cup. So I've tried to focus my presentation today on the issues that implicate the Commission directly, which is why I'll talk a lot about the jail. But there's obviously a lot of overlap between City and County, and we want to make sure you guys are aware of everything that we're seeing in community. Next slide. So here's one of the community events that we did recently. Commissioner Arrington attended one of these events, focusing on the like learning the lessons from 1996 Olympics. We had Council Members. Next slide. So the big question that Atlanta faces is, are we ready for the World Cup? And the answer really depends on who you are. If you are a major corporation or contracting with the Host Committee, then you're ready. If you are a low-income, person of color, justice impacted, we had that discussion earlier on about justice-impacted people, immigrants, then maybe you're not ready. You're feeling a bit worried. Maybe you're feeling you're at risk. And because this is not a neutral event and benefits and risks are distributed unevenly. Next slide. Atlanta's last major event, as everybody knows, was the 1996 Olympics, and you know, it really was a mixed bag in terms of impact. There was a lot of displacement, arrest of unhoused residents, people being bused out of town, some long-term gentrification. We had ACDC was built for the Olympics, specifically to house people who were arrested because they were homeless. A lot of big promises about economic growth and global prestige, but again, the events did not always benefit everyone. So next slide. That's why Play Fair ATL, we put forward a policy platform and we released it in December of 2025. Atlanta City Council unanimously passed this

resolution, endorsing the policy platform. It covers some of the issues that I talked about, housing, immigration, public safety, diversion, labor, and human rights. Next slide. So we want people to know that we're just critiquing. We put forward a plan, and we think about, how do we evaluate readiness, right? And as a coalition, what we think about are residents protected, are decisions transparent? Are benefits shared? Are harms prevented? Because the bottom line is, the eyes of the world are on us. So if we get this wrong, there's a lot of damage that can be done to the reputation of the City and the County. Next slide. The major challenge with this World Cup, as you can see, is that the management of the World Cup has been outsourced to a Host Committee that is not accountable to residents, right? So you'll recognize some of the Logos there. The city of Atlanta is there. Fulton County is not there. They're not a member of the Host Committee, and that is a major problem in terms of having a voice in our opinion. What we found in talking to Council Members, and what appears in conversations with members of the Commission, is that the County is often in the dark with the County the City Council Members are often in the dark. And that's because our elected representatives don't oversee the World Cup, the Metro Atlanta Chamber does. And they don't answer emails, they don't take meeting requests. They hold press conferences where they don't take questions. We've spoken to a number of neighborhood leaders in directly affected neighborhoods and community associations. And to our knowledge, they have not done a single community meeting. My sole interaction with the Metro Atlanta Chamber, and therefore the Host Committee, was because I paid \$150 to attend a breakfast event on unlocking economic opportunity during the World Cup and I raised some questions there. So there's just a lack of access. And the bottom line is, Atlanta is not World Cup ready if the public is shut out of decision making. Next slide. So on the budget piece, I think a big selling point of having the World Cup in Atlanta is this idea that it's going to generate a lot of revenue and opportunities, and you know, that's certainly true for some people. You know, the Chamber of Commerce has estimated that \$1 billion in revenue will flow to the city of Atlanta. But in actual terms of tax revenue, the city of Atlanta will make six and a half million dollars over two years. So the city itself it's not making a lot of money out of this. I'm not sure what the Fulton County is making out of this. We also just don't really have transparency about what the World Cup is costing taxpayers, how much money has been spent. We know that there are big budget fights in other cities like New York and Massachusetts, where cities are now charging fans a fortune to travel to the World Cup and use public transport, because they're trying to recoup some of the funding shortfall because the World Cup it's just not the kind of money spending opportunity that they thought it would be. Atlanta is also in the same situation where we have been involved in bidding for the Women's World Cup. But there's now a push on behalf of Atlanta and other cities to negotiate a better deal with FIFA because of how bad a deal we've got during this World Cup. And I'll say that FIFA is a notoriously corrupt agency, everybody knows that. There was a big DOJ investigation a couple of years ago. But I encourage

people to be aware that the rot in FIFA goes up and down the chain, and that goes all the way down to cities that are involved in planning the World Cup. Next slide. On labor, I wanted to mention this because this is a big part of our coalition. Major concerns that labor worker rights have not been implemented. There are not enforceable protections. The Host Committee, as I say, is an unelected body, and therefore not necessarily concerned with labor issues, in fact, often the opposite. And the contracting process, which is run through Georgia World Congress, which is quasi public-private entity, is very opaque. It doesn't -- it's not clear whether Fan Fest or some of the other World Cup related contracts will require things like living wages, worker protections, responsible subcontracting. You know, we've encouraged stronger standards such as a responsible contractor policy that would ensure that public dollars spent on these events present -- create the most public good. But we are in a situation where there is public risk and private gain. Next slide. On housing, which is our major part of our coalition, and I think, has implications for Fulton County with respect to the jail. One side is, you know, Airbnb is offering people huge amounts of money \$750 if you just post your house. That's causing a lot of pressure on the rental market, which is already a challenge here in Atlanta and is creating risks of displacement. We already know of people, for example, in our coalition, who have been told that they're not getting their lease renewed because the landlord is planning to reap the benefits of Airbnb. We raised the concern last year, and this specifically implicates Fulton County Jail, the City has had a plan for over a year now called Downtown Rising. That plan is, in the words of the Mayor's Office, to eliminate homelessness in advance of the World Cup. And that's not going to happen. Anybody who works around the downtown can see that there are unhoused people. The bottom line is they have ran out of housing units. They don't have enough houses for the unhoused population in Atlanta. So now, the City is left with a choice. They can either stop the encampment clearances, or they can start making arrests. And that is a major problem for Fulton County Jail. If you go down to the downtown area, parallel with Wheat Street near Ebenezer Baptist Church, you will see quite a large unhoused population. You know, I was there a couple of weeks ago. As soon as you mention to people the World Cup, they will say that we are being threatened with arrest because of the World Cup. It's not just APD, you know, you have the university law enforcement authorities. But unhoused people in that area are being told that they have to clear out in advance of the World Cup or they are going to be arrested. If they're arrested, they're going to end up in Fulton County Jail, right? And you know, we know that, as has been discussed at nauseam, that you know, there are unconstitutional conditions. And I want people to think about, you know, the global or reputational damage if, for example, you know, someone from Spain, a fan comes, gets in a fight, ends up in Fulton County Jail, dies. That's a major diplomatic incident. Those are global headlines that would be very negative for Atlanta. You know, it's concerning, because at the February Board of Commissioners meeting, the Sheriff noted that in the first two months of the year, he had accepted 604 criminal trespass bookings from APD.

That's the -- typically the charge you get for unhoused people. So if we see more of that charge, you know, it essentially means that Fulton County is going to allow the City to hide unhoused people in Fulton County Jail. Next slide. You know, on immigration, we've been majorly concerned, massively concerned about the impact of ICE in the City, and we haven't had any clear protections or protocols. We've worked with the City Council to pass some legislation that would put in place protections. But again, this has implications for Fulton County Jail, because you could see people getting arrested, detained there, and you know, the Sheriff, you know, while he can comply with ICE detainers, we have to make sure that he's not overstepping legal boundaries. And this is why it's important to have diversion and officer discretion when it comes to these low-level offenses. Next slide. In terms of public safety, we know that the plan that Chairman Pitts put forward a couple of weeks ago is positive. As I mentioned, we worked with the City Council, you know, in terms of a diversion resolution. But you know, this -- we can do a lot more. The Sheriff has the constitutional authority to decline certain charges that are brought. Those charges are things like criminal trespass, possession of marijuana, public drunkenness, urban camping, and pedestrian in roadway. Those kind of low-level offenses are things that we should not be locking people up for, and especially as we have this approach to homelessness that we are concerned about. It's worth Fulton County Commission exploring how you push the Sheriff to use his constitutional authority to decline certain charges. We also know that there are lots of 911 calls that are being sent to police instead of PAD community response. PAD itself, the major diversion agency that does so much good work that was talked about this morning, they have -- are in limbo because of contract disputes with the Diversion Center. That is a disaster leading up to the World Cup. You know, they can -- they can't take referrals from the Diversion Center. We already know that this Commission has pushed for increased use of the Diversion Center. As the gentleman said, we have 300,000 visitors coming. We need to make sure we're diverting people from jail to services. Other people mentioned this morning, there hasn't been a coordinated effort with community violence interrupters. We saw the tragedy a couple of weeks ago at the 404 Event. You know, it's essential that we engage community violence interrupters, and fund them properly. You know, to my knowledge, there hasn't been approved or public -- or published a plan between the City and the County for court services, over things like diversion, over things like jail. We have been involved with the Justice Policy Boards in drafting a plan that does emphasize diverting people from jail, reducing the jail population, treating public safety as a public health issue, funding community violence interrupters. Yep, I'm going to wrap up. Okay, next slide. So again, are we ready? That really depends on who you are, but feels like from our side, we're failing on some of the fundamentals, especially like we haven't done enough planning and for Fulton County Jail. Next slide. We're not quite at the final whistle, although I am. Fulton County can, you know, as I mentioned, not allow the Sheriff to -- allow the Sheriff to or encourage the Sheriff to decline misdemeanors,

ensure and encourage the full utilization of the Diversion Center so that people are not cycling back into jail, ensure that there is the passage of a court and system and justice system plan for 300,000 visitors so they don't end up in Fulton County Jail. You know, I mentioned this Care First Plan that we worked on with the County officials. There should be live tracking and reporting of the impact on the jail population of World Cup and World Cup arrests. Need to support community organizations like the community violence intervention organizations and PAD. And again, I would say like, a big part of the problem is the County hasn't been represented in the Host Committee. So that is something that you should push for, because -- and next slide and final slide, you'll be pleased to know. Atlanta has entered a cycle of mega events. We have the Super Bowl coming up, right? We're just going to do the World Cup. Let's talk about Final Four. Let's talk about all these other events. It's very important for Fulton County to have a seat at the table. It's very important for community to have a seat at the table. We should be discussing what are the implications of these big events when it comes to things like the jail population, things like the unhoused community. But that's not happening, just know, and that's why we need, you know, Fulton County on the Planning Committee. We need the community in the Planning Committee. And we need the Commission to work on these issues. And my organization, Play Fair ATL, is ready and willing to partner with you on that. And thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you. You've said a lot. And one thing I want to get back to in a moment after we hear from Vice Chair. But you're saying that the -- I think I have this correctly, that the -- as the constitutional officer, the Sheriff has the authority to decline certain charges, certain offenses?"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yes, yeah. I mean, we have -- (indiscernible) folks from the Southern Center --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And I'll ask him about it, because he does that may solve a lot of the problems. I mean, if you're talking about urination, public drunkenness, things of that, during this period of time --"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That will certainly have a, I think, a positive impact on the jail population."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "No, we agree. We agree."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And that coupled with utilizing the Diversion Center."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Because it's not realistic to think that some guy in Spain keeps coming up, who gets drunk in a fight --"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- gets charged, he's going to get back to Madrid and come back for a court date --"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "No, that's -- exactly, not going to happen."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's not going to happen."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "That's not going to happen, yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So let's be realistic about that."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah, and again, like, you know I think the -- with the jail population, what we don't want to see is, you know, 300,000 people come, and then we see the jail population tick up."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "And we see, you know, all the issues that have been raised today. So yeah, something like the Sheriff utilizing his constitutional authority to decline certain misdemeanors."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. We can talk to him about that, okay?"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Sure."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, followed by Commissioner Arrington."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. Thank you for that, and it's one thing that you keep saying, are we ready? And I'm a person that, I see what people do, not what they say, but what they do. I don't think we're ready. Hear me out, Chairman, I want to bring this out forward, and thank you for this discussion. The -- in our recent meeting, Jonathan -- CEO the -- Jonathan Hunt of MARTA, he came down here, and he said the new system that they're putting in place, and we know the reason for that new system being put in place is to accommodate all those people that are coming to town, we know that is a fact. I asked the current Interim General Manager, CEO Jonathan Hunt, were they prepared for the changeover? Did he have a game plan? Did it have a group, a hotline, a way that he was going to deal with people that had cards, did not get the new cards, any problem that you can possibly have that could

possibly happen, did he have a game plan. He said, yes, we've got that all in place. Chairman, you heard him. Well, guess what? We had seniors and handicapped people standing around the MARTA building, waiting on cards that was supposed to be mailed to them. At my Senior Summit, I had over 250 seniors tell me that they were told that their card was going to be mailed to them. They don't have the card. When they call MARTA and ask MARTA, they said, oh, you're going to have to just come to the building. So you came down here, and told this Body, or sold us a bill of goods, because I'm going to call it out, that you were ready. And now, we look at something as simple, in their minds, not mine, because to me, it's one of most, most vulnerable populations. You're talking about seniors and handicapped that was waiting, Chairman, on something as a little as a card to come in the mail. So you mean to tell me, CEO Hunt, that something as simple as sending a card in the mail, MARTA couldn't get right? What in the world make me think they're going to get this right?"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah. No, I think it's a good point. And I mean, I saw the horrifying images of, like, elderly people, you know, queued around the block for the MARTA updates. And I think, like, on MARTA specifically, there was a board meeting about a month ago. And one of the people in the board asked, you know, is the World Cup, is this like -- as is this like, on level with a Taylor Swift concert or a Beyoncé concert, you know, and so -- like, someone had to explain to him, like, no, this is a major global event, it's beyond that. It's taking place over, like, a month. So I think one of the disconnects with the preparedness aspect is the preparedness has gone into the business side of it, right? There are, you know, as I mentioned, the Host Committee has been leading the planning. And the focus, from what we see, has almost exclusively been, how can we make money out of the World Cup? And people are going to make a lot of money. But that money is not going to flow back to the residents of Fulton County or Atlanta. And in fact, these issues that are popping up, whether it's what's the impact on the jail, what's the impact on the unhoused, the MARTA changes, that's not on the radar because that's not how they think, that's not how they operate. That's how our coalition has had to, like, step in and say, hey, City Council, you have to be thinking about increasing diversion during the World Cup. You have to be thinking about the consequences for the unhoused, immigration. But in reality, it shouldn't be us that, this should be already part of the planning process, but it's not."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I think it's a great -- not only is disconnect, Chairman, but somebody has to advocate for the people here in Fulton County, because once that World Cup leave, the people still got to live here. And so we are not going to be the taxpaying citizens that's going to be stuck with a bill, Chairman. I think it's very unfair that the taxpaying citizens will be stuck with a bill because some people wanted to get rich behind the World Cup. I am all for Atlanta being on the map. I am all for us doing what we need to do to internationally host. But if we are going to leave our

most vulnerable population behind, if we going to over bulge the jail because we don't have a game plan in place, like you said, Chairman, what about that person that may get into a fight? What about that person that may jaywalk? What about that homeless person that has nowhere to go and is going to be locked up? Until we, as elected officials, Chairman, take this seriously, and I would be remiss if I didn't tell you, County Manager and Chairman, I'm feeling some kind of way about Fulton County being at the table, fully invested in this. I don't believe our voice is being respected as it should be, Chairman. And I'm going to put that out there. And so what I'm saying today, since we're having the discussion, let's not sugarcoat what's happening right now. And please, let's -- let's do not leave the taxpaying citizens of Fulton County to foot the bill because somebody's inability to prepare for this correctly. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, I think we still have time to take care of the things and -- that we're responsible for, and we need to do that. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Collins. It was great to attend the Fair Play ATL event and hear discussions from the residents in regards to Fair Play and making sure that small businesses and others are not left out of World Cup preparations. You know, one of the biggest problems is that the first line of defense is not the Sheriff refusing people. The first line of defense is arresting officers, right? The whole pre-arrest diversion revolves around someone being diverted before being arrested, right? And so in 2016, when I brought that to Atlanta and Fulton County with Kwanza Hall, it was around the -- we went to Seattle, there was a homeless man that had been arrested 87 times for trespassing, right, just like your example. And so someone finally said, hey, what does it cost to arrest him 87 times, house him 87 times, feed him 87 times, right? But the first line of defense is with the police officers, right? The Fulton County Jail is really a holding facility for those that have been arrested by the police officers from the 15 cities, right? And so the first line of defense is those police officers. More than 50 percent of the people in jail are arrested in Atlanta by Atlanta Police Department. And so the first line of defense, I think, is city of Atlanta and their beliefs. And they are partners with us not only the pre-arrest diversion, but also in the Diversion Center, right, and ACDC. And so we need to also be thinking about the other cities, because with 300,000 people, they're not just coming to Atlanta, they're going to be in East Point, they're going to be in College Park, they're going to be Roswell, they're going to be all around Fulton County. And so I would suggest that we also speak to those arresting agencies, because those are the ones that are really on the front lines that would be transporting the people to the Fulton County Jail to be checked in, right? And so that is, what I would say, where we need to start. And then as it relates to housing, you know, I don't know what all we can do as it relates to -- to housing or what ability we have at this late stage to talk about plans for housing. Certainly with immigration, I had put forth a resolution asking to make sure that all Fulton County employees make sure that everyone's constitutional rights are protected,

right? Because we have no idea what ICE is going to do. Hopefully, they will not be here, because I think that number one, I think they've already discouraged people from even traveling to the United States for these games based on their behavior and the death of the people in Minnesota. And so any further presence by ICE is only going to bring more harm and less people, right? And you know, had discussions with Mayor Dickens about the County being involved and being on the Host Committee. I think our County Manager had indicated that we had a million dollars, but for whatever reason, we were never able to be fully vested in that Host Committee, right? Similar to the rapid housing project that we just did, we contributed \$2 million. They have a big press conference, and it's got city of Atlanta and its partners. And there's no Fulton County there, and that's because we don't have, you know, leadership at the top that has the relationship with the people there in order to get that done. But we're working on that. Thank you."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah. And I -- on the -- on the Sheriff piece with the line of defense, I think you're right. I think there's a lot around, you know, what APD should be doing to utilize the Diversion Center and other agencies as well, right? And it has -- we have to get to a situation, you know, where Diversion Center and diversion in general is similar to body-worn cameras, right? Body-worn cameras are not choice for law enforcement, you must wear them, it's mandatory. If you don't wear them, you'll get sanctioned. We're in a situation where diversion is a choice, it's up to the officer, and there's no accountability within the Police Department. I will say, like, you know, there are many people I blame for the jail crisis. And I think people need to step up, and the Sheriff utilizing his constitutional power around, you know, declining charges, certainly would be helpful. If the charges arrive there, then I think that's something that he should do. I also think, like there has been a loss of confidence, certainly on the part of our coalition members around the Sheriff for a number of years now. You know, this is someone who is being subject to, you know, consent decree. And the consent decree report from DOJ, it goes into, you know, some of the Sheriff's staffing issues, some things that are in his control, some things that are not in control, particularly conduct and lack of training, abuse of inmates. It does also touch on his responsibility around some of the health issues. You know, I know that he's also been held in contempt over a lawsuit that's currently with Southern Center over health issues. So you know, I would be remiss if I didn't mention that, like, it's a major concern for us around the jail generally, but particularly with Sheriff Patrick Labat the helm, and you know, his incompetence that, like, we are really concerned as we go into the World Cup. And the people are going to arrive at a facility that is run by him, and there are going to be hugely negative consequences."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, well as I stated earlier, he was reelected. He's going to be the Sheriff for another two years. So we've got to work with him. And I'm happy to work with you and have those conversations."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Sure."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You know, it -- I would encourage you that part of having those conversations, it makes it more difficult to have those conversations when you label someone as incompetent, right? It makes it a lot harder for that person to sit down and have a conversation with you. So I would encourage you that as we talk about having those conversations, you think about reframing how you label someone, because that probably makes them more, more resistant to work with you."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "I've been doing this work probably four or five years. I'm not interested in a conversation with Sheriff, Sheriff Labat, I don't really --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, guys, we got --"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "That doesn't concern me at all. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Gentlemen, it's 1:41. All right, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. Thank you for coming down here, Mr. Collins."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Sure."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I didn't know you had a new role."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'm glad to --"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "New role, same old -- no."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "New role. I think you have a little bit broader reach now."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Which is well deserved. I've enjoyed having your conversations and your advice that you've given me through the years --"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- as a Commissioner. Certainly want to look into the declining charges, run it through our Legal Department to see if we can do that. But Commissioner Arrington, I agree with you on some things, but I don't think it's this group's responsibility to encourage our local law enforcement to decline to go to diversion. I would say the Sheriff, he's the chief law enforcement officer of the County."

I would like it if you would encourage the Sheriff to get all his law enforcement agencies to divert people versus putting them in the jail."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, we agree, because I wasn't certainly saying that we should do it. I was saying that Mr. Collins and Fair Play ATL should do it. What's the --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "No, I don't think they should do it. I think our Sheriff --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What's the new role?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- should be, like, taking that role on himself, taking that initiative himself."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You're certainly free to have that conversation. What's the new role that you were talking about for Mr. Collins?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Mr. Collins used to be with Color of Change."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, okay."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Prior to his --"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "I used -- I used to -- I did work on, you know, with Community Over Cages Coalition with Southern Center or Women on the Rise, all those kind of groups for, like, four or five years. And then, you know, as I was saying in my remarks, like what brought me to the World Cup and the World Cup Coalition was concern about, you know, the impact of this mega event on the jail population and having like 300,000 people and utilizing, you know, whether it's the Sheriff or the DA or APD, utilizing all the tools in the toolbox to make sure that we don't have a negative impact. These on the jail population, what I've learned is whether it's on housing or immigration or criminal justice matters, these are major events have a way of exacerbating issues that we're already facing. And we're already facing a major crisis with Fulton County Jail. I think everybody agrees about that, even if we can't agree on exactly the diagnosis. And I think that, like, we have to, you know, have plans in place to make sure that we're not going to make the problem worse through this World Cup."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Sure."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We will have a plan in place."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Great."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I've heard you today."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Happy to help."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything you want to add based on what you've heard?"

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "That's all."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

MICHAEL COLLINS, DIRECTOR, PLAY FAIR ATL: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We'll have a plan. And we got one other item before we recess. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, **26-0253**, under Justice and Safety, Public Defender request approval of a MOU between Fulton County and the United Way of Greater Atlanta in the amount of \$70,000 to support a select group of chronically homeless individuals released from the Fulton County Jail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll entertain a motion to recess for lunch. We may take up items related to real estate litigation and personnel in Executive Session. Motion to do so by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes, six yeas, zero nays."

Recessed for Executive Session at 1:45 p.m.

Resumed Regular Session at 2:46 p.m.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, without objection, we will resume the regular order of business. Items from Executive Session, Madam County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding Executive Session agenda item 1, is there a motion to approve an amended contract with Allied Universal to provide supplemental staffing, including detainees' supervision at Grady Hospital to support the Fulton County Sheriff's Office with jail consent decree

compliance in an amount not to exceed \$1,913,431.49 for the remainder of fiscal year 2026?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to adopt by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Is there a motion to approve the request for representation presented in items 3 and 4 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Is there a motion to approve the requests for settlement authority presented in items 5 and 6 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

CLERK GRIER: And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays.

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "There are no further action items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Madam County Attorney. Madam Clerk, please continue."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of the page 7, **26-0246**, Finance request approval -- presentation, review, and approval of May 6th, 2026 budget soundings and resolutions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Have motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Any questions, comments?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No responses.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, **26-0247**, Finance request approval of a recommended proposal in the amount of \$275,000 to provide Benefits Consulting Services with the amended effective date of January 1st, 2026 through December 31st, 2026."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0248**, Public Works request approval of a change order greater than 10 percent in an amount not to exceed \$1,444,447.60 to provide construction services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Favorable motion by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0249**, Real Estate and Asset Management request approval of the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$288,684.13 to provide Medical and Clinical General Cleaning Services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0520**, Request approval of the lowest responsible bidders in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 to provide standby roof maintenance, repair, and replacement services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, **26-0252**, Public Works request approval of a recommended proposal for Operation and Maintenance Services for Wastewater Facilities and Pump Stations in the North Fulton Service Area in an amount not to exceed \$28,084,782."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."



CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; four yeas, one abstention."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Commissioners' Action Items, **26-0220**, Request approval of a Resolution to establish a minimum annual funding level of \$250,000 for Quality Living Services, Inc. and Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehabilitation Center; and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Is there another paper?

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'm sorry, I guess I -- can I -- I'll withdraw it. I'm sorry, I moved a little bit too fast. I withdraw my motion to approve."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, so, Commissioner Barrett, you need to withdraw your second. She's withdrawing her second."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I apologize, y'all."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's start, so it's 0220 -- sound, resounded it again, please."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0220**, Request approval of a Resolution to establish a minimum annual funding level of \$250,000 for Quality Living Services, Inc. and Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehabilitation Center; and for other purposes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now, there's a motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, which is seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, thank you. Thank you. Yes, I asked the County Manager and his team to look into providing information. Dr. Roshell, do you have the information regarding? I think you prepared a deck."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Yes, sir, I did on Summer Youth."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, yeah. Can you share that with us, please?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Point of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I don't think this is the youth item, the QLS and Sadie Mays item."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, I'm sorry."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "You did the same thing I did."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "This one is -- all right, let's see. Slow down, everybody, this one's confusing."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's the next one, okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I will just say again, you know, these two organizations are legacy organizations that were started and founded by us. And we need to add them, I believe, to the other legacy organizations that we give annual amounts of money to. These organizations -- the other organizations are arts organizations, and big -- I'm a big supporter of the arts. But these organizations actually provide, one provides health and rehabilitation services, and QLS works with our seniors, and they actually serve more seniors in their building than we do at any of our other facilities combined. So we certainly need to do what we can for them I know that this matter was held and I think Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman has some plans on maybe designating them as legacy organizations, but not necessarily allocating the money until we can find it, so I'm supportive of, not only this one but also of her attempt to find the money as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion fails; two yeas, two abstentions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 10, **26-0221**, Request approval a Resolution directing the County Manager to identify funding in the amount of \$500,000 for the continuation of Fulton County's Summer Youth Internship Program; and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett? Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Dr. Roshell, if you will now talk about the Summer Youth Job Program. I got ahead of myself on the last agenda item."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Yes, sir, thank you. If you could please bring up the presentation, Summer Youth Job Internship Program. So, this presentation gives data points on the historical view of this program, as well as a strategy for releasing an RFP this year if the Board approves funding for this project. Next slide, please. So as you

can see, and as many of you are aware, in 2017, the Board approved a million dollars in funding to address juvenile crime. And this was a specific initiative for a youth crime initiative RFP, focused on three categories of youth at risk, and it also allocated an additional \$500,000 to launch a jobs component of this program, a summer youth employment program that was initiated initially with Fulton County and external partners. In 2021 and -- 2020 and 2021, the program did not occur due to COVID. And total investment from 2017 through 2024 has been \$2.6 million. Next slide, please. This slide gives you some additional insight as to the program year, specifically what the program name was, as I indicated in the previous slide, this initiative started out with a youth crime intervention focus and then transitioned in subsequent years to a Summer Youth Internship Program. The next column gives you insight into the funding amount for each of those years as well as the funding source. Also provided here by year is the number of participants served. You can see from 2020 -- 2017 to 2026, each year that that information was captured as well as the indications for 2020, 2021, 2025 and 2026, there is no data for those years. The number of work sites is also indicated here as well. Next slide, please. So for the potential impact of funding, the Board discussed various levels of funding. And you see that at the bottom of this slide, we share what a potential \$250,000 investment would garner as far as the number of youths served, 166, 200 youth for 200 -- 300,000, and 333 youth for 500,000. The program year we would look at June 1st through August 31st. The program has traditionally served youth 16 to 24, and the stipend or the wage that we have traditionally paid is -- would be no -- no less than \$15 an hour for approximately 100 hours. The final slide, next slide, gives you insight into what an RFP schedule would look like. In collaboration with Purchasing, this would be a shorter cycle, which is permissible, and it would launch, if the Board approves this funding in any way today, we're prepared to release a proposal as early as tomorrow. We would have a pre-proposal conference on the 18th, June 1st would be the deadline, July 15th, we would bring recommendations to the Board, and we would disseminate full payment in August, with the contract concluding August 31st. Commissioner, that concludes the overview."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So if we can go back a couple of slides. How do we start June 1st if you all aren't bringing the recommendations to us until July 15th? How does that work?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "In order --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "If you can, go back one more slide. I'm sorry, go forward then."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Many of the organizations, Commissioner Arrington, that have applied for this funding in the past, do have programs already. Some are underfunded to some degree, and so this would allow us to capture the expenses for those agencies that do this work every year, and would allow them to capture those

associated expenses starting back to June, which would allow them to provide additional resources for the entire summer."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. And that July 15th is the earliest date that it could be presented to the Board? It couldn't be done at the --"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "No, sir, that -- this is the shortest timeline that was permitted."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So but what -- what I think I hear you saying though is that the program could start and the youth could be hired, and the employers or RFP respondents would just get paid at a later date?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Yes, sir. It's similar to what we do in CFS or the CSP program. That is an entire calendar year even though the recommendations do not usually come to the Board until the end of the first quarter."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Awesome. So, the only thing that I would say, colleagues, is, you know, and I know we have a different agenda item on here as well for 250,000. I think the County Manager indicated that he did have other money available. You know, this -- this is not about me, this is really about the impact and keeping our youth engaged during the summer. I just had a recent Teen Hiring Fair. We had 900 people apply for that fair, and at 250,000, 166 of them maybe can get jobs. And while I'll be happy to see that 166 get a job, I certainly would be a lot more happy to see 333, heck, I wish we had enough money to fund all of them, right, to make sure that all of our youth were working for the summer. But I understand we have limited resources, but I would ask for your support of this. I think there are additional funds available outside of the 250 that have been identified through the other program. And you know, again, this is not about me or any of us up here. This is about our youth and training our youth and making sure that they have opportunities to make money during the summer and stay engaged and stay out of trouble. And the greater impact we can have, we just saw recently in April, teen takeovers and all these things going on. We need to do what we can to keep our youth engaged and keep them out of trouble. And this is certainly one way to do that. So, I hope that you will support it. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion fails; two yeas, two abstentions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "26-0254, Request approval of a Resolution to establish proposed annual funding for Quality Living Services, Inc. and Sadie G. Mays Health Rehabilitation Center, in an amount to be determined year to year; and for other purposes sponsored by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, Chairman Pitts, and Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. A motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Just, just quickly. This basically established that the Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehabilitation Center, as well as Quality Living Services are - - become legacy organizations. I have had a conversation with the County Manager for us to prioritize the upcoming, when we look at the budget. But what I wanted to do, which Commissioner Arrington, I was in agreement with him that these should be legacy organizations. So this is what happens, they are legacy organizations as a result of this. I think this is a happy medium. We should, at some point in this Body, try to find compromise when we can, and be fiscally responsive. So I believe this answers that call. I appreciate, not only Commissioner Arrington in his efforts to make sure this is done, but also Chairman Pitts weighing in when I had the meeting with him. And so I would just ask all my colleagues for a favorable vote. This is just identifying them as legacy organizations. So I thank you for your vote."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Madam Vice Chair. I, of course, I'm going to be supportive. I just want to sort of express my concern that this doesn't really go far enough. When I was speaking to Dr. Roshell yesterday just to get some clarification and make sure I fully understood how we use the term legacy, and all of that. You know, it was explained to me that that is a sort of a figurative term that we have used for quite some time now to describe organizations in the Arts and Cultural umbrella who get set funding every year. And the handful of organizations that receive that legacy funding or legacy partner funding, each get 200,000 a year minimum. And anything else, we would vote on individually for the budget. But that goes sort of to, you know, when -- in the budgeting process as an annual, recurring 200,000. And it just, you know, strikes me, if we say that we love our seniors, this is an area where I think we should show that with our -- with our budgeting. Our budgeting is a reflection of our values, and when we don't give them a set amount, and I can certainly appreciate that we are under a tight budget right now, but when we don't give them a set amount, then they can't plan their year. They can't budget, you know, knowing that they're going to have this money coming in from us or not. And I think, you know, I was speaking to Commissioner Arrington about this, and -- and Dr. Roshell, I think the numbers we said they currently get -- they do get considered every year annually."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And the number for QLS was how much?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "For Sadie G. Mays is 135 in 2026. And for QLS, 150,000."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So we're not talking about a huge difference to go from those dollar amounts to 200 each. Personally, again, I understand that's not where we are today, and I am going to be supportive of this. But I would love to see commit to 200,000 a year for each of them as a recurring annual expense and to meet the same sort of -- the threshold that we do for our other legacy partners. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I would like for Commissioner Abdur-Rahman to answer Commissioner Barrett's concern, or do you have --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Oh, I'm going to yield. I'm going to yield, because we do have Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So you can go ahead, Commissioner Thorne. I want to yield to Commissioner Arrington, and then I'll address those sentiments."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. I visited Sadie G. Mays back in the fall. They're a wonderful organization. Every dollar that's spent there seems to be really used well and invested. And they are short. Their gate was broken. That's a security issue that they had, but they didn't have the \$10,000 to get the gate fixed at the time. I know Commissioner Ellis has been down there, giving them computer equipment that we've donated to them as well. But that being said, I want to challenge the city of Atlanta, since it is in Atlanta, longstanding Atlanta senior home, I want to challenge Atlanta to also contribute and donate to them as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. I'm happy to support this. Obviously, I was trying to get money identified and included in the budget for this year. And it looks like this resolution would set it up for next year. Or maybe, Vice Chair, maybe it could be revisited after the mid-year budget and we hear back from the County Manager and the additional allocations could be made this year. But yes, I just want to give some of the numbers. I'm looking at the numbers back in 2005, we gave them 118,000. 2006, we gave them 134,000. 2007, 133,000, then it looks like it went down from 2012; in 2012, we only gave them \$94,600. And it went down even from there to

68,000 in 2013; 2014, 52,000, which looks like it might be the lowest number. 2016, 56,000; 2017, 58,000; 2018, 108; 2019, 157,000; 2020, 400,000; 2021, 155,000; 2022, 156,000; 2023, \$556,999.99; 2024, 153; 2025, 150; 2026, 150. And so, I think to Commissioner Barrett's point, to some extent, they already have money in the budget. They're already getting money on an annual basis, but hopefully, we can bring it up to at least 200 to match the other legacy organizations that have been designated. And frankly, since these are, I don't know seniors and healthcare, maybe we can even get them higher. But we should really look at defining that term legacy organization. Commissioner Thorne, I certainly have no problem with us requesting the city of Atlanta to match that money, but don't want to make our contribution contingent on whether the city of Atlanta does it or not. I believe our -- you know, we were part of the original request. Or we were one of the founding members, Fulton County help found -- find -- found the Sadie G. Mays Nursing Home. And so, I think we, you know, certainly have a bigger responsibility there. They've been getting 150, they got 150,000 from 2005 to 2011. 2012, they went down to 142,000; 2013, down to 135; 135 all the way through 2020. And 2021, they got 112,000; 2022, 124; in 2023, we allocated \$1.2 million to Sadie G. Mays. And then 2024, they were back down to 135; 2025, they went down to 124, 124,000; 2026, they're at 135,000. So, if the other legacy organizations are getting 200,000, we're really only talking about an additional \$65,000 for Sadie G. Mays to bring them up to 200,000. So that's why I was saying, Vice Chair, that maybe at the mid-year point that might be a good time to kind of look at that. And -- I lost my numbers for QLS. But I should be able to get it back up here in just a moment. But the incremental amount over the amount that they've already -- that has already been allocated is minimal. It looks like 65,000 would bring Sadie G. Mays up to 200,000, and 50,000 for QLS. So we're talking about maybe a total of \$115,000 in order to bring both of those organizations up this year. So I would just say, I'm going to support this. But I'm hopeful that at mid-year, Mr. Manager and Dr. Roshell, that we could look at perhaps allocating that 115,000 for this year, you know, assuming that our budget surplus numbers run the way they normally run, and that we're running or tending towards a \$75 million budget surplus that we could allocate an additional 50,000 for QLS and additional 65 for Sadie G. Mays. So, I'll stop there. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. With all due respect, colleagues, this is -- this is where -- this is where y'all got me messed up. And let me tell you why y'all got me messed up. Quality Living Services and Sadie G. Mays are part of my heart, and that's not to say it's not a part of you all's. Commissioner Arrington, you and I know, we don't split hairs on this. We on the same page. Our strategy may be a little different, but we get to the same destination. Commissioner Barrett, I'm a little taken aback, because it almost sounds disingenuous when Fulton County hosted our Annual Senior Summit yesterday with 1200 seniors that came out

that got services from one end of the county to the other. There were people from Palmetto all way to the other end of the county. And per capita for counties that are the same size, we are the leaders in what we give to the seniors. And so I kind of -- I started not to say something, but then I said, Vice Chair, say it, because we take care of our seniors. Could we do more? Yes, we could. But we are a governmental entity that needs to look to sponsorships and collaboration and other organizations that will work with us to serve our seniors. So I'm a little taken aback, maybe you did not mean for it to come across like that. But I'm a little taken aback by that statement of what we could at least do because these seniors. And let me tell you another reason why I'm taken aback by it. Sadie G. Mays sits in my district. Sadie G. Mays is on speed dial with me. Nobody knows the needs more than I do. I'm a product of Benjamin Elijah Mays, which is the husband of Sadie. Sadie G. Mays has technical things that they need that Commissioner Ellis has been helping me and working with them to get them up to par so they can get additional funding from private entities that they on their own can't do. And so excuse me if I don't get a warm, fuzzy feeling when my colleague is trying to tell me what my district -- Sadie G. Mays and I are connected at the hip. They get roses, they get dinners, they get all kinds of things that I take over there on my own because I take care of mine. And so I would suggest to have an -- conversation with the Commissioner to see what the Commissioner is doing. Because Sadie G. Mays could be getting so much more, and they need help, technical help, and they need to be more competitive. And they need to be able to do it and sustain it. I am one that believes in teaching a man how to fish, so that way if any of us are not here, they will survive. Now, on that note, I have spoken with Dr. Roshell. I have spoken with the County Manager. I have said to prioritize, once we get into the budget talks. I haven't even said an amount as what would be the highest. You all are saying 65 and maybe 100, but maybe me and the County Manager might be talking about something a little bit higher. So give me the respect, please, because I give you all the respect to know what you serve in your district. Let me serve my district, please. This will make them legacy, and Commissioner Arrington, I don't know how many times I can say it, Chairman Pitts and I have talked about it, Commissioner Thorne has talked about it, and I thought I mentioned it to Commissioner Barrett, but maybe I didn't because I had so much going on. There is conversations already taken place that there will be some kind of increase. We just don't know what the increase is, because we haven't got into that. And so please, once again, I appreciate your support. But I would be remiss if I didn't tell you, this kind of rubs me the wrong way, because I have been working with the organization. And the organization is calling me saying, we didn't -- we didn't come to anybody, we don't know anything about this. I would never do that to any of you all with your districts. Please do not do it with me to mine, please. Even if that was not your intention, please let's not have this to happen again. I would appreciate your support."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, you know, certainly think that taking care of our seniors across all of the county is all of our business. But it certainly was not my intention, in any way, to be disrespectful or to step on anybody's toes. I just -- I know, to your point, I think you did not specifically discuss with me any other numbers that might be already in conversation for the 2027 budget or for this one specifically. So look, I appreciate that, I hope we can do more at mid-year. Can we do more in the 2027 budget. My intention was just to say that I would love it if the term legacy meant a minimum of 200,000, and that if we could commit that to at minimum of that to these organizations on an annual basis, that would be great. And if there are others that should be considered, who also do, you know, take care of our seniors, then that's great, too. I did want to -- the reason I got back in the queue, really was not -- because I had no idea what you were going to say, and I was already in the queue, was just that I wanted to bring it back to Dr. Roshell for a moment, because I -- we had a conversation yesterday in which she -- we spoke about some ideas about how to maybe address this in the future. And one of the things we talked about is that the money that we give to Sadie Mays is really to help the indigent -- the indigents residents or patients that are there. And so I was just asking if there might be a way to sort of include this in our sort of expense category for indigent healthcare, and that would give Grady money for that as well, and if we could do that for our seniors. And somehow have it be in that umbrella, that might be worthwhile. So I just didn't know if you would be able to share a little bit about what you see the needs are -- as at Sadie Mays, Dr. Roshell, and if there's some way we might look at them a little bit differently."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Thank you. So to that point, Vice Chair and I have had multiple conversations about Sadie G. Mays and the needs. And when you look at the rising costs of nursing care as well as supply chain issues and food costs, the -- the investment is probably closer to what we provided at the 1.2 million. And so I've shared those types of sentiments with her. And she and I have -- have had conversations about how we can perhaps look at this from a variety of different angles."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. I just wanted you to share it for the public also. And Vice chair, I just want to say, we're on the same side here. I'm not -- I was not trying to be offensive to you. We're on the same side. I just --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "It doesn't look like it --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No, I'm trying --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- I swear it doesn't, and I'm trying to --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, I think you're --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I am really sitting here --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It's my time right now, may I finish?"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- trying to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- deal with this. But I'm telling you now, Chairman -
-"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "May I finish?"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- I see this as disrespectful. This is in my district. I would never do this to Commissioner Barrett. I don't know why you're doing this to me -
-"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm not doing --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- I don't know why you picked me --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Oh, my God."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- of all people. But it's disrespectful, and I want all my constituents, I want those 1200 seniors, or more importantly, I want that Advisory Board over at Sadie G. Mays to know this is disrespectful."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. Again, I'm not really sure why you're feeling that disrespecting you. I am trying -- I am really trying to --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Because you're clueless, that's why."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm really trying to say to you that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Ladies, please."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- I'm on the same side, and I want -- all I want is what you want, which is to get funding for this wonderful organization that does great work for our seniors. That's it. So I'm sorry you feel like I'm disrespecting you, because it's not my intention."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: **"26-0255**, Request approval of a Resolution directing the County Manager to identify funding in the amount of \$250,000 for the continuation of Fulton County's Summer Youth Internship Program; and for other purposes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Have a motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "When this -- when we spoke about this at the last meeting, is there a source of funding that's in -- has been identified for this? And if so, what is it?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. We identified \$250,000 from the consent order log that is yet to be allocated."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And I inquired because I would like to promote this in my district if it serves my district, which they pointed out that there are groups that work metro wide. But there is -- I don't have proof that they really do operate metro wide. I would like to get information on that, like, maybe past people that have received the benefit of the Summer Job Youth Program. I'm not knowledgeable of anybody actually getting it in the North, what high schools they target. Although they say they operate in the North, I don't see any proof up in my area."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Thank you, Commissioner Thorne. So, the program last year or last time it was funded, it's an open, competitive process. It's not based on high schools. That was an early version of the program. And so, any organization is free to apply if they're eligible, we will -- and they submit all their -- their materials, we'll certainly review that. We can be more diligent about making sure that the service area is inclusive of North Fulton. But there's no prohibition from any organization in North or South or Central from applying."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, the motion is to approve."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0256**, Request approval of Resolution authorizing Fulton County to accept a donation of office furniture with a total depreciated value of \$24,290 for public partnership -- from Public Partnerships, LLC."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Commissioner Thorne, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just wanted to highlight PPL. PPL has been around for 25 years. They quietly work behind the scenes to help hundreds of thousands of individuals with disabilities, seniors, or chronic diseases, and help them navigate the

process so that they can stay at home, and you know, not have to go to Sadie G. Mays. You know, they can stay home with caregivers. They use Medicaid so that they can get funding and hire relatives to assist them, and help people navigate that process. This came about because I moved my office to 4700 North Point Parkway, and I didn't have any furniture. And they heard we were having a senior services and -- in this new facility. And they said that they would like to donate some furniture, all their furniture, which is much more -- I only need a little, some desks, a couple of desks. And it is overwhelming, the amount of furniture that they are donating to us. And they would like for it to be used in other areas where we have seniors located or future in 4700 North Point Parkway if we expand into the undeveloped space. So they are relocating their office to, their central office to -- back to New Jersey. And this is a gift, and I just wanted to really highlight their generous gift to our county. And I hope you'll approve."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion is to approve."

CLERK GRIER: "The vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0257**, Request approval of a Resolution to support affordable housing in English Avenue neighborhood by approving a grant set aside to aid in the construction of a 26-unit affordable, multifamily development; and for other purposes sponsored --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Barrett, Commissioner Ellis, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a similar item to the ones I have brought over the last several meetings. This is a project for a multifamily, 26-unit building out of the West Side TAD funds that we have already allocated. They are 26 new, affordable multifamily units in the English Avenue neighborhood. 100 percent of the units will be affordable for 30 years, with units of 30, 60, and 80 percent AMI. Of course, this is -- does not require any money from the general fund as these funds are already set aside. This is a project that the NPUL and the English Avenue residents are supportive of. And I would be grateful for your support. And thank you, Madam Vice Chair for cosponsoring with this project with me. Happy to answer any questions if anyone has any. But I would appreciate your support."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm supportive of these, but I do have just a request for two, two friendly amendments, which don't change the nature of the approval of the project. And those are on page 2, a friendly amendment that lines 3, 4,

5, and 6 be struck. Because they're not sort of factually correct in terms of the way that the whole nature of all the County Resolutions sort of relate to these. It doesn't have an impact on the approval of this. And then on line 14, the word review should be replaced with approval to be consistent with the County Resolution."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm fine."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm fine with that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It's accepted. All right, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just want to say to Commissioner Barrett, thank you for including Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and working together on that -- on this. And for me, it helps knowing that the District Commissioner approves of the project and is a supportive and informed and included in the project. So, I just want to thank you two for working together, even though there might other areas we need to work on. But I appreciate that. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And I do have a question. I think you said that the -- these would be affordable for 30 years. Did you say that?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That means flat for 30 years?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I think it means they stay within that 30, 60, 80 percent AMI for 30 years, yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. And what does -- what is it, 30 to 60 percent, what does that mean in English?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So that's a AMI is average median income, so --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I got -- but in rent, so that the folk can understand."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "There's a sheet attached in the info sheet that I supplied that has the actual rents. For the 30 percent AMI, the units are ranging from \$564 up to \$838 -- oh, I'm sorry, yeah, that's correct. And 60 percent is -- and those are aided by housing vouchers in Atlanta Housing, 60 percent AMI is the 1,129 up to 1,613, and those are for the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Larger?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yes, and then the -- and then 80 percent AMI is a range of sizes of units. The biggest are the three bedrooms at 2200 and change, and the studios are the lowest at the 80 percent AMI, which is the 1500 and change."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Got it, okay".

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And I -- it's -- I'm happy to share more on that with you if you like."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion is to approve."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0258**, Request approval of a Resolution to support affordable housing in the English Avenue neighborhood by approving construction of permanently affordable duplex and single-family home for sale; and for other purposes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to just share that this is, again, another affordable housing opportunity. But this one is, I think, especially exciting to me. This is an opportunity for people to actually own their homes through the Land Trust model. We heard somebody from Land Trust come and speak this morning at public comment. It is a really exciting model, I think, where people can own their home, and yet they -- the home retains deep affordability, even once sold because of the Land Trust model. I'm happy to answer questions about that, should anyone have them. But I'm -- just, again, for everybody's understanding, these were homes built on vacant lots. They're not displacing anyone, and there -- these homes being there are not going drive up the neighborhood housing prices because they remain affordable. So I think there's a lot of really, strong benefit to this type of project. I personally would like to see more of it where possible. But again, I want to thank Madam Vice Chair for cosponsoring this, and I know the NPU is supportive, and looking forward to being able to move forward on this one. And I'm assume -- I'm assuming, Commissioner Ellis, you have the same amendments. I will happily accept the same friendly amendments as last time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And I have the same question. What's the sales price."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So the sales prices, I think range based on each home. But let's see here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Affordable is relative."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, so they go from 200,000 to up to 285,120. They are small homes, and the price range is -- differ mostly because of the 60 percent, 80 percent --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Got it."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- and in this case, 100 percent AMI."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's reasonable, all right."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And they stay that way, even once they're sold."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The motion is to adopt. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0259**, Request approval of a Resolution to accept a mural painting from the Estate of Helene S. Mills to designate its placement in the lobby of the Helene S. Mills Senior Center, if possible; and for other purposes sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Have motion to approve by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. And every time I see -- I don't know how many of you knew Helene Mills. Commissioner Arrington, you probably did. But she would always come with her red hat on, and she would always start her comments with, my name is Helene S. Mills."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Such a great lady. Motion is to adopt."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 11, Commissioners' Full-Board Appointments, **26-0260**, Fulton County Board of Tax Assessors, Chairman Pitts has nominated Pamela J. Smith to a Full-Board reappointment to a term ending June 30th, 2030."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; the five yeas, zero nays."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioners' Presentation and Discussion Items, **26-0261**, Discussion, NaphCare sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I think we kind of got into this earlier. And I don't want to run the risk of getting into any legal things. I would just reiterate that I am calling for a GBI investigation. I've spoken with the Sheriff. He has indicated that he is the only one that can actually request it from the GBI, and that he has already requested that GBI investigation into what happened to Mr. Rashaad. So, I'll just leave it right there until we get the results of anything else of that investigation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, any comments, other comments?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No responses.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0262**, Discussion, Executive Detail Policy sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, thank you. I guess I didn't click to speak. But I put this on the agenda because, Mr. Chair, you have been using Executive Detail to attend candidate forums, and that is outside of your role as the Chair. That's your role, when you attend a candidate forum, you attend it as a candidate, not as the current Chair. And I believe that is a violation of the policy. The policy is, Fulton County policy 400-3, and I know that because I requested the records. And they said that the records cannot be -- are exempt from disclosure. However, as outlined in the policy, public safety employees and vehicles are prohibited from being used for transportation purposes unless there is a specific, defined, and substantial threat supported by a police report, a written request, and a determination by the Chief of Police. And so I saw our Chief come in. Chief, you can come on down to the mic, because I don't -- I don't need to know any tactical information. But I do need to know, is there a -- was there a specific, defined, and substantial threat supported by a police report?"

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "Commissioner Arrington, Wade Yates, Chief of Police. Commissioner Arrington, that policy was, there was an amendment to that that said that the request can be oral as well, and removed the requirement for a police

report there. And I did -- my opinion is that the CEO of Fulton County currently needs a protective detail, similar to what the Sheriff has and the DA has. I don't want to get into specifics of it in a public forum. That would kind of defeat the purpose of what we're doing, which is why those records are also exempt."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Awesome. The Chief Executive Officer of Fulton County, do you know who that is?"

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "Well, I --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Do you know who that is?"

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "-- I -- the Chief Executive Officer is probably Mr. Anderson."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, the County Manager."

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "Right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Right, not the Chairman."

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "But I view him, for discussion purposes, I view him as the CEO of a company. He's the public face, similar to when the healthcare CEO was murdered walking down the street of New York, everyone knows who -- who he is. Everyone knows who Robb Pitts is. He's on national television, we've had all of the things about the election from six years ago, all of these things. Every time I turn on the TV, I see Robb Pitts. So I, in my head, I think of that as he's the public face."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So well, what is -- what is the new policy number? Because when we -- when we requested, when my office requested these records, we were told that it was exempt because of this policy. So what's the updated policy, and if you have a copy, I'd be happy to take it, yes."

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "I do have a copy, sir. It's -- it's not exempt because of the policy, I'll let the County Attorney speak to why it's exempt."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Commissioner Arrington, if I may just direct your attention to pages 2 and 3, where the new portions of the policy are under E and F. And the language that is in this resolution replaces subsections E and F of the policy you were reading from. In their entirety, upon researching Municode, it appears that this resolution was not codified in the current -- I mean, did not get translated into a -- I'm sorry, not Municode. In looking through the policies that are published online, it does not appear that this ended up getting codified. But it was a properly voted upon action. So this resolution that you're holding now, number 14-0340, adopted on June 18th of 2014, is, in fact, the current language of subsections E and F."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, perfect. So, this is the new section E, it says, elected officials may seek executive protection and may utilize public safety vehicles for executive protection purposes in the instance of a specific, defined, and substantial threat of risk of bodily harm as reported to and determined by the Chief of police. So, I'm going to repeat my question. What is the specific, defined, and substantiated threat of risk of bodily harm as reported to the Chief of Police?"

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "I'm sorry, Commissioner, that's not something that I'm going to discuss publicly."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. And it goes on to state that threat is defined as the tangible existence of an expression of intent to inflict injury, harm, or damage communicated to the elected official by spoken or written words or physical gestures, or in the specific incident where there is a risk of bodily harm. Does the threat that you are not going to mention include a tangible existence of an expression of the intent to inflict injury, harm, or damage?"

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "I believe so."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. F, all right, paragraph F states that any and all threats must be communicated to the Chief of Police. It goes on and says that you have the final decision with respect to executive protection, shall remain in discretion of the Chief of Police, who shall maintain appropriate documentation related to thereto. Do you have the appropriate documentation related thereto?"

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "Yes, sir, I do."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "But you're -- but you're not going to disclose it."

CHIEF WADE YATES, FC POLICE: "Not publicly."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, I didn't make a public -- the only reason this item is on the agenda is because I asked for it, and your office refused to provide it. So I didn't ask for a public disclosure of it. I asked for the information. And once I was denied the information, I put it on the agenda so we could do it. So you're not willing to do it publicly. Will you disclose that information pursuant to paragraph F of this statute?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Point of order. I just ask that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's your point of order?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "My point of order, and I would ask the County Attorney to weigh in, as this is, I think we're straying on other topics that shouldn't be for public

discussion. And to extent, the question you're raising is almost outside the policy as it's codified."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I -- I object to that. It says he shall maintain --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I'm asking --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Wait. Madam County Attorney --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I get a chance to respond. I get a chance to respond."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "My point of order is an inquiry to the County Attorney --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- County Attorney --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- that is this -- this line of questioning sort of getting -- getting out of line?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So the Police Chief was advised by my office that the documentation related to the rationale for making this decision is not subject to public disclosure. So I advise against discussing that here in this open forum. And because the final decision and the final discretion to make that decision was vested in the Police Chief by this Body when it passed the resolution in 2014, even in private, I don't know what value that would have, in that the final decision has been delegated to the Police Chief by the Board of Commissioners."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair, please consider this my request pursuant to the policy before filing an ethics complaint. This is an abuse of power. You have no reason to have executive protection at candidate forums on March 24th at 7:00 p.m., March 26th at 7:00 p.m., April 14th at 6:30 p.m., April 16th at 5:30 p.m. This is an abuse of power. You have no reason, they won't disclose it, they're trying to hide it, you can see what this is. This is an absolute abuse of power, and there is no reason you should be dragging Fulton County Police around to these candidate forums, driving you there. You should drive yourself. You should relieve the Fulton County Police. You know there hasn't been any specific, credible threat, and it is abuse of power. And so, this is my attempt to resolve this matter with you before filing an ethics complaint against you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah. I just wanted to thank our Chief of Police for coming up and being transparent with his remarks. And I apologize on behalf of the Board for certain individuals up here impugning your integrity. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The remarks by our Chief of Police -- Police were not transparent. He refused to disclose the information. He even said that he would not disclose it publicly. I asked him would he disclose it privately --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Point of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- there was no --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Point of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- transparency at all --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's your --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Point of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "There was no transparency at all."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Point of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "It is an abuse of power. It is an abuse of power for him to use the Police -- Police to drive him can --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair, you have the floor. Your --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Point of order. First of all, let me apologize. Let me apologize, because this is -- one, this is ridiculous. Two, my point of order is Chief Yates is an employee. He is an employee of Fulton County. Talking about abuse of power, nobody has the right in their official capacity as a Commissioner to abuse, berate, or to impugn somebody character publicly. What part of that does this Body not understand? Chief Yates is an employee. You cannot do this. Please, stop it. I apologize, Chief Yates."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else, Commissioner Arrington?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Absolutely. It is a -- still an abuse of power. You do not have the right to have --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Point of order. Point of order. Point of order. Point of order. Point of order. He is an employee. You do not have that right, Commissioner. Point of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Chief Yates. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0263**, Discussion, Elections, voter information sponsored by Commissioner Thorne."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes, Chairman. As you all know, I had a resolution that I took off the last meeting, on trying to ensure that people -- a barrier of getting voter identification, that there was no barrier, ensuring that. So, I kind of wanted to bring that up. And then we had our open house at 4700 North Point Parkway. External Affairs did a fabulous job organizing that and having tables with different departments. It was on April 19th. Unfortunately, the Voter Education Bus was there, but it was locked. And it was the last full day for voter registrations for this election. I did reach out to Cherry Allen, and she said that they would take some corrective measures. On a third topic, when we had the FBI raid back in January, a former Commissioner was touting that sensitive voter data had been taken. I was confused, trying to think of what that information could be, given that the government really has all our information anyway. So, I reached out to our County Attorney. She didn't know. She advised me to speak with our Elections Department, with Ms. Nadine Williams, which I did. Ms. Williams told me to speak with our Legal Department. And to this day, I don't know what sensitive information there is the government doesn't already have. And so, I just wanted to have a discussion over that topic. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is she here? Do you want to hear from her?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "No."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "No, these -- I wanted to see if anybody here knew, because it's being put out there, it's being -- that narrative is being propagated. I didn't know if anybody knew. One concerning thing is that people are being told that how they voted is being released, and that is completely false. Our Elections Department, if they knew how we voted, anybody in our Elections Department, that would be breaking state law. And I know, just being a poll worker and a poll manager, the great lengths we take to protect the secrecy of the ballot. Even when you do a provisional ballot inside your precinct, you have an outer envelope that identifies who you are, and then there's an

inner envelope. And when those go for processing, which we had an audit of our absentee ballot procedures, and those are provisional absentee are processed the same way, that I assure you, they separate the outer envelope with the inner to make sure that your vote is protected, that people don't know how you voted. When they assign you a ballot, they tear off a tab, so your ballot is private, that there is -- all steps are taken to protect that people don't know how you voted, as well as that's why they don't let you use phones or cameras inside the precinct, is to protect the voters. So I just want people to know that Fulton County, as far as I'm aware, takes great steps to protect the secrecy and the privacy of the ballot."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, you want to be -- I want make a statement on this. Go ahead."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I just wanted to say I -- I have heard that same question as I have been out and about since all of this happened. And every time, I have said the same thing, essentially, that there -- no, they do not -- there is no information linking the individual to how they have voted. So, I second everything you're saying there, and if anybody is saying anything different, we should make sure the record is clear on that. So, we are on the same side on that one, Commissioner Thorne."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else? Well, while we're talking about elections, let me just take this moment to -- to reassure those who have volunteered and volunteers or paid employees who work during our elections that we're going to use every resource at our disposal, and I -- hopefully, I'm speaking for the entire Board here, to protect your personal information that has been requested by the Department of Justice at the request of the President. Again, we're going to -- everything we possibly can to protect that. We're in court now, I don't want to misstate anything, Madam County Attorney. But were fighting it, and we're going to continue to fight it, and we're going to fight it with every resource that we have. I think that this whole recent effort was an ongoing effort to harass our workers, intimidate our workers, and to really to put a chilling effect on participation in voting, as well as those who would work at our polls on Election Day. But just rest assured that we have your best interests at heart, and we'll be doing everything legally possible to protect you. Commissioner Barrett. I'm sorry, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. I simply wish I could have been afforded those protections as a whistleblower, as a poll worker who takes an oath to protect our elections of any fraud and abuse and report those. I wish the county back then would have taken greater lengths to protect me as a poll worker that's under oath, who reported concerns before the election. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just want to say thank you for making that statement, Mr. Chairman. I stand with you on that, of course. And I also just want to thank all of our election workers, poll workers, volunteers, who are coming out because this used to be the thing -- as something you could do to be of service. It didn't require any particular bravery, and now it does. So, thank you all for being brave and for standing up for our elections in Fulton County and in Georgia."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Chairman, this is a little bit related, somewhat. I just -- I just want the listening public to know that any former Commissioner that is still trying to give incorrect information, i.e. lies, because a lie don't care where it come from, we as a Body, may sometimes disagree. But we can still be respectful to each other. But there's no need for any one of us to go out and lie on each other or lie on this Board. And so, I just want to reiterate, again, I appreciate, in the absence of that cancer that was down here, that we are able to have a conversation. We are able to agree to disagree. But at the end of the day, a lie don't care who tell it, whether it's Trump, or whether it's a former Commissioner, it's still a lie. And so, we protect your vote here at Fulton County and will go to the ends of the earth to protect the vote, and that is collectively as a Body down here. And I want the listening public to know that from me. This Board collectively will go to the ends of earth to not only protect our employees, we will always protect the voters. And I just wanted to put that out -- that out there, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0264**, Discussion, utilization of funds committed for improving jail detention staffing and the detention staffing hiring process sponsored by Commissioner Ellis."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner, Ellis, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thanks, Mr. Chair. I brought this up on, I believe, our first meeting in April, just to highlight that we had made, this Board had made a commitment as part of the roughly \$50 million of additional funding related to the consent decree. About seven -- there's footprint of about 17 million or so that was carved out to get us to a targeted of net -- 200 net new employees doing detention work in our jail facilities. And then I felt that this was critical that we kept this front and center, because of I feel like so many of the items and so forth, which we hear about, in terms of instances and so forth seem to have an underlying theme of related to inadequate detention staffing. One positive thing that they did, noted that we've got an additional 100 people working in the jail facilities as a result of a contract that we entered into with another firm, right?"

And those number of folks still remain active, and we're exploring other ways in which we might utilize those. But in at our April meeting, the report was of our, again, our target, you know, associated with this, this footprint of funding, when just some reminders and some folks for that -- so listening public know about this. We had a package of additional funds that can be used for incentives for both retention of individuals, as well as hiring new individuals, some pay adjustments, and also the utilization of an outside firm who specialize in service -- you know, surfacing, sourcing, vetting candidates, a firm which has had a tremendous amount of success in multiple parts of the country. It was a firm that was not sourced by us. It was a source that was brought to us by the federal, federal monitor, I believe, was the group that brought it to us. And they have vouched and seen their success and highly recommended utilization of this by -- by us in our Sheriff's Department, which we agreed to that. And it provided this amount of funding, and this funding and the pay and so forth, we looked at comparables relative to other jurisdictions and so forth, and that we are in line and at or above what other organizations are paying. We vetted things like triple overtime, which nobody else was paying, in terms of the research around that. So we need to keep this 200 net new number in front of us, I think, because, as I said before, what gets measured, gets managed. And we need to have this to, you know, I would like it to see it sort of permanent degree of prominence in our reports. We can report on every meeting as far as I'm concerned, because I feel like that that's how important it is. But on April 1st that number, if I go back and look at the minutes correctly, was 13 net new. And I know we've got our -- Mr. Hermon's in the audience right now. And I just wanted to confirm with him the net new number as of the most recent time frame, where we're at today."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HRO, HRM: "Good afternoon, Commissioner. As of today, as of the end of April, the net new number is 27, with nine separations pending, which brings us down to a net new of 18."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Oh, this was a net new of 18?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HRO, HRM: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So 13 in April, net new of 18 as of present point in time. And are -- how many, roughly, how many candidates had been provided to the Sheriff's Office, from the -- from our -- from our firm, in terms of the vetting process and so forth?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HRO, HRM: "As of the last report that I received this morning, it's a total of 193 candidates that have gone through the full process with walls, down to the GCI background check, and then passed over to the Sheriff's Office so they can do their internal four-step process."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. And out of that 193, how many did -- were actually hired?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HRO, HRM: "Of that 193, a total of ten have been hired thus far from the Sheriff's Office."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay, all right. Thank you, Mr. Hermon."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 11, **26-0266**, Discussion, update, implementation of five-point plan sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So where are we to date?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. Steve Nawrocki, Strategy Office. Are there any specific questions, Mr. Chairman? Or I can give kind of a general overview of where we currently stand."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, on each of the five initiatives that were spelled out, starting with ankle monitor usage."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Okay. I can walk through them, and then if we have some time, I would just like to speak to the overall plan that we're taking. A lot of it is being driven by data that we need to stand up, and that's working with both internal county administration as well as our justice partners. And then we have identified some other initiatives that I'd like to highlight."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Let's put a time frame. When did we start this?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "The population reduction initiatives?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, no, the -- this plan was adopted when?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Two months ago, maybe four meetings ago."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So about 60 days ago?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, sir. So Mr. Chairman, as you said, I'll walk through the five points, and then give a couple other comments if time allows. Starting with the ankle monitor usage, last count that I received, we are up to 601 monitors. This is 25 additional from last month, and --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So wait, slow down, slow down. So 60 days ago, we're at what?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "The number was probably in the 550s."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And we have how many out now on?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Just over 600."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. That's an increase of --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "From about two months ago, it was probably an increase of about 50. Last month, we were at about 575. So we've increased about 25 over the last month."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Do you know of how many are in the works now to be --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "You may recall the District Attorney's Office had identified about 200 individuals that they believed were eligible for an ankle monitor and reduced bond. I believe that list was handed over to the Public Defender's Office. And those attorneys from the PD's Office and the DA's Office are currently working through that list. But I don't know that it's netted quite the return that we thought that it would. So, but I've not received that number back yet."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. When do you think we can have a hard number? This is not difficult to me."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "The hard number on the 200?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, no, the hard number on how many new detainees and inmates are out on ankle monitors, compared to the number that were out on ankle monitors 60 days ago."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "I don't have the number from 60 days ago, but again, Mr. Chairman, it was about 550."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "So we've gone up about 50 in the last 60 days."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, can you get, at our next meeting, can we have a more definitive?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. All right."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "I can move --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Text -- text notifications."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Okay, text notifications, now, this initiative is being run by Clerk Alexander's office. They have developed the deployment framework, and they're just working through some final approvals with Superior and Magistrate Court, as well as some technological issues. But they're looking to launch that in the next -- in the short time frame."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So in the past 60 days, nothing has happened here?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Well, again, they're still standing it up. I mean, this is a multi-month project that they're standing up right now. But they are looking -- they're on the precipice of releasing it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now, you know what I want to say, looking into and all of that, I need some definitive answers at our next meeting."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Then the low bond amounts, under 10,000?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Low bond, just to give the landscape, there's about 920 inmates that are on a low bond, or ten -- \$10,000 or less. So this is about half the inmate population. We are exploring strategies for all the individuals that are on competency issues right now, impacting the bond, as well as the Superior Court is looking at standing up a bond review calendar dedicated to reviewing these low bond cases. So that's something that they're standing up right now."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You know, a former member of this Body used to say, we need ED instead of ING, working on, looking at. We need some completed stuff."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, sir. And many of the -- all these initiatives are a multi-month."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Number four, the initiatives on hold from other jurisdictions."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Similar narrative, Mr. Chairman. We're -- and this probably goes back to the data and why it's so important that we establish a single source of truth, identify and both define all the data that's informing these initiatives. One area that we know we've had some complications are the hold conditions, identifying which individuals would qualify for these different hold conditions. So we are evaluating this, specifically to individuals who no longer have any business within the Fulton County justice system. They could be either extradited or to another

county if they're awaiting trial, they could be sent to a state prison if their case has been fully adjudicated. So looking at the list of those individuals, those on probation violations, and then those on failures to appear, things that are holding them in the jail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So at this point, we don't have a definitive number?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "We're still trying to work on what the definition of or the criteria for individuals that would fall within these hold conditions, because there -- there is some dispute amongst the different justice partners. So we're trying to first clear that path, get that firm number, and then start working on the strategies."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "But work is being done?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, sir, on the data side."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, and then the last -- now, this is an easy one. The last chance diversion of --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Oh, yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- basically utilizing our Diversion Center."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, sir. So we know there are other jurisdictions out there, Pima, Pima County, Arizona, Harris County, Texas, Oakland County, Michigan. All of these jurisdictions have the model that I think we're trying to get to here, where you have a Central Diversion Center within a last chance hub in the form of a trailer located out the jail. So our team is reaching out to these other peer counties to understand kind of what their operating model is, but also what their -- what their performance has been, what the measures have been, those individuals going to the main hub versus those going, being diverted through this -- through the trailer that would be outside the -- outside the jail in kind of that last chance. So we're doing that outreach right now. From there, we'll develop our operating model that'll include things like the staffing plan, our deployment scheduling plan, and then if there's any additional investment needed, we'd bring that to the Board, a recommendation and a request to the Board."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. How -- I'm a little disappointed that we've not made significant progress, because particularly, with the ankle monitors. That was -- that's a really, really easy one. And none of these initiatives have a financial cost to them in addition to what's -- what's already in place. So anything else you need from us to be able to give us a more definitive report at our next meeting?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "No, sir, I'll just say, thanks to the leadership of the Board, we have been able to expand the office, my office working on

this. We have a -- onboarded a new individual whose sole focus and responsibility is working way through these reduction initiatives. His name is Benjamin McCarty. He just joined the county last month, and so that's going to certainly help things out. But then also understanding that we need to -- we need to stand up this catalog of data, get on the same page with the justice partners in terms of what the definitions are, because I think that's going to enable us to prioritize understanding what the target populations are of each of these strategies. So we just ask for time to do that, Mr. Chairman."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "And I guess I would offer one more thing. You know, you suggested putting it as a standing report. So the thought process was, we put it in the Justice Report, what was the operations report. So that'll be the next meeting. And then what we should do, let's take the one that you just mentioned that is the easiest on ankle monitor. There's really, you know, based on the chart that we did, we got a set of constituents or stakeholders on each one of these. That the DA and the Public Defender. I would have them here, and let them report on what their plan is to increase that utilization. And we could either pick, you know, one of those, or we could try to do all of it. Might be easier, Steve, if we pick the ones that are most right for discussion, and then have those stakeholders here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Because --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "That's what would really cause it to move faster."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Because we're all in this together, and we all want to see the jail population reduced. And these are five simple things that can reduce that jail population pretty much overnight by 1,000. And if the numbers that we heard earlier today were already down, I mean, we'll be down to 1,000-something in that jail."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And I'm reminded of that -- and oh, it's not a criticism of anybody, because I'm including the Board in it. We're fiddling while Rome is burning. We're sitting here and we're studying and looking at this, and all of that. But yet, the -- we live bodies, relatives, sons, daughters, husbands, sitting in that jail while we are doing what? I'm not sure. Not a criticism. I want to include us in that as well. That's why I'm asking, is there anything else that the Board can do to help this process along?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "And I think that's it. I think you bring the stakeholders here with an expectation of what are they -- what are their plans to operationalize what's being outlined."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I like that suggestion. Okay, Commissioner Ellis, followed by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you for putting this on here and keeping it front and center. Just like my remarks on the detention staffing, I think this needs to remain front and center. Two things I do agree, or you know, that deserve, you know, kind of that give us the biggest opportunity for change are, you know, the ankle monitoring program. Because we validated that, we know it works. And I think that's a matter of the stakeholders engaging with that. The second one, you know, is this low bond piece, which I also think potentially has some degree of intersection with the ankle monitoring component as well, maybe not exclusively, but some component of that. And you know, in terms of, you know, bringing folks down and having, you know, some discussion around that, I will say, I've had conversation with some of the Superior Court Judges about specifically the low bond thing and exploring a specific calendar related to that. And I think may be, you know, a good candidate to bring down and come and talk to us, because I do think they're working on some actionable plans to get that. I mean, it does take some time to get a --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Sure, sure."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- you know, judicial calendar stood up. And I do think they are working on that, and you know, talking about potentially having some staff stood up as early as, you know, the early, early summer months or some time in, you know, kind of maybe even overlap in kind of like that World Cup time frame, almost roughly, about time that's starting. So, they may be a good candidate for us to have come, come speak, because I know they are actively working on it. And I think it would help but keep us a focus on that. Because there's a significant, you know, there may be some, you know, some data points that, you know, may be slightly off here or there. I think you said, Mr. Nawrocki, there's roughly about 900 folks with, you know, bond, bond amounts from --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Right."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- 10,000 or less, you know, maybe there's some numbers in there where that -- that's not really an actual 900, but it's a very material amount of the population, you know, that could be -- could be acted upon or things expedited. One, these -- these have been items that you -- that were identified and then brought forward that were generally no-cost kind of items, right, you know, they're more about will and operational and kind of getting organized to do them. One piece I would like to -- to raise it is -- does have some financial impact. This is an item that I, you know, have brought to actually our Public Defender's Office, probably two years ago. We've continued discussions around it. I know it's been brought to the Sheriff's Department, the Public Defender's Office, and I think they are at a point of being in support of it and everybody in terms of the ability to operationalize it. And it's a concept of utilizing secure technology in our jail facilities to be able to allow the Public Defenders to react -- react -- interact with their clients, and it really -- and it's been done. We were

approached about it as a potential pilot. Our Public Defender didn't want to be the initial, you know, kind of pilot version with that. It's been done in some other counties, it's been -- it's proven, been proven to be effective and be an impact at, you know, seeing reduction in jail populations in those jurisdictions. I think it's ripe potentially for that. I don't want to put words in anybody's mouth, but, you know, but it does have a degree of cost. It's not a, you know, a \$10 million cost. I think it's in the neighborhood of, you know, seven figures or less than that, in a way it could be operationalized. And I would just like some -- some consideration for, since we're talking about this topic, and I think it does have sort of clear impact on that. And it would benefit our Public Defender's Office as well as the Sheriff's Office, in terms of just, it creates a little bit of relief in terms of staffing, staffing in, you know, pulling an individual off, in terms of having to escort folks back and forth, and you know, and monitor and that sort of stuff within the jail. And it provides relief to and efficiency to the Public Defender's Office, but not having them to have travel, you know, back and forth and go through the process. So I think this has a lot of good utility, you know, to it. This is a Fulton County organization that came up with this concept. So I would like to -- for us to potentially give some sort of thought to accelerating that and potentially bringing forth that. Maybe that's a part of kind of this midyear conversation, you know, but I think it could have a material, you know, it could be part of the package of things to have an impact."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yeah, on that note, Commissioner, we have the plan, the costs, the deployment timeline for the full jail population. And then we've also worked with that group to identify if we want to do kind of a test use case specific area, working with the Public Defender's Office and Sheriff's Office, they provided suggestion there. So either the full ramp up or a targeted facility or population group."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Think that that -- what is our -- what timing are we thinking about for -- I mean, I guess you could -- it could be done in, I guess, a number of different ways, but, you know, could that be something that we could consider as early as, you know --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "The mid year review?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Or sooner."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "I think if there's other initiatives that we're seeing an underrun, I mean, the biggest being the package, there's no reason why we can't start reprogramming those dollars to other initiatives. So that could be one of them."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay, all right."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Talking low seven digits, you're talking like a million, or something like that or?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "Lower."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Less. Yeah, I mean, Steve's got the -- Mr. Nawrocki has got the numbers. It's not -- it's a manageable --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "It's in the mid six digits."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "It's -- yeah, it's a --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "And that's for the full population."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah. I was just hoping that we could, you know, potentially even bring it forward as early as, you know, the following meeting. So it just -- I, you know, in terms of just keeping a sense of urgency around stuff and things that would benefit, you know, the stakeholders that need to, you know, make this work happen."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I concur, Commissioner Ellis. And Mr. Nawrocki, thank you for the great job you're doing. I just wanted to go on record saying that Mr. McCarty is a great asset to your office. In my mind, I referred him to you. I think I kind of did this, you know, with telepathy. But thank you for bringing him on. He is a great asset to Fulton County, and I just wanted to publicly thank you for what you do, and that was a great decision."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "All right, thank you, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "In regards to Commissioner Ellis's proposal, I believe we have budgeted for ankle monitors for 1,518 monitors per as a cap. And since I don't know if we have underruns in that area that we can take that money and put towards."

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "That -- that was the cap, but because we were never close to that, Commissioner Thorne, I think our --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "We didn't fully fund it?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER: "-- our budget would support more in the 900 to 1,000. And the number is probably higher, because we have been in the five, mid-500, 600 range for this year. So but to your point, there probably are some available dollars from the unused monitors so far."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: All right, next item.

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. No further items that come before this afternoon, we stand adjourned. Thank you."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.