

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

April 15, 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: May 20, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts

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 Clifton Dawkins, 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**26-0195 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 Second 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: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

26-0196 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Caroline King Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
March 27, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Grace Lee Remembrance Day." **(Arrington)**
April 3, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Positive Outreach Development Society Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
April 4, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Atlanta Vibe Appreciation Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**
April 4, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Sickle Cell Community Consortium Day." **(Arrington)**
April 8, 2026

Proclamation recognizing "Dr. David Manuel Appreciation Day." **(Arrington)**
April 11, 2026

Open & Responsible Government**26-0197 Registration & Elections**

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement to conduct Special Elections in conjunction with the General Primary Election / Non-Partisan Election on May 19, 2026, and the General Primary Election Runoff on June 16, 2026, for the following Cities: City of Fairburn and City of South Fulton. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0198 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Easement Dedication of 226,350 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Blakely Manor Development LLC, for the purpose of constructing the Blakely Manor S/D Project at 0 Freemanville Road, Milton, Georgia 30004. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0199 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 PPF / Royal Airport West Venture, 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 0 Naturally Fresh Boulevard, College Park, Georgia 30349. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0200 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 JBGL Atlanta Development 2014, LLC for the purpose of granting conditional approval to allow stormwater infrastructure to remain within a portion of the County's existing water line easement area at 2260 Old Milton Parkway, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0201 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 Aga Khan Foundation, 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 11350 Lakefield Drive, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0202 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 David E. Rippe, as Trustee, or his successors in trust, of the Rippe Family Trust dated June 28, 2023, and any amendments thereto 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 605 Marietta Highway, Roswell, Georgia 30075. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0203 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 JBGL Atlanta Development 2014, 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 2260 Old Milton Parkway, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0204 Finance

Ratification of March 2026 Grants Activity Report. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Health and Human Services**26-0205 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities**

Request approval of Subrecipient Award Agreements with the Atlanta/Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative, Inc. (PAD) and Research Evaluation Services, LLC (RES), successor to Applied Research Services, Inc. (ARS), to support implementation of the COSSUP grant awarded to Fulton County, on behalf of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), in the total amount of \$1,599,999.00 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The proposed subrecipient agreements include: (a) PAD in the amount of \$564,093.00 to provide diversion services; and (b) RES, as the successor entity to ARS, in the amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 to provide data collection and evaluation services for the grant. These agreements are effective upon BOC approval and remain in effect through December 31, 2026. The payment period for eligibility for payments from the grant utilized in funding these Agreements is effective for the duration of the eligibility/service period of the grant (October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026) but shall not extend beyond December 31, 2026. This item is 100% grant funded. The County Attorney is authorized to approve the agreements as to form and make necessary changes thereto prior to execution. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

26-0206 Senior Services

Request approval to amend a Memorandum of Understanding - Department of Senior Services with Quality Living Services, Inc., for the provision of financial support in the amount of \$150,000.00 to provide Life Enrichment, Computer Classes and Congregate Dining services for the senior population of Fulton County within the County owned facility located at 4001 Danforth Street, Atlanta, GA by Quality Living Services, Inc., as the Lessee of the building. Effective January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Justice and Safety

26-0207 Emergency Management

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the adoption of the 2026 Countywide Disaster Debris Management Plan. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

SECOND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

26-0208 Board of Commissioners

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, to adopt the Second Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by removing items #26-0215 as requested by the County Manager, #26-0120 as requested by Commissioner Thorne; and amending item #26-0222 as requested by Commissioner Barrett. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

26-0209 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Second Regular Meeting Minutes, March 18, 2026
Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, March 27, 2026
First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 1, 2026

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

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

26-0210 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing “National Library Week and Fulton County Library Appreciation Week.” **(Pitts/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing “National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.” **(Barrett/BOC)**

PUBLIC HEARINGS**26-0211 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 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)**

13 Speakers: Councilwoman Helen Willis (Summer Youth Program); Cristy Lane (Private Prisons); Regina Brewer (Private Prisons); Mike Russell (Elections); LA Pink (Political Integrity); Margie McCleod (Private Prisons); Saif Hasan (Atlanta City Detention Center); Maggie Goldman (County Jail Staffing); John Ahmann (#26-0222); Reshard Snellings (Open Records Request); Devin Franklin (Opposed #26-0214); Jayson Toweh (AI Surveillance Cameras), Mo Ivory (#26-0214/Elections)

1 Zoom Speaker: Robby Caban (Lifeline/Animal Services)

26-0212 Police

Alcoholic Beverages Licenses-Request public hearing and approval for license application (New Licensee/Ownership) Citgo Happy Store, for the retail sale of Wine and Malt Beverages at 4060 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Atlanta 30336. **(CONDUCTED/APPROVED)**

PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED

1 SPEAKER ON ZOOM: Robby Caban (OPPOSED)

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

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis, and Arrington

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD**Housing Authority of Fulton County****26-0213 Board of Commissioners**

Presentation: Housing Authority of Fulton County Update **(PRESENTED)**

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****26-0214 Finance**

Presentation and approval of a Resolution authorizing the financing of the Fulton County Jail Improvement project, including execution, delivery and performance of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the South Fulton Municipal Regional Jail Authority relating to the Issuer's Jail Facilities Improvement Revenue Bonds (Fulton County Jail Improvement Project), which may be issued in one or more series or subseries, at one time or from time to time in the maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,363,000,000.00 to finance all or a portion of the planning, design, acquisition, construction, equipping and completion of various renovations, additions and improvements to the Fulton County jail in one or more phases, and to pay costs of issuance of the bonds; ratifying, approving and authorizing, as the case may be, the preparation, use, execution, delivery and performance of a preliminary and final official statement(s), a continuing disclosure agreement and such other documents and certifications related to the bonds: and for other purposes. **(PRESENTED/APPROVED)**

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

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

26-0215 Registration & Elections

Request approval of a statewide contract - Registration & Elections, #47800-SOS0000037, Master Solution Purchase and Services Agreement in the amount of \$163,575.00 with Liberty Vote USA, Inc (formerly Dominion Voting System Incorporated) (Denver CO) to purchase four (4) Central Scanning Absentee / Vote By Mail Hardware (ICC G2140 Kits) and three (3) Image Cast Central Scanner - DR-G2140 with annual Image Cast Central Annual Firmware License and Image Cast Central Annual Hardware Warranty. Effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2026. **(REMOVED)**

26-0216 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to increase spending authority - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Omnia Partners Contract #240078, Maintenance, Repair, and Operations (MRO) Supplies, Parts, Equipment, and Materials in the amount of \$30,000.00 with W.W. Grainger, Inc. (Norcross, GA), to allow the purchase of mission critical parts including pumps, valves, hydraulic and pneumatic cylinders and drives, hand tools, power tools, equipment and related items in support of DREAM Building Construction and Facilities Maintenance Divisions and other County-wide departments for timely response to applicable maintenance service requests. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Health and Human Services**26-0217 Public Works**

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Public Works Department, FAA Contract #693KA7-25-C-00003, Air Traffic Control Services - Night Coverage for the Fulton County Executive Airport at Brown Field with CI2 Aviation, Inc. (Dunwoody, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$323,584.00 to provide annual air traffic control night coverage services at the Fulton County Executive Airport. This action exercises the first of six renewal options. Five renewal options remain. Effective from April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

26-0218 Public Works

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing - Department of Public Works, Sourcewell Contract 032824-DAI, Class 4-8 Chassis and Cabs with Related Equipment, Accessories and Services, for the purchase of M2 106 Plus Conventional Chassis-5 Yard Dump Truck in the amount not to exceed \$131,927.00 with Peach State Trucking Center (Norcross, GA), authorized dealer for Daimler Trucks North America to transport materials, dump gravel and debris. This is a one-time procurement. **(APPROVED)**

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, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

26-0219 Public Works

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing - Department of Public Works, Sourcewell Contract # 032824-DAI, Class 4-8 Chassis and Cabs with Related Equipment, Accessories and Services, for the purchase of 114SD Plus Conventional Chassis-10 Yard Dump Truck in the amount not to exceed \$174,750.00 with Peach State Trucking Center (Norcross, GA), authorized dealer for Daimler Trucks North America to assist with water main repairs. This is a one-time procurement. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**26-0120 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution to promote Public Education regarding how to obtain voter identification; and for other purposes. **(Thorne) (HELD ON 3/4/26 AND 3/18/26) (FAILED ON 4/1/26) (REMOVED)**

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER THORNE

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)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. **(NO VOTE TAKEN)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

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)

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve. **(NO VOTE TAKEN)**

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

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

Nay: Barrett, and Arrington

26-0222 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 North & Oliver Apartments, a 120-unit affordable multifamily development, and for other purposes. **(Barrett/Abdur-Rahman/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

26-0223 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution amending Personnel Procedure 205-16 regarding paid parental leave to provide up to twelve (12) workweeks of paid parental leave to eligible employees; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Chairman Pitts, to approve as amended with friendly amendments from Commissioner Barrett to extend the 12-week benefit to employees who have applied for, as well as those currently receiving, the 8-week parental leave; and a friendly amendment from Commissioner Ellis requiring employees granted parental leave to remain employed with the County for a minimum of 12 weeks following the conclusion of their leave. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Open & Responsible Government

26-0224 External Affairs

Presentation: 2027 Legislative Update. **(PRESENTED)**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

26-0225 Board of Commissioners

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

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to enter into Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, to approve the requests for representation in items #4, #5, and #6 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 Thorne, to approve the request for settlement authority in item #7 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 reappointment of hearing officers, for procurement appeals, Karen Mills of Mills Law and Eugene Fuller of the Fuller Law Firm to two year terms. 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 2:50 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'

SECOND REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 15, 2026

10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC

“A Court Reporting Firm”

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Second Regular Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is April 15, 2026; it is 10:00 o'clock a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll for purposes of a quorum."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "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 Khadijah Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Please rise for the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda: **26-0195**, 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 Second Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any corrections or additions, Commissioners?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I have a motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 5, Second Regular Meeting Agenda, **26-0208** - Adoption of the Second Regular Meeting Agenda: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have two amendments to today's agenda. First, on page 6 -- bottom of page 6, we're removing item 26-0215, Registration Elections: Request approval of a statewide contract for Master Solution Purchase and Services Agreement. The department has requested to remove that item. Item to be revised on page 8, 22-0222: Request approval of a Resolution to support Affordable Housing in the English Avenue Neighborhood. This item was revised to include Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman as a cosponsor, and that's all I have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other items, Commissioners, to be heard? Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yeah, Chairman, under Commissioner Items, item 26-0220 and 26-0221, if we can combine those, because they are budget impacting, if we can combine those as one item. That's what I'm asking for my colleagues to do."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. And I want remove my item, 26-0120."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Which one?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "26-0120 at the top of page 8."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I would just ask that 0220 and 0221 not be combined. I mean, they're separate items. And the 500,000 the County Manager's office was supposed to be coming back and letting us know whether we can use the Settlement Funds to finance, so that wouldn't come out of the budget; that would come out of the Settlement Funds that we've received, like that item from last week's -- last meeting's agenda."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. So there's disagreement on combining what; two?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "0220 and 0221."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "They are right next to each other, and so I think in all fairness to Commissioner Arrington, if we combine both and have the conversation at one time instead of being redundant and coming right back, I think it would serve not only him, but the entire Board, since they're right next to each other, to combine them, have the conversation, whatever conversation we need to have, and have the County Manager weigh in. This is not to take it away from -- Commissioner Arrington, this is not to take it away from him, it's just to combine them."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No, I understand. But I want to see the votes -- I want to see everybody's votes on each one of them."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "You will, it'll just be combined. We'll vote at one time as opposed to voting right after each other. But I mean, that's just my -- that's my plea in the interest of being efficient with our time here in dealing with issues. So if it's the will of the Board, if you all want to combine, fine, if you don't combine. I'm not -- it's not a hill I'm going to down. I just ask for it, for expediency in being able to serve the taxpaying citizens of Fulton County most efficiently this morning."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I don't have anything else to say. She said what she said and I said what I said, and so. There's no consensus."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's move forward then. That's it. I'll entertain a motion to adopt as amended. Motion to do so by Commissioner Barrett; seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0209**: Ratification of minutes, Second Regular Meeting Minutes, March 18th, Special Call Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, March 27th. First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 1st, 2026."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "26-0210, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first proclamation is recognizing 'National Library Week and Fulton County Library Appreciation Week' sponsored by Chairman Pitts, Full Board support."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Do we have all of our library staff down here? Our libraries are one of our greatest assets here in Fulton County that span the entire -- the entire county and bring people together of all ages, and it is just a fabulous place that you can just kind of lose yourself in. So it gives me great honor to read this proclamation: WHEREAS, Fulton County libraries and library staff speaks creativity, fuel imagination, and inspire lifelong learning offering a space where individuals of all ages can find joy through exploration and discovery; and WHEREAS, libraries serve as vibrant community hubs connecting people with knowledge, technology, and resources while fostering civic engagement, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment; and WHEREAS, libraries provide free and equitable access to books, digital tools, and innovative programming ensuring that all individuals regardless of background have the support that they need to learn, connect, and thrive; and WHEREAS, libraries partner with schools, businesses, and organizations to maximize resources, increase efficiency, and expand access to essential services, strengthening the entire community; and WHEREAS, libraries empower jobseekers, entrepreneurs, and lifelong learners by providing access to resources, training, and opportunities that support career growth and economic success; and WHEREAS, libraries nurture young minds through story times, steam programs, and literacy initiatives fostering curiosity and a love of learning that last a lifetime; and WHEREAS, dedicated librarians and library workers provide welcoming spaces that inspire discovery, collaboration, and creativity for all and are joining together to celebrate FULCO Library Employees and National Library Week. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County recognizes the 2026 National Library Week celebration and the theme, 'Find Your Joy' and celebrate the work of library employees across Fulton County; and does hereby proclaim April 19th through 26th, 2026 as 'National Library Week and Fulton County Library Appreciation Week in Fulton County, Georgia. Let's give them a hand. And here's our esteemed director."

GAYLE HOLLOMAN, DIRECTOR, FC LIBRARY, RECIPIENT: "Thank you so much. Good morning, everyone. We are so glad to be here and we're so honored for this proclamation. It takes a lot of people, a lot of work, and a lot of time to make this happen, but it also take a committed group of Commissioners who have supported this library system all the way, all the time. We're so grateful for their support, we're so grateful for all of those patrons that we have that come into our libraries every day; continue to do so and continue to talk it up; tell people about it. We are excited about the library still. It still matters, it's not just all about computers; is still matters, and it takes a wonderful group of staff members to do the things that we do and we're reaching beyond all the time. So please know that the tax dollars that are paid by our constituents here in this county really make a difference when it comes to our libraries. Thank you so much. I can't thank you enough for this. We're kind of quiet, we don't seek the limelight, but we do like it."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week' sponsored by Commissioner Barrett with Full Board support."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Let's get all of our awesome 911 folks to come down and join us that are here and not manning the phones, obviously. I will say these guys that do this work, these are our heroes. They really make a difference in people's lives, and they deserve all of the attention and accolades because they're often behind-the-scenes and people don't see them, so thank you guys so much for all the work that you do; very proud to have you all here and proud to deliver this proclamation today. All right. Good morning. Good morning. All right. I'm going to go ahead -- we'll give everybody another minute. They're still coming. Okay. I love it. This is a great team. Thank you, guys, again so much for all the work that you do. I'm very proud to bring this proclamation today and it reads: WHEREAS, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week held every April celebrates the 911 dispatchers and telecommunicators who provide essential lifesaving support during emergencies; and WHEREAS, public safety telecommunicators from Fulton County's Department of Emergency Services are the very first responders to residents in distress, connecting them to paramedics, police, and fire department; and WHEREAS, Fulton County's public safety telecommunicators provide essential information to police and firefighters so that they can respond safely and appropriately; and WHEREAS, Fulton County's 911 emergency communication center covers five cities throughout the county and fields more than 500,000 calls each year; and WHEREAS, Fulton County's public safety telecommunicators remained calm knowing high-stress situations and demonstrate compassion, understanding, and professionalism in the performance of their jobs every day. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commends Fulton County's Public Safety Telecommunicators for their diligence and dedication in keeping our communities safe; and does hereby proclaim the week of April 12th through 18th, 2026 as 'National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week' in Fulton County, Georgia."

CHRIS SWEIGART, DIRECTOR, FC 911, RECIPIENT: "Good morning. First off, I want to thank the Commissioners and the executive leadership team that support us. Without that support, we don't really have a backbone, and that is really important to us that we have the support of the leadership. This is a week where we support all the telecommunicators, and it's nationwide. It's a nationwide support system. So basically, what we do is we take the calls for service and we make sure that the emergency services are delivered quickly and efficiently; and without our folks, that doesn't happen. So what we always like to say is we are the first, first responders. We answer the call first, and we get the emergencies out that need to get out quickly and adequately. So again, thank you very much. We appreciate everybody's support, especially with my team, and you've got a heck of a team here in Fulton, I tell you that right now. You have a great, great staff that's in that 911 center, and I'm very, very proud of everybody that comes to work every day. So again, thank you very much, and just like the libraries, we don't seek the limelight either, but we are very important department here in the county and again, thank you very much. We appreciate it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 5, Public Hearings, **26-0211**, 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'll start with speakers here in Assembly Hall. We have received 13 speaker cards. Will the first six speakers, please come forward: Councilwoman Helen Willis, Cristy Lenz [Phonetic.], Regina Brewer, Mike Russell, LA Pink, and Margie McCleod."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. First speaker. Speakers, when you have 15 seconds remaining, I'll say 15 seconds, that'll be your clue to begin to terminate your remarks."

COUNCILWOMAN HELEN WILLIS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts, the entire Commission Board, thank you for all that you do. I'm going to be very brief. I typically don't come down here for a lot, but this topic is near and dear to my heart. Over the course of a month, you've seen several teens get in trouble due to violent crimes. Over the past eight years, I partnered with Fulton County and Commissioner Marvin Arrington on the youth teen job fair. We usually host a teen job fair before kids get out of school to help them get jobs, to keep them out of trouble over the summer. This previous weekend, we had 900 teens to register. They showed up dressed to impress with resumes in hand -- they want to work. What was sad about it is that we only had about 15 employers. And so, I'm here to speak in support of the measure that Commissioner Arrington has for you all to fund \$500,000 for youth teen job employment. It hasn't been funded since 2024, and the biggest way to divert crime, violent crime among teens, is to invest in our future. I can assure you these kids want to work. They want to make an honest way of living, and we all -- when I say we all, it takes a village; the entire county. We're going to have to find a way to fill in the gaps. These teens are between 16 and 18. They don't want to be a part of summer camps, you know --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

COUNCILWOMAN HELEN WILLIS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- so I ask that you find a way to fund the budget with the \$500,000 to help employers employ our teens. Thank you. And thank you for all the work that you do."

CRISTY LANE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. I'm way shorter than this. I'm here today because I heard a rumor. I heard that County Manager, Dick Anderson, CFO Sharon

Winemore [Phonetic.], and the County Director of Justice Systems Programs has been meeting with private prisons, CoreCivic, LaSalle, and GEO Group in an effort to strike a deal to alleviate the overcrowding in Fulton County prisons that is worth multimillion dollars. I am appalled. Fulton County residents and inmates deserve better. I believe the closest private prison being considered is over three hours away in Irwin, Georgia. This is also the facility where Senator John Ossoff found over 1,000 credible reports of abuse of pregnant women and children in immigration detention, and shocking reports of medical neglect and denial of adequate food and water for ICE detainees. Our inmates and their families deserve better. The other facility is owned by CoreCivic, infamous for abuse of immigrants at Dilley Detention Center. The other is owned by – wait -- there are multiple reports of overcrowding, inedible and rotten food, and lack of medical care and bathroom access. In a lawsuit filed against the GEO Group, one former inmate, Javon Gordon, alleges, "he was slammed face first into concrete, kneed while handcuffed, and placed in solitary confinement after protesting guards for trashing his belongings including a Bible". The lawsuit claims video of the beating was later shown to new staff as an example of how detainees could, 'be taught a lesson'."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

CRISTY LANE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "We're all too familiar with the hordes coming out of private prisons and ICE facilities around the country. Fulton County inmates already face horrible conditions, sending them somewhere worse is not the answer to Fulton County's overcrowding. Thank you."

REGINA BREWER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Regina Brewer, and I've been a Fulton County resident for 30 years. My interest, and I'm building on Ms. Lenz's words - my interest in the prison is long-term. I'm familiar and friends with many of the people who have served on the Blue Ribbon Task Force many years ago, which came up with a great plan on how to reuse the prison in a way that was effective, efficient, cost-effective, and would meaningfully change how prisoners are processed; and I introduced those people to then mayoral candidate, Andre Dickens, to see if we can get anywhere, and also to Amir Farooqi, and, you know, of course, we got nowhere because people keep kicking this can, and I know you guys talk about it all the time. The can being kicked to private prisons is outrageous. They are compared rightfully so to gulags. There have been many reports, Frontline, CNN, 60 Minutes on how terrible these prisons are. President Obama wanted to ban them from getting contracts. That's how bad they are. So what do they do in exchange? One of the companies that you are interviewing, GEO Group, contributed \$1 billion to President Trump's campaign because he didn't want to see anything be banded. Well, of course, he's got the most amount of federal contracts through DHS. Now that's a play-for-pay astonishing detail. The reasons why these private prisons are doing well now is because of the efforts to get rid of immigrants, to process them quickly, and to jam them into these facilities. One of the companies has an 18-percent profit as of November '25. Aren't we all happy about that? There are so many other solutions, and there needs to be transparency in this process. We need to bring back committee meetings and task force meetings --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

REGINA BREWER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- so that this can be discussed transparently and with the best minds out there, and a lot of those best minds are people you know and deal with every day and they're very anxious to help solve this problem. Thank you."

MIKE RUSSELL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Mike Russell, and I'm in District Six. And I'm here this morning to admit to everyone gathered in the county watching that I have a very big mistake -- a very big mistake, and that mistake was voting for Mo Ivory. Not only did I vote for Mo Ivory, I campaigned for Mo Ivory. I took seniors to the polls to vote for Mo Ivory. I stood out in the weather with signs to get her elected. She came by my house and dropped off yard signs for me to put around the city. And after that election was over, crickets. She didn't return my phone calls, she didn't return my messages, and the first time she spoken to me since the election was this morning because she had to walk past me going up the steps. She's been in North Fulton talking about how she was helping the homeless. The only thing she did was pass out flyers, give a speech and leave, and then post on social media what a great job she did. And thank goodness, other citizens are realizing that mistake. This past week or so at the Full Four Fest, she was down there with the Mayor, and Marvin Arrington and others tried to turn it into a political campaign, and the people of Atlanta have called them out as being as phony as a three-dollar bill. And the whole emphasis behind them doing this and the fact that they've recruited Natalie Hall to come back and sit in that chair, is so they can get their hands on \$10 billion of TAD money. Right now, this morning, they're having a meeting. You've got Courtney English and the chief of staff out talking about the tale of two cities and the Northstar. We've heard that song and dance routine before. Their whole emphasis is to get rid of Chairman Pitts so that they can get their hands on that money."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MIKE RUSSELL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I urge you, and I don't agree with everything he says and does, but he has never voted to raise the taxes on our seniors on their homes, and he's protected our people and our tax dollars. Join me in supporting and voting for Chairman Pitts."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "And as we continue to see, corruption continues to build. Big shout outs to the FBI and whatever judge that agreed to give the 2020 ballots back in their hands. As we can continue to see that there's corruption, corruption, corruption, it has not eased up. That shows through Tiffany, I know that that has been just the whole grandstand, that's been the spotlight; but trust me, them 2020 ballots is about to bring down some houses. Okay? That's going on off up in here. We had the Incredible Hulk dressed in the yellow-green or whatever she wanted be wearing, coming down here and talking about the children when she done took \$5,000 out of the inmate welfare funding. Her husband took a thousand to pay for his college that could have paid for children. While we're talking about kids, while you're so worried about coming down here grandstanding, trying to get a position, she trying to run for Marvin Arrington's seat. How dare she come down here acting like she's concerned about

Fulton County all of a sudden, all of the money they done swindled and involved and took from the people. Are you serious? See, this is a game. There was an officer that sat on a panel yesterday, or on a podcast, and talked about the chess playing games that they playing down here to try to get seats to try to get votes, to try to make sure that the Sheriff get money. The DA get money. You see, this is a click, but we here to bring down the house, baby. I keep telling y'all we coming. And we're coming for them jobs, we ain't coming for you, we're coming for them jobs you got, because that belongs to the citizens. So while we continue to play games, just continue to watch our smoke. Dana, you out of here too, baby. I know you've been up in the ass, but baby, trust me, we're coming for yours."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MARGIE MCCLEOD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. This is my grandmother pocketbook. And Robb Pitts, honorable, Robb Pitts, the Chairman. I'm back here again. Here we go again. You want to transfer the inmate -- cops, we did it. Last time -- trying to send them out in to -- I mean, Mississippi. I'm against the private jails, and you're not going to sell our children -- inmates, for \$500 million? You know, nobody don't keep nothing secret here in Atlanta. You all are talking about it, you're thinking about it, to transfer these inmates to private jails. Y'all know what the private jail does. I'm against it, and people are against it, so while you thinking about this, you better change your mind, because this is what I'm looking at. This is my grandmother's pocketbook. The ancestors are not pleased with you, Robb Pitts. You know, you've been here ever since 1977. You know about politics, so don't think that you don't know what you are not doing. Money is not everything because I will -- if you do this, just what she saying about the private jails and Trump is tied with, why do you want to deal with Trump in the first place when he didn't even want you to go up to Washington DC? He shut you out. Money is not everything. You are not going sell our children. Grand moms, they have to visit. When you do this visit, we've got solution here, but you don't want to choose that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MARGIE MCCLEOD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: -- \$500 million, that's what you're going to make? You selling out children? No, not to no private jail, because we got a solution here. But what I'm going to do, I will make sure -- if you do this or thinking about doing this, I will have every grandmother outside --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, ma'am. Next speaker."

CLERK GRIER: "Last speakers in Assembly Hall, please come forward: Saif Hasan, Maggie Goldman, John Ahmann, Reshard Snellings, Devin Franklin, Jason Toweh, and Mo Ivory."

SAIF HANAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name Saif Hasan and I'm an 18-year-old student at Georgia State. The Atlanta City Detention Center is just a 15-minute walk from my freshman dorm. Since its founding in 1995, its impact most felt by

those who are already vulnerable, poor Atlantans and immigrant communities. As a community, I think we all can agree that we deserve systems that reflect our values, equity, safety, and dignity in a time that Fulton County's leased beds at the AC/DC, the reported treatment and conditions at this facility, have raised real questions about whether we're putting those values in practice. No one deserves to face violence or pest infestations and pest infections like what's happening at the AC/DC. As a student living in Atlanta, I'm deeply concerned about how these patterns, especially overcrowding, may only get worse with the increase presence and violence of ICE. For me and my friends, we feel like ICE is out of control. These last few weeks, even at our airport doing nothing but starting fear, that we or our families will be the next headline. Just last week, I saw another American in a gross overuse of force that the DHS called well within their training protocols. In a moment where ICE is willing to throw away the constitution and use lethal force and impunity, Fulton County residents like me are relying on your leadership to protect all those fundamental rights. These are people who like many before them, may have been wrongfully arrested and detained. And no matter what, they're people who have every right to receive an option that's dignified with adequate healthcare, and place to breathe that isn't overcrowded. With Fulton County's lease of AC/DC beds, and then given the conditions at Rice Street were determine to be unconstitutionally inhumane, violent and hazardous. I know there are importance decisions ahead about how we manage people detained in these facilities. I'm worried about the possibility of contracting with private prison companies, the same ones that contracted with ICE to detain Georgians in Irwin County --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

SAIF HANAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- where men and women were forcibly sterilized. I urge you to think about the messages this sends to everyone in Fulton County. We have the opportunity to do right by people who need it the most, who are relying on the choices this Body makes to protect its well-being. Young Georgians want to trust this Commission and right now we can't. I hope this changes. Thank you."

MAGGIE GOLDMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Maggie Goldman, District One. So I checked last night just to make sure on the website for the jobs, I have the detention officer job description right here, and it's still listed at \$54,000 annually, and the detention plan from the Sheriff has recommended at least 60, so that you can actually staff the jail that needs about twice as many people, probably another two to 300 people than it has now. Here is the deputy sheriff job description listed at \$60,000 annually, and the Sheriff's retention plan has recommended at least \$66,000. I have been told that you guys have had Resolutions specifically addressing correcting these job descriptions or job salaries that you have not passed. And so, the lack of following the guidance of what is actually going to hire people to staff the jail, means that you are morally personally responsible for the civil rights being taken away from the people at our jail. This is not something that happened overnight; this is at least -- I don't even know. These job descriptions have never probably been this high. This is at least ten or 20 years in the making, you guys have not properly tried to -- this isn't like you're missing two or three people, we're talking about two or 300 people. Here's the consent decree, many of these things sound like things that the sheriff should be responsible for

doing, but he can't do them without staff, and you can't hire staff without salaries that are going to attract the right people. Conduct regular timely and adequate security checks by having staff enter every zone, ensure every person's safety, and detect safety and security threats --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MAGGIE GOLDMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- ensure security checks are accurately recorded. How is the sheriff supposed to adhere to this if you don't put in place the things that are going to hire the staff that he needs in order to do it?"

JOHN AHMANN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. Thank you. I'm John Ahmann. I'm president and CEO of the Westside Future Fund. I live in Vine City neighborhoods where the Westside Future Fund has done its work. I am here in support of Item 26-0222. North and Oliver is a 120 unit affordable housing development in English Avenue, 100 percent affordable, guaranteed for 30 years, 96 percent of the units at 60 percent average median income, 25 carry (inaudible) vouchers where present pay more than 30 percent of their income. This project displaces no one. It replaces blight with opportunity; (inaudible) required this blighted property with family living in unacceptable conditions. We've relocated residents into safe housing, complete demolition and remediation and earned the unanimous support of MPUL. Four years from that blight, we're at a breakthrough today. With the Fulton County's Commission, \$1 million support of the Westside TAD investment we're at least 48 million of 47 to one return. It's necessary for this project to qualify for nearly 28 million in state and federal tax credits. A yes vote unlocks all of that. Construction will begin later this year. This is consistent with how WFF works, 6.2 million TAD funds has helped generate over a hundred million in total investment in English Avenue and Vine City. Every dollar of public investments in neighborhoods, we match many times over in philanthropy and our impact fund and in protecting legacy homeowners from displacement through property values (inaudible) tax fund. Chairman Pitts, you and I chair these neighborhoods with Pastor Reverend Alexander. We actually stopped at this particular site; we've actually talked about it. So thank you, I spoke with the pastor last night. He couldn't be here this morning, but he wanted me to convey his support for this Resolution. Thank you."

DEVIN FRANKLIN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Devin Franklin; I'm the senior (inaudible) policy counsel at the Southern Center for Human Rights. I did not originally intend on speaking to this, this morning, but I would like to add not only my voice, but the voice of the Communities over Cages Coalition to the chorus of advocates who have spoken against the pursuit of this private prison situation that is going on in Irwin County. We have seen the harm that can be caused by the privatization of crossroad structures here in Fulton County. I need only to remind you all of what I believe to still be the pending litigation between the sheriff and Talitrix who was allowed inside the jail for reasons that are still yet to be known. However, getting to the reasons for why I originally came here to speak today, you all this morning should have received an email from me notifying you of the Fulton County Sheriff being in violation of the Georgia Open Records Act by refusing to timely respond to our very

straightforward and simple request for a copy of the standard operating procedures governing the payment of bond. Their open records request was submitted based on very credible information that we received that despite an injunction on the cap imposed by SB63 that the Sheriff is unlawfully imposing a cap of three persons to be bonded out by anyone that attends the jail and attempts to do so. We spoke to this a few weeks ago as well. I'm also here today to note that there -- our opposition to Resolution 26-0214, which as I understand it, is a nonbinding Resolution authorizing an intergovernmental agreement for financing of a \$1.3 billion jail. While the argument is that that proposed 1,300 bed facility has been touted as a mental health jail, we vehemently deny. We reject the notion that a mental health jail is a real thing in any form or fashion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

DEVIN FRANKLIN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Much in the same way, I must remind you that the sheriff has refused to comply with the Open Records Act of the state of Georgia. Once that facility is built, you will have no authority or ability to ensure that he uses it as a mental health facility. So again, I caution you against such --"

RESHARD SNELLINGS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "All right. My name is Reshard Snellings. On page of 2, 6, and 8 of the agenda, it says Open and Responsible Government. That is clever and all, but it makes me think about how I recently heard a sitting Commissioner campaign on the Georgia Open Records Act. I found this interesting, because an open records request on March 17th, 2026. The county had three days to provide an initial response. I received no response until I followed up on March 27, 2026, 10 days later. That response said I would get the records on April 13th, 2026. Well, guess what? I received no records, but yesterday I received another email telling me I had to wait an additional ten days until April 28th, which will be over a month since I submitted the initial request. The Open Records Act has no provision to allow for delays due to the volume of requests. The timeframe allowed is for records retrieval, not to figure out ways to delay the records until after early voting has already begun so that the sheriff can protect his commission cabinet for what I asked for. LA Pink comes down here all the time and talks about corruption. This is a prime example of what she's talking about. My request was quite simple; please provide the approval documentation for the \$5,000 that was paid to the city of South Fulton in response to the District Three Thanksgiving giveaway that occurred on December 3rd, 2021. These funds that came out -- these were funds that came out of the prison inmate fund. If I got to be the open records police, so be it. But once the request is submitted, Fulton County has a legal obligation to comply with the Open Records Act. Fulton County just lost a lawsuit over this. Now classic beats, if you are listening, this is definitely a story that needs to be discussed. As I close, I just want to be very clear. If you think I will not enforce this law, I suggest that you speak to the city of South Fulton, open and responsible government right?"

JASON TOWEH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Oh, okay. Good afternoon -- or good morning, Commissioners. My name is Jason Toweh, and I'm one of the candidates running for District Seven for congress that just starts right in North Fulton. I want to start today

thanking everyone here that came for national public safety telecommunications week. Our 911 operators are some of the backbones of our public safety systems, and I appreciate the work and services that they have been doing to keep us safe and supporting them as we honor them this week. I also want to draw some attention to work owned, basically the state plan on aging. I participated in a conversation yesterday on this, and about how seniors overall -- how we give credit to their health, I'll really work to benefit them in the future, and I recommend anyone to continue that conversation, especially as they go across the state. Now it draws me to what I -- what I really want to bring up. Across Metro Atlanta, including here in Fulton County, we've seen growing concerns of AI powered surveillance systems including Flock cameras. Student staff and community members last week protested at Emory University against the surveillance on their campus, and I've seen the same concern also in Cobb County and here in Sandy Springs where we saw an officer misuse the data for personal gains. This weekend in Atlanta there's the take back tech conference that's really pushing against that. These types of systems have real impacts on, not only on vulnerable communities, including seniors, immigrant groups, people of color, and those already overly surveyed. And they're in need of support and they --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JASON TOWEH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- you need to have accountability and not compromised civil liberties. I just want to invite those that I'm hosting a Town Hall tonight in Sandy Springs. You can see that on my website, towehforCongress.com/events. Thank you all."

MO IVORY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts and Members of the Board. My name is Mo Ivory. I'm the former District Four Commissioner. It's appalling to hear that you've been meeting with companies like LaSalle, Gekorsavik and Geo, Trump backed private prisons that have ICE detention facilities, and your idea of transferring Fulton County inmates to those facilities is abhorrent. I want to start with the item on today's agenda, approving special elections for the city of Fairburn and the city of South Fulton. I appreciate seeing how quickly the county moved to ensure people have access to the ballot and representation. I simply wish we moved with that same level of urgency for District Four, also in Fulton County. The residents there deserve that same quick action and attention when it comes to representation and access to the ballot. On the jail item that has been discussed, let's stop dressing this up with soft language. You can call it a special-purpose facility, you can call it a mental health facility, but at the end of the day, this is a jail. And we are talking about spending over a billion dollars on it. That is about choice and about your priorities. If we are truly serious about mental health, then we should be investing in community-based services before people ever entered the system, as well as funding our court system to address the backlog that is a large cause of our jail population. You're spending over a billion dollars on a jail and calling it something else after-the-fact to cause confusion with constituents. It is a jail, it is a new jail, it is not a special purpose facility. So let's be truthful, honest, and educate constituents on what the County Commission is actually doing. Transparency is what is called for right now, whether it is that you are talking to

private prison ICE detention centers, or talking about the jail at Rice Street. Let's tell our constituents exactly --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MO IVORY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- what we are doing so they will know how to respond to public information. Thank you and I look forward to earning everybody's vote for Chair of the Fulton County Commission."

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, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, I'm here regarding -- good morning, I'm here regarding the uncorrected animal control contract and the broader issue of private contracts in this county. We just heard discussion about private prison contracts as well as housing NGOs, Westside Future Fund. Let's be clear, beds equal money. Inmates equal money. Apartments equal money. Animals equal money. When these systems are handed to private entities, even nonprofits, accountability becomes harder to see and easier to avoid. These are revenue models. These are not accountability models. These are taxpayer-funded systems, yet they're managed through private contracts where transparency is limited, oversight is diluted, and liability falls back on the county and the taxpayers like me. For over ten years under your oversight, Fulton County funded a private contractor NGO, Lifeline Animal Project to manage animal control, shelter, and enforcement. Now, we have public admission from the Fulton County Police, since deleted, that animal cruelty enforcement was not properly handled, so I ask, where is the forensic audit? Where is the independent investigation? You cannot move forward without addressing what already happened, because liability does not disappear. It stays with taxpayers. Animals are more than photo opportunities, so I have to ask, where is this Board holding contractual events, why, with a private contractor, Lifeline Animal Project, while allowing access to taxpayer-funded data and resources, yet failing to conduct a forensic audit of over a decade of taxpayer-funded services unrendered, because what has already been revealed is serious. Lack of oversight, dereliction of duty, failure to enforce, and that responsibility falls back on this Board --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

ROBBY CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- which is supposed to protect the interest of Fulton County residents. This is not oversight, its avoidance. I'll leave you with this. What kind of Board fails to protect homeless animals when taxpayers are funding the system meant to protect them? And the NGO, Westside Future Fund, who owns the land?"

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Cassandra Littlejohn. Cassandra Littlejohn."

CASSANDRA LITTLEJOHN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My apologies. I'm here as an observer."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Gladys Adeniyi-Jones. Gladys Adeniyi-Jones. Next person to speak is Jenn Simmons. Jenn Simmons. Next person to speak is Randy Hubbell. Randy Hubbell. With that said, that concludes the Zoom public comments."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, **26-0212**, Police, Alcoholic beverage license: Request public hearing and approval for license application for Citgo Happy Store, for the retail sale of wine and malt beverages at 4060 Martin Luther King Drive Boulevard, Atlanta 30336."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. It's public hearing? Madam Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Public hearing? All right. Anyone from the public here to speak on this matter? Anyone from the public here to speak on this matter?"

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll close the public hearing."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "There is one on Zoom."

CLERK GRIER: "It's one on Zoom."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What? One on Zoom. All right."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The person to speak is Robby Caban."

ROBBY CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "What's the timeline allowed for public comment on this matter, per individual? I don't know if I -- well, I live in this area. I don't know if I have two minutes or not. If someone could advise, that would be helpful. And frankly, there's liquor stores everywhere, and I've lived here for over a decade and watched the horrific gentrification happen with all these fakes NGOs, Westside Future Fund. You're pouring our tax money into these apartments that would yield no wealth creation. Another liquor store, another malt beverage, another wine, really? And what? You want

to give money to businesses for people who have divested in for generations? Please. Another liquor store? Stop it. Stop it. Just stop it."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "And this concludes our Zoom public comment.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other comments on this matter on the liquor store -- the license, rather."

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: "(No response.)"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there motion -- I'll entertain a motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett; seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Presentations to the Board, **26-0213**, Housing Authority of Fulton County update."

FELICIA MOORE, CHAIRWOMAN, FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "Good morning, Board of Commissioners, and Chairman Pitts. My name is Felicia Moore. I'm honored to Chair the Housing Authority of Fulton County Board; and I am joined today with Vice Chair Lauren Waits, and our Commissioner Ryan Glover; and on behalf of our other Commissioners, Stephen Davis, Holly York, Sule Carpenter -- I think I get everybody, didn't I. We all, of course, thank you all for putting your trust in us to try to bring the Housing Authority of Fulton County back. We have been there about a year and a half. I would just say it seems like much longer, because it's been a lot of work. We still have one issue -- I'm going to be brief -- but we still have one issue that we've got to resolve together, and that is getting the resident members on the board. The -- HUD requires it, and we try to go through the legislative process at the state, it did not work. But now is a good time for us to strategize and work together to make sure that we get this done, and this year, I think it's very important to have resident representation on the board. The board has been moving forward. You had attentive and very engaged, involved members. We have established committees; we've received training, held work sessions. In the future, we're going to work on developing or updating -- developing in some instances and updating either some of the policies and procedures like our personnel handbook, employee manual, our bylaws, other -- we've done some bylaw changes, but some other operational changes that are needed to move us forward. We will continue our progress that we've made, and you'll hear that from the Executive Director. Of course, we still have mountains to climb and our main goal is to provide -- to stabilize, and I would say that we're stabilizing. Hopefully, we don't find other bones to come up out of the closet. We have stabilized the organization. We're working on those deficiencies, but our main goal is to get that foundation very stable so that we can

continue to provide housing for those who need it in Fulton County. I do want to put out that we are trying to schedule a grand opening for Anthem Three. The Executive Director will talk about that. We want to make sure that you all get invitations once that date is set. We are continuing, not only to do what we do every day, but finding opportunities where we can continue to expand the number of housing units for those who need affordable housing. So with that, I would with great pride turn over this to our executive director, Ms. Verida Hinton, who has done an excellent job of working to get us stabilized. And the final thing I will say, just as a note, that one good thing has come out, is that we have definitely established and even, I think, turned around our relationship with our HUD officials. They are working with us, they are helping us; and so I think you should -- that's good movement, even though we know we had deficiencies, as long as you have that conversation -- and they are also helping in many, many ways. I think we're on the right track. So with that, I give it to Ms. Hinton."

VERIDA HINTON, EXEC. DIR., FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "Thank you so much, Chair Moore. Good morning, Chair Pitts and Commissioners of the Board. Thank you for the opportunity to be here. Again, today and at our last presentation, we'll address the challenges facing the Housing Authority. We highlighted areas needing improvement where resources were stretched and where change was necessary. Today, I'm pleased to come back, not just with updates, but with real meaningful progress. Over the past several months, our team has been focused, energized, and committed to moving the needle. We've taken those concerns seriously and turned them into action, whether that's improving how we respond to residents, strengthening our internal processes, or moving key priorities forward that had previously slowed. I want to be clear, there's still work ahead as Chair Moore stated, but the momentum we're seeing is strong, and the foundation we're building is solid. We're not standing still; we're moving forward with purpose and with a clear sense of direction. I also want to take a moment to recognize and thank our Board of Commissioners. Your guidance, your willingness to ask tough questions, and your continued support have been critical to this progress. It's helped us stay focused, accountable, and in line as we make these improvements. Thank you so much for everything that you do, your time and partnership. So if we can get started with the presentation that will be great. This is the Housing Authority of Fulton County. We're going over our agency's progress and strategic wins. Presentation to the Fulton County Board of Commissioners on April 20, 2026. Next slide, please. It is the 2020 -- I'm sorry. Can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

VERIDA HINTON, EXEC. DIR., FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "I'm sorry. It is the 2024 through 2025 presentational recap. The new Board of Commissioners were appointed July 31, 2024. The new executive director, legal counsel, fee accountant were installed. The staff has been trained to insure consistency and uniformity across operations; we transition, initiated to a new software system. An independent auditing firm was procured, HUD reporting has been brought current, annual inspections have been reinstated; timely payments established for landlords and vendors; Anthem Three development closed and started construction, and we began collecting our outstanding portability payments. Next slide, please. Moving forward: The agency turnaround and

stabilization. Our agency has faced challenges, but we are making measurable progress. We're committed to transparency, compliance, and service excellence. Today's focus: Our wins and forward momentum. Next slide, please. The good news: We've improved HUD compliance and reporting, we've improved our housing choice vouchers, SEMAP score from troubled range to standard range. We've improved operations and services. We are servicing people faster, service times are down 30 percent, and 85 percent of requests are completed on time. Audits actively progressing, one of the four audits is almost complete. We hope to have 75 percent of the audits completed before the end of the year; expansion of affordable housing. By adding 268 new affordable housing units, this will increase our overall portfolio by 25 percent. Significant progress made toward financial recovery, supported by new funding. We have over five million in new funding secured; reducing our agency's overall deficit. Next slide, please. The financial recovery and stability: The breakdown of that five million includes, we've secured 1.9 million plus in HUD since our funds addressing our 2025 HCV funding shortfalls; we've recovered over 700,000 plus an outstanding portability funds; we've closed on two development projects bringing an additional unrestricted funds to the PHA, strengthening our financial position and sustainability of the agency. Next slide, please. Our governance and leadership: Our Board of Commissioners completed comprehensive governance training as stated by Chair Moore. Our Board of Commissioners are actively engaged in strategic planning in the direction of the agency, monitoring our audit progress in financial recovery, ensure accountability at all levels of the organization, long-term sustainability of the agency, policy alignment with HUD expectations, and supporting leadership in executing the agency improvements. Next slide, please. Strengthening our HUD partnership: Our relationship with HUD has significantly improved. There is active collaboration to resolve prior and current issues. No recent grievances correspondence from HUD, continued alignment with federal expectations, maintains compliance with HUD reporting requirements including voucher management system, VMS which is our HCV financial reporting, Section Eight management assessment program, SEMAP, and our annual plan and our five-year action plan. Next slide, please. Our customer service and engagement: We've improved staff collaboration and morale, we've reduced wait times for participants, we've increased participant in landlord satisfaction and engagement. Families now visit the office for recertifications, attend briefings and education sessions. Our focus increased on program rules and policies and access to community resources. Next slide, please. Our operational improvements: Successfully converted to the Yardi system. That is a system that we use for HUD's reporting processing; the benefits, we have faster processing times for our recertifications and our inspections. It has streamlined our workflows. We've improved our data management, which has improved data accuracy and enhanced our reporting and transparency. We've increased our operational efficiencies which allows us to automate most of our notifications, and families have access now to a portal as well as a landlords to get information easily. Next slide, please. Our audit progress is underway. The audits now in progress are for 2022 through 2025. We're focused on bringing all audits current and restoring full compliance. The agency is currently considered trouble performer. The agency may remain designated as a trouble performer until all outstanding audits are complete, as this affects our reporting, compliance, and our financial management of the agency. Next slide, please. Homeownership success: Our homeownership

program has been reinstated. Two families essentially closed on homes in 2026. The last homeownership purchase was in 2012, so this is supporting long-term stability, family self-sufficiency, and generational wealth for our families. Next slide, please. Expanding Affordable Housing: We've partnered with developers to expand affordable and workforce housing, creating 124 units under and up to 80 percent AMI in the North Fulton area. AMI means the area median income, and will create 84 units under and up to 80 percent AMI in South Fulton area. We've completed the Anthem Three development, created 60 new affordable housing units; 27 are HAFCS project base units, and the grand opening will be in May of 2026. Next slide, please. We're committed to progress. We recognize past challenges, we are delivering measurable improvements, we are proud of the progress made. We are committed to maintaining momentum and continuing to raise the standard for how we serve our residents and our community. Next slide, please. And we would like to thank you for your time and opportunity to give you this presentation on today. Does anyone have any questions?

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington followed by Commissioner Thorne. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you to the Housing Authority; to you and the Board, and all the hard work that you guys are putting in. I know it is a thankless job, so we are certainly appreciative and glad that we are working to get full -- in full compliance. My question is about the homeownership success program and how much money is available in that program, and how does the process work?"

VERIDA HINTON, EXEC. DIR., FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "So our homeownership program is to add to our housing choice voucher programs. It's for families that are already on the housing choice voucher program, and they have an opportunity to work with the Housing Authority to convert to homeownership."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They can't hear you."

VERIDA HINTON, EXEC. DIR., FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "Oh, I'm sorry. Can you hear me now?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

VERIDA HINTON, EXEC. DIR., FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "So our home ownership program is tied to our housing choice voucher program, so families that we have that are currently on the housing choice voucher program, they can apply for the homeownership program. If they work with the PHA we can send them through financial classes, financial literacy to learn about homeownership. There are different steps that they have to go through to be homeowner ready, and then they are allowed to participate on the homeownership program. What happens while you're on the homeownership program with the Housing Authority, we continue to pay a portion of your mortgage based on your income as we would when you rent from the private sector. So it's a great program. It's normally 15 years, and I think if you're considered disabled, is you're on it for the duration of the mortgage, so it's a great program."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I had a similar question with the -- thank you for that explanation. That sounds like a great program and congratulations on getting two families through to homeownership. That's a big win, and I just want to congratulate you all on the work that you've done; you guys are amazing and I hope next time you come back you'll be out of that troubled performer, no longer a troubled performer, and I just want to thank you for everything."

VERIDA HINTON, EXEC. DIR., FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "Thank you."

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

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. First and foremost, I want to thank not only Chairwoman Moore, but the entire board and the director. And the reason why, you all inherited a mess and it was a mess straddled with crazy political interference, foolishness, and people that didn't understand and realize it is Fulton County's Housing Authority, not any particular person. Not Chair Moore, not the executive. And what I just want to say openly, Chairman if you will allow me, thank you all for coming in in a Herculean way. I know Chair Moore; you said it's so much more that has to be done. But I look at you all as in dog years, one year is seven years, and that's the kind of work that you all have done. You have done seven years of work in one year because you inherited something that people did not do for whatever reason, and I'm not going to point the blame, but I am going to speak up, because I kept ringing the alarm. And thank God my colleagues understood, when we were faced with HUD getting involved, that we can, one, can't ever do that again, and I don't think we'll ever be in that situation again, but this speaks to foundation. You have to have the correct foundation, so Chair Moore, if you leave or any of the commissioners leave, or the director, we don't want you all to leave; I know I don't. I wish you could serve forever. But the foundation that you all are putting in place is a great foundation, and it will speak to your leadership long before -- long after you have decided not to serve anymore. And so, even though there are things that we need to work on and we know it, you all have become, in my eye sight, superheroes, because you flew in over a disaster and you put in the people, the time, the energy, and the common sense for it to get ran right. You're making sure it has a tight foundation, because ultimately the citizens are going to be the ones that suffer when politics gets involved in something that it shouldn't be. And so thank you for holding tight to the vision of understanding the purpose, for the Fulton County Housing Authority, is to make sure we have housing; housing, not friends with benefits; housing for those that some would perceive to be less of these, but in my eye sight, I believe they are hard-working people, just need a little help. So thank you for the foundational work that you all have done. I sing your praises. I pray that you never leave, but the reality is, just like anything, you got a tour of duty. So thank you for that great foundational work you've done and godspeed."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other questions? All right. Thank you very much. I'll see you next quarter. Thank you."

FELICIA MOORE, CHAIRMAN, FC HOUSING AUTHORITY: "I appreciate it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 6, County Manager's Items under Open and Responsible Government, **26- 0214**, Finance: Presentation and approval of a Resolution authorizing the financing of the Fulton County Jail Improvement Project, in the maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,363,000,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Mr. Manager, do you have any opening comments?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, just briefly. We're proud to be back. At this point presenting after many, many months of work and vetting of options. Taken the Board's direction on terms of the principal design that will be presented, we've looked at -- and I think done a great job working with the sheriff's office on programming. You'll hear that, because that's an important piece of particularly that what has been known, heretofore, as the special purpose building that will occupy 1800 new beds. Financing will be an enormous part of this, which we have also spent time working through those issues, both with the South Fulton Jail Authority and with our own financial planning. So today's purpose is to update you on all of that and then ask for your approval to move forward with the financing, which would then allow us to move into active procurement."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICE: "Okay. Thank you, County Manager. Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. Steve Nawrocki, Strategy Office. I'm joined this morning by our jail program management team, ACR Partners. With me this morning is Megan Kachikowski [Phonetic.], Jackie Hadabass [Phonetic.], and Roger Lichtman. As the County Manager said, today's agenda item is largely in two parts. First, we'll provide a presentation including a recap of the action that was taken back in August of last year for the jail capital improvement program, and then walk through an overview of the progress of that program over the past eight months. Then the second part of this agenda item will be a request of an authorization of an Inducement Resolution to fund the jail capital improvement project in an amount not to exceed \$1.3 billion. If we can go to the next slide. Great. So I'll just do a quick run through today's agenda. Again, we'll do a recap and an overall progress update and dive into the specific details of the program that we've been working on for the past couple of months in partnership with the sheriff's office. Next, we'll move to our plan to finance the program looking at the anticipated debt service over the next ten years. And then finally, we'll wrap with the requested action and our planned next steps. You can go to the next slide. Go to the next, please. So first we have a recap of the BOC meeting back on August 20th. Looking at that from the scoped schedule and budget perspective, you will recall for the scope, we are taking a phased approach with this

program, first starting with the Special-Purpose Facility where we are targeting about 1800 beds in the facility with the key focus on the vulnerable populations within our jail system. This is most notably medical, mental health care, behavioral care needs, and then looking at our women's population, the elderly, and youth populations, so that's Phase I. Phase II then would be the renovation and focus on the housing units of the main jail at Rice Street. Looking next at the schedule, we are happy to say we are still largely on schedule from what we we're estimating back in August of last year. Again, starting with the Special-Purpose Facility, if we are granted authorization, began financing today, we'll quickly move into procurement of our design team, and then into construction. And so we're looking at about a five-year runaway from 2026 to 2031 to occupy the Special-Purpose Facility. Then moving to Phase II with the renovation, these activities will start concurrently with the Special-Purpose Facility in 2029. We will start the design work on the renovation with the target to complete design work in 2031 so that it aligns with the Special-Purpose Facility coming online, allowing for a significant number of inmates to be removed or moved over from the Special-Purpose Facility -- or excuse me, moved to the Special-Purpose Facility from the main jail allowing for maximum flexibility as we do the renovation. And then finally with the budget, you'll recall, we are estimating about \$530 million for the Special-Purpose Facility, about \$550 million for the Rice Street renovation, and all that would total about \$1.1 billion for the overall program. And I will note, what you're going to hear today as we walk through this presentation, is a recommendation to shift all the core functional spaces from Rice Street over to the Special-Purpose Facility; and when I say core functional spaces, that's going to be things like intake, booking, administration, dining, laundry; all that we're planning on putting into the special purpose facility, which you will see an increase in square footage and costs, but then also an offset, because we will not be renovating those spaces within the renovation. You can go to the next slide. And here I'm going to hand it off to Megan who'll walk through the program development."

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "All right. Good morning, Chairman and Commissioners. Megan Kachikowski with ACR Partners. As Mr. Nawrocki mentioned, we work with the sheriff's office to define the spatial needs, functions, and associated square footages required for an 1800 bed Special-Purpose Facility; really focused on supporting vulnerable populations including behavioral health, those with medical needs, as well as all female detainees within the jail system. The most significant takeaway from this effort is the shift in the type of beds required. Of the 1800 total beds, approximately 1200, or two-thirds, need to be dedicated to specialized populations. That's double our original operating assumption of 600 specialty beds. You can see the full breakdown on the chart in this slide broken down by gender and then by classification of population type. These finding have important design applications. The housing types require more single occupancy cells, smaller housing units and more single floor layouts. While these are better suited in the population, they do result in a higher square footage per bed. The other key takeaway is that, as Mr. Nawrocki mentioned, following completion, this facility will house the majority of the jail population, about 1800 of your currently roughly 2800 daily population you're sitting at today. Because of that, we identified an opportunity to improve operational efficiency by co-locating key jail support services within the walls of the Special-Purpose Facility. Those are spaces dedicated to supporting the housing, such as intake and transfer, kitchen,

laundry, and security administration. This shift also brings additional operation benefits through better alignment with current practices and modern jail design standards. Next slide. So what does all of this mean for project delivery? So building on those program findings, the key takeaway here is the impact on costs. The shift towards a higher proportion of specialty housing means more square footage and higher cost-based types due to the types of spaces that are required. In addition, incorporating jail support services into the Special-Purpose Facility increases the upfront project cost, but that is largely offset by reduction of the associated renovation scope. From a financing standpoint, the jail support investment for the Special-Purpose Facility are spread over a longer period, and that will help to moderate the annual debt service. In addition to these program developments, we do continue to test the market and we do continue to see broader market pressures, particularly strong demand in the judicial construction sector as well as ongoing inflation. And now, I'm going to turn it over to Jackie Hadabass to cover our site planning efforts that we've conducted to date. Jackie."

JACKIE, HADABASS, ACR PARTNERS: "Good morning, Chairman and Commissioners. Our next slide, please. Next slide. Next slide, please, thank you. Good morning Chairman and Commissioners, my name is Jackie Hadabass. I'm with ACR Partners. As Megan mentioned, yes, we've also been working on a number of site planning efforts, some key considerations that are going into that effort is first and foremost how are we going to maintain operations of the main jail while the Special-Purpose Facility is being constructed. We've also identified unused buildings on the Fulton County Jail site that can be demolished as they've been unused for some time. Those are Bellwood, Jefferson Place, and Warden's house. Right now, the accountability court is still occupied, but they will be moving shortly to a new premises. We've also been working on a number of layouts for the new Special-Purpose Facility, always keeping in mind that these layouts should be optimized for future expansion as well as security requirements such as building setbacks and limiting views to the new facility from the street. Next slide, please. Okay. So an update on program development. Next slide, please. Okay. So the ACR team, with the county team, is working closely with the sheriff's office, and we've identified all of the program spaces needed for this new Special-Purpose Facility. With all those spaces identified, we've then allocated a square footage to each space based on industry standards and the needs of the sheriff's office operationally. So what you're seeing here on the screen is one such layout of that program space on the site. As you'll see, it's overlaid on top of the demolition -- the buildings that will be demolished very soon; so Bellwood, Jefferson Place, Warden's house and the accountability court. Down on the bottom left-hand side -- bottom right, sorry, is the housing building. So that will accommodate all 1800 new beds. Above that is the support building, so the support building as Steve mentioned, that will house all of the specialist medical services as well as all of the support spaces; so that's kitchen, laundry, booking, administration. And then finally the last building that you're seeing here on the screen is the new central plant. And so, we will be sizing the central plant building to accommodate both the mechanical and electrical plant for the new Special-Purpose, but also allocating space in for Phase II, and so we can also accommodate the -- sorry, the electrical plant for the existing jail. Next slide, please. So here we are at Phase II, and in Phase II will be the renovation of the housing unit towers. That's a phased renovation, plus it will include the addition of the plant

equipment into the new central plant, allocated in the middle of the screen there. Next slide, please. So this is sectioned through the existing jail and the new Special-Purpose. So you can see that the existing jail stands at about 14 levels high with mezzanines. The new special-purpose, with all housing units staffed in one tower, totals a total number of nine levels. What you're seeing on the screen is actually seven levels with two mezzanine levels lower down. If you move across to the right, you'll see that the secure vehicle's sally port and then the building support space, which can be distributed over two levels, and also includes a double height public entrance and lobby. And I'll hand it back to Megan to do a cost update. Thank you."

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "Next slide, please. All right. So before I jump into cost, I do want to clarify that the infirmary and the medical beds that you see at the top left, those 110 beds, are not counted as rated beds. Those phases function as clinical or treatment of our beds, and they're typically used on a temporary or rotating basis depending on the medical need. So if you have a detainee in an infirmary bed, it's likely they have a bed already allocated to them within a housing unit. So when we refer to the 1800 beds, that reflects the rated housing capacity, and the infirmary and the health services spaces are planned in addition to that in order to properly support the population. Now turning to the updated cost estimate for the program, as we've discussed, the initial estimates were developed prior to the programming phase. With the benefit of the programming in the more detailed analysis we've now conducted, we have a clearer understanding about the quantity and the type of spaces that are required. The increased need for specialty housing, particularly the behavioral health and the medical spaces, results in approximately \$100 million increase to the Special-Purpose Facility. In addition, incorporating jail support services in order to serve the full jail population, adds another 98 million to the Special-Purpose Facility. However, that is partially offset by an estimated 63 million-dollar reduction to the Rice Street scope renovation. In total, this results in a net program increase of a 135 million compared to the original \$1.1 billion estimate. Overall, these updates and developments reflect and refine alignment between the facility design, the population's needs, and the operational model as a result of the programming process. Next slide, please. Okay. Onto schedule, so this slide covers the next two years of the program, really focused on delivery of the Special-Purpose Facility. In the near term, we're advancing design and construction management, at-risk procurement, followed by design and preconstruction services. Construction of the Special-Purpose Facility is planned to start in early 2028, as shown in the chart. In terms of key milestone for the county, the Special-Purpose Facility would be targeted for occupancy in 2031. Once that facility is online, it enables the county to utilize that capacity and begin a phased renovation of the existing main jail housing towers, tower by tower, with full completion anticipated in 2035. So overall, this reflects a sequence in a phased approach in alignment with our plan in August, as Mr. Nawrocki mentioned, delivering the new facility first and then renovating the existing jail once that capacity is in place. Next slide. Okay. So at this time, I'll turn it over to the CFO, Ms. Sharon Whitmore, to talk about the financing. Thank you."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Megan. Good morning, Commissioners. If we could go to the next slide, please. Thank you very much. The item that's before you today is the Resolution that will authorize us to move

forward with the plan of finance for this particular facility. The Resolution that has been provided establishes the not-to-exceed costs at the \$1,363,000,000-dollar level; the maximum interest rate that the bonds could be issued at -- the maximum annual debt service amount. It also establishes the relationship with the South Fulton Municipal Regional Jail Authority as the conduit issuer for these bonds. They will issue the bonds; the bonds will then be supported by an intergovernmental agreement between the county and the authority. The Resolution also provides for and allows our team to start working with the authority's team to finalize the transaction. The slide that's up here is a depiction of what the estimated annual debt service may look like if we include the cost of the Special-Purpose Facility, 734 million, the Rice Street renovation at 489 million, and then a set aside for an accelerated housing program of 140 million, if necessary. These would not be issued in one pass; it would be a couple of different issuances to get to the total maximum allowed. We would expect to begin with about a 61 million-dollar issue later this year to provide for the design and site work that's needed for the Special-Purpose Facility; and expect that the new facility would be financed over a maximum of four years while renovations would be financed over a maximum of 20 years. Next slide, please. Next slide. So with regard to the requested action today and next step for today, what we're asking is for approval of the Resolution -- the Inducement Resolution, in an amount not to exceed the 1,363,000,000 for the jail capital improvement program. We'd also note that it does include all of the parameters that I stated previously, the maximum interest rate, the max annual debt service, and it contemplates the underlying intergovernmental agreement between the county and the authority. Once the Board approves the Resolution, then the next steps from the financing perspective would be that the South Fulton Regional Jail Authority would meet and also approve the Inducement Resolution, and then the two teams would begin to work on all of the underlying agreements that would support the transaction including the things that are legally necessary in the state of Georgia, such as a bond validation. And then ultimately, it would conclude with both the county and the authority approving the final form of the IGA. And with that, I will let Steve fill us in on what the next steps would be from a construction perspective."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Thank you, Sharon. So just to close us out with our next steps for the program, if we do get favorable approval today from the Board, we will continue with the site planning and the demolition of those facilities that we discussed early in the presentation on the southern side of the Rice Street campus. We'll also continue to assess outsourcing options or an accelerated build if needed, if we are required to exit the Atlanta City Detention Center at the end of this year. And then once the county does enter into the IGA with the South Fulton Jail Authority, we will begin advertisement for the key project vendors, like the design and construction teams, as well as all other project members to begin moving the program forward. And with that, we'll take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you for the presentation. The lineup is as follows: Commissioner Arrington, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner Ellis, Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. We've got to do something with our jail and I think this special use facility is a step in the right direction. I disagree vehemently with renovating the Rice Street Jail. We've seen what has happened to the areas that we have recently renovated. As soon as we renovate it, they burned it and then they flooded it. That facility doesn't have a direct supervision model. Will the new Special-Use facility have a direct supervision model?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, sir. That's the plan."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. And what is the benefit of the direct supervision model, for the benefit of the public?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I'll let Roger address that."

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Thanks, Steve. Roger Lichtman, ACR Partners. So direct supervision came into county jails probably in the late 70s, early 80s, and what it is for those who don't know, is opposed to having a control station that is overlooking the detainees in the facility. The officer is directly in the dayroom with the detainees so that it gives them the opportunity to understand what's going on, the detainees can talk to him. He can talk to them. So it gives a much better feel in terms of being proactive as opposed to being reactive to any situation that might arise. And this entire facility, the Special-Purpose Facility, is being designed around that operational model. Over the years, it has been proven to be much more effective, because you don't have to spend the money on security, you don't have to spend the money on extraneous maintenance-free products such as stainless steel toilets and that sort of thing, because of the nature of the proactiveness and understanding what's going on in an active classification system."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Madam CFO, I'd like a little further explanation, because on one of the slides earlier, we saw 500, and I'm going to get back to it. We saw -- all right, on page 4, it says that the rough order of magnitude for the Special-Purpose Facility is 536 million, yet when we get to your financing slide, we see 734 million. Is that the cost of financing it, it is \$200 million to finance it, the \$500 million?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "No, sir. I think Megan could probably explain this better, but it's -- it's the effect of the adds that were made as they went through the programming effort with the sheriff's office, the cost of those adds that were included. Plus then the movement of the plant support and other jail services that are billed out to support those in the Special-Purpose Facility were not included originally and are now -- I think it's on the jail capital improvement program cost to update slide, which is, I think, three, maybe four slides back from here. But I think Megan could explain that pretty clearly."

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "Ms. Whitmore is exactly right. So the difference between the 536 million and 734 million specific to the Special-Purpose facilities, it's really in two parts. Roughly, half of that is due to now having gone through

a detailed analysis and programming with the sheriff's office to understand their operational model and the needs of the jail population, and make sure that that program is built around those individuals. The other half, as Ms. Whitmore pointed out, is due to the addition of the jail support spaces within the Special-Purpose Facility rather than renovating those same spaces within the existing jail. In that case, that additional hundred million though is offset partially by reduction of those renovation spaces within Rice Street, so that's why the total net increase to the program is only 135 million."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I guess, I'm trying to understand why the two different numbers. Why the 1.88 billion on slide four and then the 1.363 billion on the financing slide? Why not just put the 735 in there instead of leaving the five -- 536 in there?"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "It's a great question. We just wanted to recap where we were in August of last year, the last time we presented, so that we could show the developments that have been done to date. So that's slide four is a recap of the assumptions that were made with a rough order magnitude estimate at that time, prior to having gone through the programming."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Would it be helpful to go to page 12?"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "Sure, please."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Madam Clerk, if you could because that's where the puts and takes are, Commissioner Arrington."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Could you go back to slide 12, please? Thank you."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "There it is. Maybe walk back through that again, Megan, please."

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "Sure. So the Special-Purpose Facility is estimated, based on the programming, at 734 million. That's up from the 536 million that we were estimating as a rough order of magnitude in August of last year. So now having gone through the programming, our findings were that the need for additional specialty beds to meet the needs of the Fulton County jail population and our coordination with the sheriff's office on determining those needs, is a net increase of a hundred million -- excuse me, \$100 million, and then adding in the jail support programming spaces; again, that's intake, booking, transfer, kitchen, laundry, security, administration; really those phases that are going to support the housing, that's in that increase to the Special-Purpose Facility of 98 million. So those additions total 734 million, and then again, you see there the net decrease to the Rice Street renovation of 63 million bringing us to that net increase for the program of 135 million."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. And then, but that number doesn't include the temporary housing or the outsourcing, and that amount is estimated at what?"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "That amount is estimated at 140 million, if that ends up being a needed option for the county to pursue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So the 1.363 includes that amount?"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "Yes, sir."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "For the temporary housing?"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And this is just for the Special-Purpose Facility and the renovations?"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "That's correct. The program as it's contemplated today."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Well, there's a lot of time between now and 2028. Composition of this Board is going to change, and perhaps the will of the Board may change. We've got four -- no, actually five -- five seats up for election this year, right? And frankly, I think a lot of us agree that we need a new jail. The question was how do we finance it, right? We went to state looking to finance it, so I think everyone, or majority of us agree that a new facility is needed. But there'll be a lot of change between now and 2028. They'll be a lot of change between now and 2027, let alone 2028 when there'll be another round of three elections. And so the composition of this Board changes -- or is subject to change, every two years, right? But I'm happy to support it, because we need to do something to make sure that we are housing people safely and humanely, and I think the Special-Use facility makes sense, especially with 70 percent of the jail population having some sort of mental health issue. But again I am adamantly against, and I just want to say this for the record, I'm adamantly against doing anything to the current Rice Street facility, renovating it, anything other than demolishing it is -- I'm adamantly opposed to. But this is a step in the right direction. I will support it now, because I believe there will be other opportunities for the new Board to address it, either at the end of this year or in 2028 or beyond. So thank you."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I just want to address some of the things that was said at public comment. First, the idea of privatization: is

someone having a conversation about privatization within the parameters of what you all are doing? Because this is my first time hearing about that. And so, I just want to make sure for the listening public that we clear up any misrepresentations and/or maybe lies. So, you know, I want to speak to it. I mean, we're going to have to have the difficult conversations, because we live in a day and time where people tell lies. And so, whatever lie finds its way down here, because a lie don't care who tells it. So let's deal with, is there something, or facet of this that we're trying to privatize or moving to privatize, a juncture, a venture? If someone can speak to that, I don't --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I can."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I don't want to put this team on --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I can, Vice Chair."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, County Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am. Thank you. What we're doing is looking at all available options with the clearest and best option being staying at the Atlanta Detention Center through whatever period of time this construction occurs on the special-purpose building. As you know and the Board knows, that agreement ends at the end of this year. We don't have any indication from Atlanta of an openness to, at least with specificity, to stay in that building. In fact, we're getting notices now for a plan to draw down the 400 to 450 folks who have been housed at the Atlanta Detention Center. So that's the number-one preference is to stay there. A second preference that we're exploring is to go to another county that's local. I'm hopeful, and have gotten positive signals that that could be achieved. Getting to the details is the next step in that process. The third alternative was looking to build our own, and we talked to two companies, meaning build something that would only house four or 500 folks, and what was proposed, at least initially, was one that would have a lifespan of 30 years and another would have a lifespan more of like five to seven years. They have different characteristics in terms of durability and the like, neither of which though meet any kind of timeframe that would be satisfied by the end of the year. They're probably a year and a half to as long as two years to construct, despite being marketed as rapid build, that was kind of term of art as opposed to reality. And then the final was, we were approached by a company that is a private operator for another county. They also do it in multiple counties in Louisiana for Texas, but there's no active plan, per se, because nothings even warmed up enough for us to present the options to you. So what we have done, and that's why we talked about what's included in this capital cost, we've included a number in there if we have to build, then if you approve today's presentation, we have at least the authority to issue bonds, if that's the option. Again, the preferable option is Atlanta, another local county. I don't think the build option really fits the need and I understand the concerns with a private operator."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So County Manager, let me -- let me make this clear to the listening public. Something of this magnitude, you would need to be on this Board more than a year to even grasp it, first off, or 14 months. However, you must

have a point A, B, C, D because the clients -- that I like to call them -- have to have somewhere to go. You can't find that place on the day that you find out you have nowhere for them to go. I appreciate you, County Manager, explaining that, but I want to explain to the listening public, when you have one, something of this magnitude, when you have limited options and one of the options that we have, may or may not be a reality. The prudent use of tax payers funds and the prudent use of representing all of Fulton County like we do, is to make sure that we do not have a glitch in the system, which means you can do all the best preparing, but if you have not prepared for A, B, C, or D, may be a failure, may be a change, may be a different direction, maybe you want to go 285 instead of 20, you are failing to plan is planning to fail. And that's not a hard concept for people that want to serve in this capacity down here, because we have to have options all the time. And so, what I want the sitting and listening public to hear today is that we're moving in the direction of solution-based directions, but they are solution-based directions that we might have to, at some point, navigate or adjust in making sure we get to the goal, and that is to make sure that we have adequate housing. So to that point, I wanted to make sure, because I heard about this private thing before I even became today. I heard about in the streets. And so I kind of had an idea of what it may have been, but I want it to be addressed this morning, so I'm glad you addressed it. Secondly, I also want to make sure that we understand, from an advocacy point of view, terminology; a mental health jail is an oxymoron. And so, we don't want to say mental health jail; we want to say services for those, whether they're mental, behavioral, or whatever, that may have to be housed differently from everybody else, that we're prepared and we understand that that is part of our problem. And this is solution based. So in a solution-based society, which is what I always try to perform to, we know what the problem is. We have to work on the solution. So mental health services, behavioral services, any services that for whatever reason, and I don't want to get into finger-pointing or none of that, but I want to educate the public; we must move in the mindset of addressing that via housing, via treatment, and via funding. And this is how we do it. And so, I just wanted to say that for the record. I know I've got long-winded, but we're in a campaign season, we're in a season of craziness with crazy folks running for office, and I don't want this to be hijacked; I want people to have the facts so they can make their own determination of what's best, and they can advocate on that. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thanks, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to thank all of our staff in particular for the amount of time and work that has taken place with this. I mean, we started this conversation -- I mean, yes, elected officials will come and go and so forth and that sort of thing, but we started this conversation to address what we've known all as a real need -- when did we start this, Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I want to say this is '26. It was '24."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "'24 is when we did the pivot (inaudible).

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So we have just been here two or three --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- we had things that we were discussing even during the COVID period about specialized facilities and that sort of stuff that we didn't act on --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "-- yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "You know, and -- this is a definitely a complex issue, you know, to say that, that's an understatement, and to be able to come up with something, you know, that is a workable solution, has required a lot of effort on your part, and I think we've gotten, you know, a lot of expertise that we've -- you know, we brought in to bear on the subject, and you know, today, you know, the center piece of this, you know, yes this is -- I'm going to ask you a few questions, but the center piece of this is this Fulton County Specialized Care in the detention facility. That's the centerpiece of this. That is the thing which is -- alters dramatically our current approach to what we have been doing, and sets the stage for how we will handle detention going forward. So that's -- that's the focus today is this Fulton County Specialized Care and Detention Facility. We are going to have some transitional stuff that we are going to have to work through, as the Vice Chair indicated, and all of those options are going to have to be explored, and hopefully, the existing option that we have will continue to be an option, but some of those things are going to be beyond our control and we got to be able to scenario plan all of those things out. But that's the temporary thing. It's real, but it's a temporary thing. This is the thing that's trending towards a greater degree of permanency. So just to note, this is a maximum financing of 1.6, 3.63 billion, right?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, sir. It's the not to exceed."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And so, in this -- on slide 16 in the estimated annual debt service chart, that's reflected -- that 140 million is reflected within that; is that correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And that's a little bit more -- I'm guessing that's a little bit more front-end loaded in terms of how it impacts the financing, correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It would be, with the 140 added in, yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right. So those numbers in the earlier years and stretched out, that we did need to do the accelerated housing. It could come down in terms of the annualized debt service amount?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So let's all hope that this, you know, definitely the case. You know, I think that there's -- there's been a lot of commentary that's been

provided to us by different constituents, and I think what I want to say to, you know, many of the folks who come down and brought commentary that we've heard all of that, and I think our management team has heard all of that. And everybody comes and does a lot of times from different points of view, but this I think really encapsulates, you know, a lot of that feedback in trying to come up with a solution that's both compassionate, you know, and fiscally responsible. And I think we've hit the mark with that today. You know, it would be awesome if we got to the point, you know -- and we're talking about being able to deliver this in 2031, correct?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "You know, there's a time when we were talking about alternative facilities it would be ten to 12 years out to be able to do, right? With a much greater magnitude of transitional impact to do this -- it's very significant transitional impact to be able to do it. So you know, as you listen to all that, you know, as you listen to everything, you just have to understand kind of all the different things that -- and put some takes in stuff that have been weighed out by the management team and our consultants that we've engaged to reach this point in time. And today's decision is definitely about meeting a serious public need with compassion, with dignity, and fiscal discipline, you know, so Fulton County can do what is right for its people and responsible for taxpayers at the same time. And I'm going to probably lend my support to this measure and looking forward with us getting on with a solution. I'm not talking about task force and blue-ribbon committees and all that sort of stuff which have their place, but today's about action, making a decision and moving forward, and whether any of us up here in 2031 when this thing opens, it's about the material impact that that's going to have for this county going forward. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of questions. First of all, on the demolition that is planned, is that -- can the bond financing be used for that, or is that something that has to be paid for with a different source, and what is the cost of the demolition?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I don't think we're anticipating that right now to be in that overall cost. DREAM is largely leading that effort right now. I know we're in the design phase of that demolition and it's something, Mr. Davis, maybe you can speak to that since the DREAM is managing it?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "At this point, we have funded the design work that will be needed in order to facilitate the demolitions in advance of whatever design, build direction we go with the future construction on the jail site. We know that we will have to clear the site, so at this point, we've only funded the actual development of construction drawings for the demolition, at which point when we have a clear path forward, in terms of what we will or will not build, then that decision will be made to decide to either build the demolish as designed or go in a separate direction. But at this point, it's simply preparing for a potential outcome."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So that didn't answer my question, but thank you. I asked where the funding is coming from, and approximately how much it's going to cost. So -- I mean, we've got to have some idea. We've labeled the four buildings that we're planning to demolish, so we must have some idea of the cost and where it's coming from, and when it's going to -- what year it will hit the budget and all of those things."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I will defer to Joe, but I think I have heard two million is the demolition -- the expected demolition costs for the areas that would need to be demolished. And to answer your question about could it be included in the bond, the bonding, yes, it could be included in the bonding. We have not included it in the costs that are presented here, so depending on whether we move forward with the accelerated housing, we could peel off that two million from that balance to use for that purpose. If not, then I believe that we have the funds that have come in from returned TAD increment that have been placed and held for facilities that we would tap into to be able to cover the demolition costs."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It does seem to me that that -- I hear that there's definitely -- and look, I think we all acknowledge that what we're approving today is a pretty broad-based move step in getting the -- in getting the bond financing with a not to exceed number, and that some of the things that are being contemplated may change and make it less expensive, depending on what we decide or more -- hopefully not more, because that would be in the exceed position. But it does seem to me that if we're -- if this is an expense that can be paid for by the, you know capital funds, that it should be contemplated in the total, just because the TAD funds that you're talking about, the return in TAD funds, could be used for anything. That's general fund money that can go towards anything. So it just seems it would be prudent to incorporate that into the bond financing. That's just a statement. I know we have a lot more to discuss, but I hope that what we've contemplated in this not-to-exceed number will make that an available option so that whatever general fund money we have is available for a broader base of options throughout -- you know, for county needs at large. Okay. Next question is, on the -- you talked about the programming process and how that sort of informed the 1834 beds versus the 1800 beds and the kind of the beds and the square footage required and all of that. Could you speak a little bit more to the actual process, what kind of data did you look at to determine the need of 1834 and the types of beds and all of that?"

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Sure. Once again, Roger Lichtman, ACR. What we did was we worked with the sheriff's office and determine their current population, what they need now, what they have, but more importantly what we did was rather than just do a cloud-based, shall we say, programming effort, what we did, was because we come from an architectural background, developed a typical housing unit size so that we could utilize an economy of scale in terms of construction, so we came up with either a 56-bed housing unit or 28-bed housing unit. And because it's a special population, as an example, with a lot of the mental health patients, with a lot of the geriatric patients and other recovering patients, we didn't want to do a floor in the

mezzanine such as the current Rice Street facility right now so they are one-story facilities, so that's where we come up with the 28. And when Jackie presented before that some of them had mezzanines --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- I'm sorry. Can I just stop you for a second? What are you talking about with the 28 and the -- are you talking about square footage?"

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Twenty-eight detainees per housing unit."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Oh, that's why."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "It's slide five. It has the breakdown."

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "So what we actually did was we developed where each specific classification could be located within the facility. So as not as to build a half of housing unit or third of a housing unit, that's how we came up with ultimate number of 18 -- was it 1876 or either 1834?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "1834. Yeah, okay. But I guess what I'm asking is, you seem to have some data that is helping you determine what kinds of -- like you've got to break down between male and female who have these conditions, and you seem to have some concept of the kinds of conditions and the types of beds that those conditions require."

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Correct. Correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So I'm asking where that is coming from, and what I heard you say just now, correct me if I'm wrong, is that came from looking at the current population, you know, in the jail system today."

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Pretty much, yes. And Megan has showed a slide originally that showed the breakdown as to the geriatrics and the mental health -- severe mental health and all of those units, and that was, I think, was a slide three or -- slide five has that breakdown."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. Okay. I do have some concern about the population number that we're contemplating providing housing for because when we did the original jail feasibility study, which was commissioned before I got here and presented about two months after Commissioner Thorne and I arrived, it seemed like a long, long time ago now, doesn't it? There was a lot of data analysis on the population needs over time. And I know we change those numbers in our discussions, but based on the original feasibility study that was provided to us in March of 2023, it was contemplated that even with the most optimal improvement to our justice system, changes to the laws, perhaps throughput in our courts, more diversion, whatever might be the optimal improvement, that's how it was termed at the time, that we would have an average daily population of 3,686. Now I'm not talking special purpose, I'm talking

overall, 3,686 bed need, average daily population, and with consideration – this was by 2037, by the way -- and if you added in a peaking factor and classification factor in 2037 that drove that total number up 4,403 beds. And so, I know this plan is sort of in a way, a phased approach of what we had here. And in theory, decisions can be made along the way before we renovate something else or build something else about how many additional beds are needed, but it doesn't seem like we're even taking that into consideration in this plan, and I think my concern goes to again, the not-to-exceed dollars, because we are contemplating right now a not-to-exceed dollar amount that is based on a plan that is based on population in the facility that is in today's numbers only, and this is a facility, at least -- at least a new build part of it that is supposed to last us forty years. So I have some real concerns here about us building something that is almost instantaneously too small when it comes online or within five years: it's too small. And while I am certainly, you know -- I'm not of the belief that if you build more beds then more beds get filled, that's not a belief that I agree with. But I do think if we don't make a serious commitment to either building enough housing for the population that we are likely to have based on data, or and maybe this is an and/or, making a serious investment in our justice system to start to get to the optimal situation, and that to me would include all the things we're starting to invest in now, but perhaps need a broader investment, and I'm talking about the accountability courts, the diversion programs, you know, even the summer youth program, like programs in the community that reduce crime, along with more money for the public defender's office, and the solicitor's and the DA, and the courts, so that the throughput in our system is faster so that people are spending less days in the jail. So right now as this plan stands, I think it's a little bit of a house of cards. And I am very much support of us getting started on a building that is humane and safe, in particular, for this specialized population. And I will say I agree with some of the public comments around like, it is a jail. We have to call it that. You know, calling it something else is not entirely fair. However, it is a jail. It is a portion of a jail that is designed to hold our most vulnerable population, so I agree with my colleague, Vice Chair, when she says it's not a mental health jail, because that's not accurate either. It is a jail that will house our most vulnerable population, which includes people with behavioral health challenges who need services, and the elderly, and the young, and, and. And so, I do think the term special-purpose, as long as we're clear about what that means is, okay, with me. Okay. So the population to me is a concern, I don't know what the plan is to address that. Maybe someone can speak to when will we be analyzing the future population needs and how will that come into play."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes. Thanks, Commissioner. So speaking to the 1800 and why there was not another population forecast done when developing that is because that was the plan that the Board approved back in August of last year. And so the mandate that you gave management and then we gave to our consultants was to build a program out for the 1800 beds. But that will help us accomplish though in terms of any population growth, once we complete the renovations at Rice Street, we would ideally be able to single bunk, and so if we're single bunking, that's about 1300 beds. So the 13 plus the 1,800, that's 3100, give or take. If we need a pressure release valve because the population is exceeding 3100, it's going closer to 4,000, the next step is then to start double bunking, which is not

ideal, but it is a -- it is a method and it's currently what's being done right now, and I think it is well north of 4,000."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. Well, I certainly appreciate that, but I will also just state for people who may not, you know, be following all of this jail conversation all the time like some of us are, that's exactly what happened at Rice Street, it was built for single bunking, it was immediately too small, and then it was double bunked, which was below industry standard, and contributes to the unsafe and inhumane conditions of having people crowded in to a space, so I'm not a fan of that option. All right. I want to move on to the discussion, and I will echo Commissioner Arrington's comment that I am not in support of renovating Rice Street, the towers, the housing towers, for a variety of reasons, but chief among them is the cost per bed, and the overall cost versus building, newer building, to house the same number of people. And so I asked for the numbers per bed -- we have essentially the numbers per bed on the renovation --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "--for the renovation, yes, ma'am" which is about how much?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- which is about how much?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I forget."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "444? What is it?"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "So the direct renovation cost is 444 million and then the expansion of the plan would be 45 million on top of that. So 489 total."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No, but per bed, I'm asking."

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "It's cost per bed."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Per bed."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I don't remember. Do you remember what it is?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I mean, I think we did some back of the napkin math and so I'll just short cut this and say, from what I --"

MEGAN KACHIKOWSKI, ACR PARTNERS: "-- it's the -- oh, cost per bed. I'd have to run the numbers."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That's, okay. I did ask and I was told that these numbers are too complicated to deliver to me. So apparently, they were too complicated. But I did some of my own, you know, back of the napkin math, and it does appear to me, and you can correct me if I'm wrong, but just ballpark, it is going to cost

us close to a hundred thousand more per bed to renovate than to build new, give or take, based on those four -- what was the number you just gave me, 498? And you have to do the central plan. So the total numbers is not 444, it's the 498."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, 498, and then the cost per bed for the renovation, what was that, 300 -- 335,000."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That's not -- I don't believe -- based on what? Based on 1300 beds?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yeah, it's based on 1300."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "We don't have to sit here and do a big math problem. The bottom line is, it is significantly more expensive to renovate than to build these beds in a new facility, and even if it was only a few thousand dollars more, we are talking a 20-year lifespan of a building versus a four-year lifespan of a building. So we build new, it lasts 40 year. We renovate, we get 20 years. That's not mathematically sound. It's not fiscally smart. And so, again, I know we have lots of -- we, the Board, whatever Board is here at the time, will have opportunities to make different decisions, but I think the public needs to understand that the plan as written here today, is not fiscally sound. And I understand that the Board directed y'all to do certain things. The Board also directed y'all to find a solution for 300 million, and we're now at 1.2 plus billion. So all of this to say, I believe what we are approving today is a step that we have to do to begin to fund the 1800 unit, special-purpose unit, and that's fine, I'm supportive, but I do think the public needs to understand that this plan is not sufficient. We need either and a real investment in keeping people out of jail, and we need to house the people we have humanely for a long period of time, so I think there's still a lot of work to be done. Thank you."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you, Vice Chair. I wanted to go back to the direct supervision model. I don't know if Roger, if you could speak to that. There are cons that go around with direct supervision, correct?"

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "I'm sorry?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "There are cons to direct supervision over indirect, too? You said that being proactive versus reactive much more effective, security, you know, no stainless steel toilets, but there are drawbacks to having direct supervision, correct?"

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Not necessarily I don't think at this point. Now, one of the keys to success in direct supervision is that there has to be an effective classification system, because if we just classified by height or something ridiculous like that and we throw everybody in, then, yes, we're going to have a problem with direct supervision. But if we have a realistic classification tool, for the most part at this point

now, I mean, direct supervision has been around 50 years, and it's been longer than that in the federal system, and it has been proven to work quite well."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes, and I'm happy that our Sheriff has got a digital classification system now, and not doing it on paper. So hopefully errors won't be made, it will be more efficient that way. But I used to be on the NACo Public Safety Council, and when I went to Orlando, because they were also told that they needed to build a huge jail and they predicted these large incarceration rates that was going to go from 2,000 to 4,000 people; and instead, they did the same thing, they built a mental health intake center and they, therefore, reduced their recidivism rate by 50 percent and reduced their incarceration rate by 50 percent. They have not hit that huge 4,000 number that was predicted when they were told they needed to build that jail. And when I visited the property, and I went there, there was some incorrect information; I went there on vacation, which I do not choose Orlando as my vacation destination. I went there with a large urban county caucus by invitation by Mayor Demings to go and look at that facility. And they had facilities much older than ours that were in great shape. They weren't vandalized, they were in good repair, they were maintained very good, and they're quite a bit older than ours; but they did have indirect supervision, and the chief jailer at the jail explained that for really, really dangerous criminals, you do not want to have direct supervision. That it's too much stress, mental health stress, on the jailer that has to be on the floor. And there's big stress and mental health challenges with those jailers that have to be on those floors with those pods, 56 to 28 people. They also said that those -- when you have direct supervision, they need a higher level of training as well to be able to be placed on the floor, if that's correct, so the expense might -- we might incur an expense there. So I know they're advocates on this Board, and there's -- while we're on the Board, that just wanted to build a 2 billion dollar jail and incarcerate 5,000 people, so that we can just accommodate everybody and everything. But I just look at this as truly a solution -- a solution that I'm hoping that we will model after Orlando, and we will reduce our incarceration rate. I don't want to build something big and then let the justice system fill it. I want to have some kind of constraint that we have that we are helping people before and helping people even that have to go through our system, that they come out better on the other side, because they're actually getting the help that they need. So that's why I advocated for this solution, and I thank you for all the time and effort that you guys have put into the study and having to do a pivot. This started as, Commissioner Barrett mentioned, before we were Commissioners in 2022. You approved the jail feasibility study, I believe, and then in 2023, you came forward; is that correct?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, Commissioner Thorne, I think in December of '23 is when the plan was presented to the Board -- the feasibility plan."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So, I thank you for having to pivot and all the work that you have done, everybody, finance, everybody, on this, and I agree with Commissioner Ellis that, you know -- we can't kick the can down the road. We got to get started now. We got to come up with a solution, and I know this is probably not the only tweak you're

going to have to do in the process, but I thank you that you're doing what you're doing, and thank you for the work that you've done."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Thank you, Commissioner."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to respond to Commissioner Thorne's comment that having a smaller building somehow constrains the judges or the justice system from putting people in jail, and I think we know that that is not true because we have those constraints today, and we have people sleeping on boats on the floor in the jail. And we have people outsourced to other jails around the area. And so, we have less beds right now and we have people -- we are looking for other solutions to put the people that don't fit in the current constraints; and I also want to just reiterate when I was talking about some of the larger numbers, they are not current. They are future, and also the larger numbers are based on the availability to retain the classification of people, the separation by the classification of the prisoners -- or the inmates, rather, and that is something that is mandated that we do under the consent decree. So I just want to point out that we're not talking about having whatever number I said, 4,000 some odd people in jail. We're talking about having enough beds to be able to have the people that are housed there classified appropriately."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington, Commissioner Thorne, Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, and I'd like to vote after that. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Yeah, I just want to state for the record as the only attorney on this Commission, as the only practicing attorney that practices criminal defense law; I do not support mass incarceration. It conflates the issue when you try to say we want to build a bigger jail to arrest more people. I certainly do not believe in arresting more people, but the issue of having a safe and humane jail is separate than the issue of mass incarceration. Our population continues to grow, and I guess I'd like to hear from the consultants to hear more about population growth and is there any population growth included in the numbers that you have or what we're proposing. But I want to be real crystal clear that proposing a larger facility does not have anything to do with the Roswell police arresting more people, or College Park police arresting more people; those policing units of the 15 cities are arresting the people that violate the laws, and as our population increases there is likely to be an increase in the number of arrests. Fulton County is just housing -- Fulton County is charged -- and Fulton County and our Sheriff are charged with housing the people that are arrested mostly by the cities, a number of people that are in the Fulton County jail that are arrested by the Fulton County Police or the Fulton County Sheriff is probably less than ten or five percent; the overwhelming majority of the inmates of the Fulton County jail arrested by the cities. And so, I don't want -- it's not fair to conflate those two issues of the size of the facility or the capacity, not necessarily the size, the capacity of the facility and to make sure that we have something that is going to allow for capacity over the next ten, 20 years and allow for the increase in capacity. Certainly, we need to

be doing all that we can to reduce incarcerations, reduce arrests, provide more resources so that people have jobs. But I'd love to hear from our consultants about current capacity and expanded capacity over the next ten to 20 years. I mean, it doesn't make any sense to build a building and to spend 1.3 billion -- the new jail, let's be real clear, the new jail was going to cost 1.6 billion, and now we're talking about 1.3 billion for a new facility and renovating the jail. But I want to hear about capacity -- current capacity, expanded capacity, over the next ten to 20 years and how and/or if that was included in your numbers."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I'll jump in before the consults do, Commissioner. We did not have them conduct a population forecast, again, because the Board approved at the 1800 level for this special-purpose facility. That's the direction we gave to our consultants, so they did not do a forecast. In terms of future capacity, like I mentioned to Commissioner Barrett, the plan is to use Rice Street once the renovation has completed. So best case scenario for single bunking, it's roughly 1300 beds. The 13 plus the 1800 gets us to 3100. If we exceed that capacity, then we'll have to go to double bunking. But that is the plan that we're moving forward with right now."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, thank you."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, sir. I mean, Roger can offer anything on trends, perhaps. But again, this is the plan that we're moving forward without a forecast attached to it. If that's what you're looking for, Commissioner."

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Let me just share quickly that in the planning that you saw, we don't want our grandkids here, sitting in the same situation that we're in now today. So obviously, when the site is planned, it's planned for future expansion to expand on to that. Now, to your point, any criminal justice system is a series of moving parts. And it's how many officers you have on the street, how many people they're arresting, directly correlates to how many people are coming in, and how fast can you process them out? Because if they're getting bogged down in the courts, your population is going up. And if your average length of stay is going up, then your population in the jail is going up. If you can have, maybe certain counties might have more judges, or whatever it is, to process faster, their evidence processing for the police departments are better so that they can get it through faster, then your population can go down. But it's a moving -- it's all moving parts. We were doing work in Texas at one point what was happening was that somebody would come into the judge for their hearing, and they were going to be released, but the police couldn't produce the evidence. It was another six weeks that they had to spend in jail. And that was common. So it's a series of moving parts. The building is merely a tool that can either enhance or impede the criminal justice system. And clearly, what we're here today is to enhance the criminal justice system in Fulton."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Nawrocki, the doubled bunking that you're referencing, is that in the special-use facility or in the existing Rice Street, or in both?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "It would be in the renovated Rice Street, sir. I think we do have a detailed plan of -- and if we can go back one slide in the breakdown of the beds or the housing areas, think some of them are single and some of them are double bunked for specific reasons. But what I was referring to, Commissioner, was just once Rice Street is renovated, our final pressure release valve will going to doubled bunking there. But you can see here, some, some are double and some are single, and some are four-bed cells, depending on the proper configuration."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And that's in the new special-use facility, or --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- that's in the Rice Street facility?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "What you're looking here, Commissioner, is the special-purpose facility, the 1800 beds you can see at the bottom there, but that is the special-purpose facility."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And why would we consider double bunking in only the Rice Street facility and not in the special-use facility?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I think Roger again, could answer that."

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Double bunking is potentially a misnomer. The cells in Rice Street were designed to house one person. When you double bunk, you're putting a second person in a cell that was originally designed to house one person. If you look up here, what we're doing is that either they're designed for double occupancy, which means that there are two beds, might not even be bunk beds in that one particular unit housing cell. And then we have actually for minimum and medium, you see that there's a bunch that we have eight-bed cells, which is a multiple occupancy unit, and there's eight separate beds in that unit, in that cell. So it would be very difficult to go back and put 16 people in there. And I think that that defeats the purpose of a special-purpose unit as well, because what we want to do is not overcrowd this unit so that we can concentrate on the programs and the medical attention and the psychological attention that these people need. That if we just go ahead and double bunk that, I think that that would thwart our mission."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, I think the same thing about the Rice Street jail, and what, based on what you just said, it's designed for one bed, it's designed for single occupancy --"

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Agreed."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: -- and so I don't know why we would even be entertaining double booking at that facility.

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "But here's -- here's the difference is that if we pull out, because this accommodates all of your special populations for the foreseeable future. In addition, there's some general population that will be here too, which means that those who will remain in Rice Street, or those who will be put into the renovated Rice Street or whatever, what will happen is that that will be a classification specific that they can accommodate double bunking, as opposed to these people who might not be able to."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, either -- you just said it was designed for single occupancy."

ROGER LICHTMAN, ACR PARTNERS: "Agreed."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right, that -- I mean, that's all I need to hear. I -- I mean, so all right, I'll leave it there. Thank you."

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

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Thorne is in the queue."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Mr. Nawrocki."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I wanted address that there's people sleeping on the floor in boats in our jail right now. And I -- do you recall our -- your last presentation you gave us, your last update? How many beds do we have available?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I'm trying to think, Commissioner, at Rice Street specifically? Or --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Or in total --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "-- across the entire --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "In total? I believe it was 600 and some; is that correct?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I'm giving Joe a look over here, too."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Commissioner Thorne, is your question, how many beds we currently have available?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Um-hmm."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "That are open and available for use?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "That number's roughly, roughly 364, if I'm not mistaken."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. And we had how many people in boats, about --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Maybe in the 50 --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "At the -- and then I'm just speaking purely from memory, but I think it was -- it's been in the area of 50 the past couple of months we've given the update."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. So we have available beds. But the reason we have available beds and we have people sleeping on the floor, could you -- is it --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I think it's classification, it's facility dependent, it's also supervision. So like at ACDC, where we're providing that, we are providing both supervision there and they only take a certain classification. So there are beds that are going to show as available just from a raw number, but would not be eligible to be put there. And so things like that are contributing to why you see this available number, but still we have individuals on temporary beds."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Oh, yes, okay. So I have it here, inmates and temporary beds are 50."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Okay, good."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So County Manager pulled it up --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Not good, not good, but --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- for me really quick. Okay, I just wanted to get some clarification on that that we do have some bed availability. We just can't at this point, staff with whatever classification, staffing or issues right now."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you."

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

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. Clearly, we're going to have advocacy on both ends to the end of time on this. But as Board -- as a Board, we must move ahead with solutions that result the will of the taxpayers that make sure that we're getting to the core problems. So with that comment, I'm going to move, I'm going to make a motion that we approve the resolution authorizing finance of the Fulton County Jail Improvement Plan."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll second. All right, the motion has been made to approve and seconded. Any further discussion at this time? I'm sorry, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, sir, Mr. Chair. I'm going to support it. I'm just -- I object to renovating the Rice Street jail. I just want to state that for the record. But I am supportive of getting this special-use facility, getting that underway immediately. So thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, **26-0216**, Real Estate and Asset Management request approval to increase spending authority for maintenance, repair and operation supplies in the amount of \$30,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0217**, Public Works request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$323,584 to provide annual Air Traffic Control Night Coverage Services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Have a favorable motion by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

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

CLERK GRIER: "26-0218, Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing for the purchase of a Conventional Chassis-5 Yard Dump Truck in an amount to exceed \$131,927."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "26-0219, Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing for the purchase of a Chassis-10 Yard Dump Truck in the amount not to exceed \$174,750."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Thorne."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, 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."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "You need to sound the other one as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Those two are to be sounded together."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No, they're not."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "They were combined."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No, I'm sorry. Point of order. There was a suggestion, there was a recommendation to combine them. I objected to that. The items stay the same. There was -- there was no consensus on combining those items those. Those are my items, I placed them on the agenda, and I asked for them to remain separate."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Arrington, unfortunately, you're incorrect, but that's not a hill that I'm going to die on. If you want to -- them sounds separately, voted on separately, so be it, because I'm not going to waste taxpayers' money or time for camera time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We take them separately. Commissioner -- sound the first one again."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So colleagues, the reason I put this on the agenda is because we have legacy, legacy items that we approve, legacy organizations that we approved at the last meeting for minimum, \$250,000. But we forgot our other legacy organizations, QLS is one of those legacy organizations, and so is Sadie G. Mays Rehab Center. And so to some extent we need to establish what a legacy organization is, rather than only declaring these arts organization as legacy organizations. QLS resides in a Fulton County building. They service more than four to five times the number of people that our neighborhood senior centers service. And so my recommendation and my proposal is that these two organizations, these two healthcare related organizations that are below I-20 and in the healthcare desert, that these organizations be funded at the same minimal levels that we fund our other legacy organizations. And perhaps we need to define what is, in fact, a legacy organization, so that it doesn't just apply to the arts organizations. I'm happy that those arts organization got that money. But the patients, the staff at QLS, the patients and staff at Sadie G. Mays also deserve the same -- the same legacy designation that these arts organizations get, right? We own the Hammonds House, the Hammonds House operates out of a building that is owned by Fulton County, just like QLS. We started and we helped found Sadie G. Mays Rehab Center. So we should have some rhyme or reason as to why they are not also legacy organizations. And I don't think that we have that. And this is an opportunity to level the playing field and to designate the entities that are serving healthcare needs in the healthcare desert, below I-20 as legacy organizations, just as we did the arts organizations. And frankly, I don't think it's a lot of money. I think -- I think Sadie G. Mays is already getting 135,000 a year, and QLS -- from the operating budget, and QLS is getting, I think, a similar amount. In addition, they also receive CDBG dollars. But I don't know how we can fund legacy arts organizations to the tune of 250,000 per organization and not fund legacy health organizations that are serving our seniors and our most vulnerable population."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. And -- and I'm going to make comment on this, and it is what it is. Sadie G Mays sits in my district. I've work -- been working with them. I've been speaking with the County Manager, I've been speaking with Commissioners. I've been trying to identify several needs that they need outside of legacy designation, and they do need some more money. The problem I have, it's two problems I have with this. One, let's -- let's call a spade, a spade. We got to have

some protocol and some respect for districts. If I am talking to the staff, if I'm talking to the Directors, if I am in meetings with potential philanthropist and all other things, and then they all of a sudden see something pop up on the agenda that they know nothing about because nobody has talked to them about that. And when they come to the Commissioner that they've been talking to, sitting down and meeting with, you either doing one or two things, you're giving misinformation or you're trying to gaslight. And so with all due respect, I can be in agreement of what you may or may not be doing, but I have to advocate for those that I am meeting with, whether it is the CFO, whether it's the County Manager, whether it's the Executive Director, for something in my district that I represent, and it would have been nice for a conversation to be have had about this. But believe it or not, I'm in agreement. However, it's protocol in the way you do everything. County -- County Manager, has any funding been identified? I know we usually do stuff like this at midyear. So have any funding been identified at this point or before this was put on the actual agenda?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "No, ma'am. I think midyear would -- would be a proper time to look at this."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. So what I'm going to do on that note, I'm going to make a motion to hold this, and in holding it, County Manager and CFO, if we do have funding, because I don't want to operate in your lane. And I know that we have DOJ concerns. We got things on that long list of things that's coming up that have to be paid for. And so your job a lot of times is a balancing act to make sure that we need to do what we need to do accordingly. And so my charge to you today and to the CFO, if we have funding, to identify it. If we don't have funding, please let me know. But I'm going to put in a motion for the hold."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. It's a substitute motion to hold. Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to hold. Motion to hold by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Commissioner Barrett, you want to be heard on the substitute motion to hold?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just had a question, Commissioner Arrington, was -- is your intention that this be funded, like if we were going to pass it today, which I'm clear, with the hold, would it be your intention that this be the additional between the 130 for example, to the 250 would be funded this year, or is this setting this us up so that when we do the 2027 budget and beyond, they're considered legacy?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "My gold is the funding for this year. And you know, as we've done in the past, we could instruct the County Manager to find the

funding source, and to bring proposed funding sources back to us. But I'm fine with holding, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. When I have -- I have no objection to that, and I'm happy to work with you on that. QLS, I think, gets 150 a year, and Sadie G. Mays gets 135 a year. And so, you know, we need increased communication, I think, amongst Commissioners, because people operate in silos. And I'm not taking shots at anyone, right? We operate in silos. So I had no idea that you were speaking with anyone about doing anything there. All I know is I was over there for their 80th Anniversary, and they asked me for some more money, right? And it was on the heels of us designating these other legacy organizations."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I understand, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So that, that's my only purpose. So you know, and hopefully we can find it, and you know, Sharon knows where all the bodies are, she knows where all money -- we have \$75 million left over every year. We have \$75 million left over every year for the last 12 years. Last year, we had \$89 million left over. So there's no way that we can find another \$150,000 for QLS and another \$115,000 for Sadie G. Mays."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett, you still have the floor."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, thank you. I just wanted to finish by saying, look, I'm fine with holding as well. I do think, you know, our budget is, you know, is a statement about our priorities. And while I, too, am, you know, appreciative that we're able to support Arts and Culture organizations as legacy partners, the idea that these organizations that are genuinely helping people's health, and you know, livelihood are funded less than some of our other legacy partners is probably not the way we want to move forward."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to hold. Let's vote, please."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0221**, Request approval of 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: "Commissioner Arrington, you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, absolutely. Thank you. Yes, I started this program in 2015. We had it for ten years consecutive, until last year, when it was cut from the budget, and it was cut from the budget again this year. And Mr. Chair, you indicated at budget time that you had some ideas from where the funding for this could come. We are now in April, and those ideas have not been presented. And our kids are about to be out for the summer. We just saw a lot of activity last week, lost a lot of young lives. Our children and our youth need to be engaged. They're looking for jobs. We had over 900 students register, 900 16 to 18-year-olds register to find a summer job just this past weekend at Welcome All Park. We need this money. We need to invest in our youth. We need to make sure -- see, if we put -- if we invest in them on the front end, we don't have to spend as much money on the back end in the courts and the jails. So colleagues, I urge you to reinstate this \$500,000 for the Summer Youth Job Program so that the County Manager and his team can get this up and running in time for our students and youth to have this money and to have these opportunities available for the summer. It's a small minor investment, small minor investment for our future and for our youth's future. They get the opportunity to learn life skills that they can use to provide for themselves and provide for their families going forward. 2015 to 2025, ten years in a row, this money is in the budget, and all the sudden last year, it gets cut. And then it gets cut again this year. Our youth, our students need these jobs. What we've seen with the violence going on in and around the city of Atlanta and Fulton County over the past couple of weekends, this is the perfect opportunity for us to reinstate these funds, reinstate these opportunities, and invest in our youth, and invest in our future."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I was very adamant, Commissioner Arrington, at the last meeting that I'm willing to work with you, because I see, I see the -- I see the need. Anybody can look at what's going on and see that there -- there's a need in all areas when it comes to youth. But here again, I have to ask the very uncomfortable question. County Manager, do we have this money today?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am. I'm going to ask Dr. Roshell to describe a possible alternative."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Thank you, County Manager. So one of the alternatives for funding this program would be the Opioid Settlement funds. However, we would be required to include several components if we -- if the Board moves in that direction. So the Opioid Settlement funds cannot fund a standalone internship programs -- program. It would be required to include a couple of things. One, it would be required for us to target youth with an elevated risk of substance use disorder and exposed to trauma, substance use disorder, all pointing to an elevated risk of opioid, opioid use. We would also be required to include an evidence-based prevention

education program with all of the providers. And we will also be required to include behavioral health screenings and referrals."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So I'm going to -- I'm going to make a motion to put this on hold. And I'm also going to give a directive to the County Manager's staff, and I hope my colleagues will -- and -- and here again, Commissioner, Commissioner Arrington, I was very adamant the last meeting of trying to find some kind way, because this is, it's a good idea, but we've got to target and find the funding first. So I'm going to make a motion to put this on hold. I know that the first Wednesday in June is three days, I think it's June 3rd or something like that, should we have to wait that long. What I want to ask, not only the County Manager's staff, I want to ask my, all my colleagues here, including you, Chairman, maybe County Manager, if we can't find 500,000, maybe we can at least find 200, 250, to get it started. And then Chairman, maybe we can find some sponsors that will help do the rest, or you know? Commissioner Thorne, you and I talked about, you know, trying to find some people to come in and stand in the gap. So I'm going to put it on hold, but I'm going to put it on hold -- I'm going to motion to put it hold with the directive that if we don't have the \$500,000 today, and clearly it's going to be a challenge to use opium -- opioid money, that we lower the amount to get it started, and we see if we can find some of our community partners that may be able to stand in the gap. So County Attorney, that's my question to you."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "And I may have one other thought. Now, this is thinking on the fly, but I'm somewhat playing off of what Commissioner Arrington said. What we do have that we haven't fully expended, now there are other needs coming against this, are everything that we're doing in the jail, around the jail for compliance. One of the things, and this would be nominal compared to those dollars, because we started the year with close to 50 million, so you're talking about 1 percent of 50 million, is reduce that slightly, put that against this program as a classic way of attempting to prevent incarceration. So if the Board gave us direction to head in that, down that path, we could look at everything that we've already funded, everything that's still yet to be funded, and some things that we know are being -- will be brought forward, quite frankly, at midyear, and find -- and look to that source as a potential funding source."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Arrington, are you open to the hold, and us working together to try to see if we can find this funding?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The short answer is, yes. The longer answer is, if you're saying hold until June, then absolutely --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "No."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- not. The whole summer -- the summer will be over by then and --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "No, no, no, no, no, my -- let me -- let me clarify what I want the County Manager team to do. I want it put on -- I want it put on hold to see if they can find the 500,000, which I -- I'm going to be -- I'm a realist, I don't think you are going to be able to. But if you do, God bless you. If you can find \$250,000 in two weeks by the next meeting, and at least get that passed, get that started, and we revisit it in June, at least we got a starting block for those students. Are you comfortable with that? As a possible option, that's all I'm asking."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I could uncomfortably support it."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm -- I'm not comfortable with that, because guess what, we got 5 million in a Diversion Center, in city of Atlanta --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I hear you. I hear you, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- he can come out of 5 million that we know we're not going --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I hear you, loud and clear."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioners, please, please."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I hear you loud and clear, but just -- just hear me on this. And I'm not just talking to you, I'm talking to my colleagues. With all due respect, Commissioner Arrington, and our wannabe Commissioners that's in the room. Find the money, or let's get into the habit of finding and identifying the money first, so we won't delay stuff like this. Because -- and not to throw you under the bus, Commissioner Arrington, because I know it's your baby, and I've said that. I don't have a problem, it's a good idea. It's something that, unfortunately, we had to cut last year. But maybe, just maybe, County Manager, maybe if this conversation had have been had two weeks ago, maybe we would have a solution today. So the prop -- the promise I make today to you in front of everybody here, motion to put it on hold, see if we can find 500,000 in two weeks. Can't find the 500,000, see if we can find \$250,000 in two. And then by June at the latest, at the very meeting -- well, let's say, I'll even put a caveat to that. The last meeting in May, by the last meeting in May, try to identify and pass the additional funding. All I'm asking is to work with them, and to work with us up here so we it can pass. Are you okay with that, uncomfortably?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, uncomfortably, yes, because the end of May is too late. Students will be out, they need jobs right now. We need to pass this today. I know where \$75 million is."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Well --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "It's left over every year."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Well, if you -- if you don't have a problem with it being put on hold for two weeks, I make the motion to hold this, give you an opportunity to -- because I see your eyes moving, so you got something brainstorming over there. And so -- and we revisit it in two weeks."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. That's a substitute motion to hold --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- with the caveats that you've made. And let me just -- I'll second that motion, because the opioid money is not a use for this. And I've studied it, and I know for a fact that that's not. So we could take that off the table. What you're suggesting does make some sense. So I'll second the motion to hold. You still like to be heard, Commissioner Barrett?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I agree with you, I don't - - I don't really love the idea of the opioid money for this. It sounds like there's a lot of additional work that would have to be done, and it would leave a lot of kids out. That said, I think what I'm hearing the County Manager say is that there -- that there is 500,000 that could be worked out of the 50 million that we set aside for some of the consent decree items because have spent it necessarily in the way that we thought we might at the beginning of the year. So given that, it sounds to me like what you're -- and correct me if I'm wrong, but it sounded like -- okay, there's a lot going on right now. Okay, in any case --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Already seconded."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- it was already seconded. It's fine, so -- so it sounds like you're saying, Mr. Manager, if we give you direction now to move that money, the 500,000, you could do that now with -- comfortably, given what you know is coming; is that correct?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Let me just clarify it this way. We could clearly do it now inside the envelope of the 50 million. And I think in the spirit of what Commissioner Arrington said, it seems prudent to do. What is still to come goes beyond the 50 million. That, you know, our plan is to address with a midyear review and see what the will of the Board is to allocate from that, what he's referring to in terms

of projected under runs against additional consent order items that haven't even yet been presented to the Board, if that is clear."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "As mud. I got you, but -- but let me ask another question then about the timing, because I just am a little bit concerned because summer is coming. There's -- I know this is, my understanding is that the program is similar to some of our other programs where we give a certain amount of money to a variety of participating organizations; is that correct?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "We run a competitive RFP process."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So my question, I think, is, when -- when would we need to get that process started in order to be effective this summer? Because, you know, to the Commissioner's point, Commissioner Arrington's point, if we don't even approve this until May that means we wouldn't start the RFP process until June, correct? Well, that I'm just not sure, I'm -- I'm missing the --"

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can I speak to what -- because I want to -- I want make sure, excuse me, Chairman, I don't mean to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Go ahead."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- take over. This is the directive, why I'm making the hold, and so County Manager, Dr. Roshell and Sharon Whitmore, please understand what I'm asking you all to do. Because I'm not asking you to hold it just to say, oh, we're going to hold it, and bring it back, and get rid of it. No, that's not it. I'm not saying to hold it, and we wait until May. No, I'm not asking that. What I'm asking is, if he cannot find the \$500,000, maybe you can find \$250,000, maybe you can even find \$200,000 that I can lobby and work and with Commissioner Arrington and whoever to get that passed within the next two weeks to at least have something in place to get it started, and then we revisit it, maybe the first meeting in May to see if we can identify the rest. We got to get out of this habit of, it's all or nothing."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Oh, I'm in total agreement with you on that."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And so that's the purpose of my motion."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Total agreement on the -- on the amount of dollars that we don't have to say, no, if we can't find the full amount. Total agreement. My only concern is that, so the next meeting would be the beginning of May. Is that enough time, Dr. Roshell, to get the RFP process done and the grants awarded so that these organizations can hire the summer -- the teens in the summer?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "We would work with purchasing to run a truncated RFP process. We would not be able to run a 30-day process. We would need to run

and get permission through Purchasing and work with them closely to run a truncated process for it to work."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So let me ask one more question. Is there -- is there a way that we could pass some amended version of this today that would incorporate what you're asking, Vice Chair, in terms of a lesser amount if that's what can be found, so that the RFP process can begin sooner, and not be quite so rushed so that we can make sure this happens in a timely manner? That's all I'm asking."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I -- I hear what you're saying, Commissioner Barrett. I've -- I could tell you, yes, and we do the hold, and work behind scenes, against all of that. No, that's -- that's not what I'm going to do. What I'm going to ask is for Commissioner Arrington, regretfully or uncomfortably, put it on hold so we can try to find -- because they may find, I'm saying at a minimum 250, but you may come back and say you found 300. You may say you found 325, so what I'm saying to you, we still need the two weeks in order for them to come with a directive of what they can find. So that's why I wouldn't be comfortable with that today, because that locks us into 250. And so what I'm saying to you is, the purpose of my motion to hold is to find adequate funding or at least starter funding with the a truncated system that Dr. Roshell talked about, but still talking to the County Manager and the CFO to say, okay, did we find other \$150,000? Did we find the other 200,000? That is -- that is my goal. So here again, that's why I'm not going to move on this today. I could not, in good conscience, move on this today. But the purpose of my hold is what I have said openly out to all of my colleagues."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to hold, properly moved and seconded. Let's vote on that motion."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm still in the queue."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor.

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: Commissioner Thorne is --

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute, Commissioners. There's a simple motion on the floor to hold. Commissioner Thorne, Commissioner Arrington, Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I mean, I have -- I have some questions about the actual program, but since I probably can't speak to that because it's the motion to hold. In the meantime, I would like to, if we could get the 900 youth that are signed up, if we could see the cities and the towns that they are registered for. And then also, I'm a bit confused because it seems like we run it with the City of South Fulton; is that correct?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No, it's separate teen hiring fair. That has nothing to do with the Summer Youth Job Program."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Oh, okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That was a separate teen hiring fair --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "To -- totally separate, okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Separate, separate, separate."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "That's what I was kind of confused --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Just a minute. It's a separate program. Motion on the floor is to hold with the conditions that Vice Chair has spoken about. That's what's before us."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. And then I was going to see if there's any funding with our public safety partners as well. Because I know, I think the DA has a Youth Gang Prevention Grant, some stuff like that. If there's anybody that's willing to partner with us, I mean, across the street, would be great to look at funding from there as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. So on the motion to hold, it is uncomfortable for me because we need to get started on this sooner than later. On the -- on the funding sources, the \$5 million that we have advocated for the Diversion Center with the city of Atlanta, which didn't -- we didn't spend anywhere near that money last year. That is another potential funding source. You know, I'm sure I could ask Ms. Whitmore, and she could provide 20 or 30 additional funding sources. But you know, this, we need to move on this with urgency. I'm not supportive of the motion of the hold. But as long as we're going to get some money for our youth to make sure that they are engaged and employed and making money for the summer, then I'm going to support our youth being engaged and employed for the summer. I think we could do that today. I think we could direct the County Manager to bring us back a plan up to \$500,000 at the next meeting. We have implemented this program before. Some of the -- some of the money and some of the staff were used right here by Fulton County and Fulton County employees, right? And Fulton County departments hiring people in addition to outside people. I think we have a good enough County Manager and staff, and this is -- I hate the word, start this, right? Because this is not start, this is a reboot. We had this money for ten years straight; 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. So we're not starting anything. This money should be made available, and we should direct our staff to move with quickness to implement this so that people, our youth can have jobs for the summer and they can be engaged and

making money. So that, that's what we need to do. That's what should be done today. They were given the information and direction two weeks ago to see if the settlement funding, the Opioid Settlement funding could work. And if that couldn't work, then I assumed that they would have come back and two or three more options already. So like, we -- we need -- look, that we -- this thing has to be implemented. There has to be time for people to apply. There has to be time for employers. We should move this forward today, but as long as we're going to allocate some funding for our youth for the summer, then that's fine. The sooner we do it, the better. There's no reason we -- again, we have \$75 million left over every year on average for the last 12 years. And last year in 2025, we had \$89 million left over. We did not use all of the money for the Diversion Program with the city of Atlanta. I would hate to take the money from the \$50 million Jail Compliance Program. I wouldn't even recommend taking it from there. Take it from somewhere else where we know we're not going to use it like that Diversion Program with the city of Atlanta."

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

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Real brief. I seem to recall the portions of time where the funding for the -- we used for this came from, potentially, CARES Act money?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So we had multiple years of funding which didn't come from the general fund, just to clarify, it came from CARES Act funds. Just secondarily, I just would like to remind us with all budgetary decisions, while we can throw around loose things like, oh, we had 75 million and all that sort of stuff. We have a structurally imbalanced budget where we are funding for the future by savings from the prior year. The way our budgets are set up, and have been for a while, and we've got to some point in time, get to a point where these match, is where our expenditures exceed our revenues. And they have for a good number of years. So if we were -- had a structurally balanced budget where it was something different, an argument like Commissioner Arrington might make would seem to make a whole lot of sense. But we don't, so the argument doesn't make sense. So I am supportive of the motion to hold."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to hold. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Entertain a motion to recess for lunch and where we may exact -- items of Executive Session. We may consider items in real estate, litigation, and personnel. Please vote."

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

Recessed for Executive Session at 1:12 p.m.

Resumed Regular Session at 2:19 p.m.

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a motion to approve the request for representation in items 4, 5, and 6 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

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 settlement authority in item 7 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Have a motion to approve by Commission -- Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman, 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 appointment of Hearing Officers procurement appeals for a two-year term, namely Karen Mills of Mills Law and Eugene Fuller of the Fuller Law Firm to be reappointed for two-year terms?"

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."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "No further action items."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, under Commissioners' Action Items, **26-0222**, 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 North and Oliver Apartments, a 120-unit affordable, multifamily development; and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioner Barrett and Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Colleagues, this is another Westside TAD Ascension Grant release of funds request. This is for a 120 units of affordable housing. We heard from John Ahmann, who's the head of West Side Future Fund in public comment this morning. All of the units are affordable, all guaranteed affordable for 30 years. No displacement. This is an empty lot right now. It was lots with some -- you probably know exactly where it is, Vice Chair. It was two buildings that were kind of boarded up. They have been demolished now, so it's an empty lot. So this is a really positive thing, I think, for the area, it'll really help that corner. And it doesn't come out of the general fund, so no, no direct impact to our funding. So I would appreciate your favorable vote."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Happy to sponsor this, or happy to support this. I would like to also be a cosponsor."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No problem, absolutely. Everybody come on."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Chairman, I just want to say something right quick."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I just want to say, I have a great appreciation for my colleagues and our ability to work through what we need to work through and get stuff done. I want to go on record saying, I appreciate these last, what, three or four meetings, and how pleasant they've been. And everybody seems to find a point that they're able to find a compromise. And so I appreciate the Board and the direction that we're going in. We're not going to always agree. Some of us are very, very protective of what we consider our heart project. And you're going to be that as an elected official. But the respect is here. The respect of the colleagues is here. And I just want to take that opportunity to tell all of my colleagues, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Motion is to adopt."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0223**, Request approval of a resolution amending personnel procedure 205-16 regarding paid parental leave to provide up to 12 week -- 12 work

weeks of paid parental leave to eligible employees; and for other purposes sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion is to approve. Let me, very quickly, this is about investing in our employees, further investments in our employees. You know that we approved the childcare program last year. Thirdly, many, many public employers, as well as private employers, are offering 12 weeks. This would allow us, put us consistent with FMLA. And I would ask that you -- asking for your favorable vote. Where's Mr. Harmon so he can -- there he is."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Good morning, Commissioners. And I promise I'll be brief, Commissioner Rahman. Before I begin, I just think it's poignant that today is my son's 20th birthday. So I just want to say, happy birthday to him as we talk about paid parental leave. While I was not able to benefit from the county's program, I do believe, as the Chairman indicated that this is one of the better benefits that we offer to our employees that work at Fulton County. And while not all employees may benefit from it, it is a great tool to assist HR with recruitment, HR with retention, and improve employee engagement. And if you just allow me to just talk about some high points just to put in -- into perspective. In 2027 when Fulton County adopted the Paid Parental Leave Policy and implemented eight weeks, we were at top. We were, like, one of the first counties throughout the United States to do so. A lot of counties were talking about it, but we actually took action and made it a part of our benefit package. However, since then, you know, and I think that's a good thing. We start to see our competitors, our direct competitors or indirect competitors follow us with these initiatives. You see, the city of Atlanta now offers it, Cobb, DeKalb, and most notably, the federal government has adopted a 12-week paid parental leave incentive in 2022 -- in 2020. For the Board's information, since the adoption in 2017, 487 -- 485 employees have been able to benefit from this policy. And I did some rough math that that's an average of 48 employees per year that participate in the program. And if you take the average salary of Fulton County and the fact that we're paying eight weeks, that's roughly \$531,000 invested annually in allowing employees to participate in this program. That's less than .0 percent, point.07 percent of the county's overall budget, and does not require any additional resources to be allocated from the Board of Commissioners since these benefits are paid through the employee's current budgeted positions. One thing I think is also kudos to us and as proof that it's great retention tool, and was -- I was trying to get in contact Hakeem today to kind of rub it in his face, but he didn't answer his phone. The very first four employees who signed up for the program in January 2027 -- sorry, January 2017 are still with Fulton County today. Two of them are deputies, one is a Marshal, and I can't remember the other administrative position that the other young lady is in. But again, that's a testament that, you know, the -- the benefit is beneficial. Individuals do have a commitment to Fulton County after the benefit is leveraged, and it allows us to retain those folks in high-functioning positions."

I'll also add, Commissioners, that as we invest in Fulton County employees through this initiative, as the Chairman indicated, the Child Care Lottery that you authorized this year and the previous year, you know, we are being recognized ourselves. You know, just a few months ago, the Georgia Child Care Association reached out to HR to get more information about Fulton County's program and how we've been innovative in applying and allowing for child care benefits to be ruled out. And I suspect that as we adopt, and hopefully you adopt this change today. Again, we'll get another feather on our hat as to, we are truly trying to lead within the metro area as the public employer of choice. And through this initiative, we believe that positions us in that position to recruit and retain those valuables -- employees in the valuable -- in a vulnerable part of their growing of their families. And I'll stop there, Commissioners, and answer any questions you may have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for bringing this. I think it's a great move forward for us and for the would-be parents who work at Fulton County. I did check in with Mr. Hermon over the last couple days about when this would become effective. And obviously -- so the way he explained to me, it would become effective immediately upon signature and passage. And so I wanted to ask you if we could do a friendly amendment to include any folks who are on parental leave currently, that their eight weeks would get extended to the 12, and anybody who has already applied would get that same benefit. Are you --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No objection."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, perfect. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you. The -- who administers the program for us? Is it internal or external?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "It's a combination of HR and our third-party vendor, Sedgwick, who handles our FMLA. Because those --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "-- individuals who apply for this -- these, also run FMLA concurrently."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right. And on the -- I believe the way that federal program works, and a lot of others work, is there -- there's a requirement that the individual that receives -- receives it, has to work at least 12 weeks post the payment of the leave."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "I'm not familiar with that requirement."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Not that --"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "We have a requirement of the -- of you have to work a minimum of six months prior to being eligible for the leave, but not --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "But after --"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "-- post require --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "But there's no post -- there should be -- there should be a piece to it where there's a requirement after, you know, they take the leave. In other words, you can't take 12 weeks of leave, paid leave, and then leave the organization."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "I would agree, and --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And then there's sort like a requirement that there's 12 weeks, you know, minimum, that they work after that period of time."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "I can research those, those programs that you're talking about, Commissioner. And they --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I'm pretty sure that's the way the federal government -- but since you referenced the federal government program, I believe that's the way that that's set up. So it seems we should mirror that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I would -- I mean, I have no objection to that."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "I can -- I can make those changes, because most of those changes are under procedure side --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right, right."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "-- so we can make those changes --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "That's fair enough."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "-- and run them through the County Manager and the County Attorney's Office and get those changes included."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. All right, fair enough."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else? Yes, with -- right, that's correct. All right, let's vote, favorably I hope."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm scared to look. You didn't vote for it, did you? No."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**26-0224**, External Affairs, Presentation, 2027 Legislative Update."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. I have some good news, which is that this is the last 2026 legislative update. So, enjoy. Next slide, please."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, that's not necessarily true. It may be a special session."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Well, there will -- that's true. You're right, Chairman. Don't -- don't speak it into existence. As a reminder, these are the priorities that the Board adopted going into this year's session, and we're going to give an update. This was an unusual legislative session from the accounts of everyone I've talked to, just a lot of interesting dynamics underway. We'll go into the next slide, please. So April 2nd, we're now almost two weeks past Sine Die. The Governor has until May 12th to veto any legislation. And so we will be monitoring that very carefully. One of the most important tasks of the General Assembly is to adopt a budget. That is one of the things they're mandated to do. So a couple important updates, unfortunately, the funding for the Atlanta Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judgeship did not make it through the final process. However, the legislation for creating the budget -- the judgeship contingent upon funding, did pass. And what that means is that, and we'll talk about this in a second, that is they -- is the General Assembly considers the amended FY27 budget in January. That is another opportunity, we believe, to pursue that funding. There was also significant funding, NOW Comp waivers for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There was some expansion funding for a graduate medical education, additional funding for veterans. So there were some positive highlights in the adopted state budget. Next slide, please. So as I just said, the judgeships were created for five circuits, with the Atlanta Circuit here in Fulton County being one of those. Our judgeships and Clayton County's were both subject to Appropriations, and because they were not in the F27 budget. So we are monitoring that for the next session. Next slide, please. One of the priorities that you all included was Family Justice Center Act. This really creates framework for Family Justice Centers, which are sort of a one-stop shop for individuals are victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, child abuse, and human trafficking. So we're really excited to see this move forward. There's no funding attached. Other jurisdictions who have created these centers have done so with grants, philanthropic dollars, or through their local appropriations. But we will continue to monitor and advocate for state funding where

appropriate. Next slide, please. Next Gen 911, Jasmine, do you want to talk about this one? It's -- this was one of ACCG's top priorities. And again, this does affect, not necessarily Fulton County's 911 Center, but other 911 centers in our county, and we'll improve public safety across the county."

JASMINE CAMPBELL, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Jessica. This resolution is a constant -- constitutional amendment, and it authorizes a dedicated fund for Next Generation 911 and the transition for a statewide move to that system. So this question will be on the November 2026 ballot for voters. If approved by voters next year during the 2027 legislative session, the General Assembly will need to create enabling legislation, which will make the distribution of how the funds will be allocated to all counties in the state. We do expect ACCG to work during summer on proposed legislation for next year. And we will be monitoring how those funds are distributed once, if this does get approved in November."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Jasmine. Next slide, please. The -- one of the Bills that passed the Georgia Transportation Efficiency Authority. One of the things that this Bill did was extend the MARTA penny. And that was one of MARTA's legislative priorities going into this session. It also creates a new authority that would replace the ATL Board and take on some responsibilities of GRTA. And so there's a -- this makes some significant changes. We do expect that this will go through. I believe that this will take effect. But this was a little bit unexpected from, not where we were necessarily expecting this to go. But want a -- Jasmine, any other comment on impact for their -- that one?"

JASMINE CAMPBELL, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "There will be 13 members for this board. And so eight appointments are by the Governor, two are by Lieutenant Governor, two are by the Speaker of the House, and one by the Georgia Department of Transportation. Out of those 13, seven have to live in the 13 Metro Atlanta counties, that's called the non-attainment area. So there would be potentially a place for Fulton County to get an appointment with one of those seven that are required."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Jasmine. Next slide, please. One of the Bills that we talked about a lot this year was what was originally as House Bill 1116, and then companion legislation in Senate Bill 382. Ultimately, House Bill 1116 failed in the Senate on late on Sine Die. However, elements of that legislation were attached to Senate Bill 33. This has -- there's still some discussion about some portions of this Bill. But the effect of creating a local homestead option sales tax is an offset to some homestead exemptions was created. I think that's something that the CFO and team will want to continue to analyze is given how our sales tax distributions have worked here in Fulton County that may not be as beneficial in this county as it could be and some others. But I think that's something we have to do further analysis on. There are also some impacts in terms of the impact of the

floating -- the homestead exemption, the floating homestead for all jurisdictions. As you know, some counties have opted out, some have -- some school boards have opted out. And this kind of, I think this is where we -- everyone has opted in. Yes. So again, we'll be glad to answer any questions. And I think we provided you with ACCG's analysis on this legislation. Next slide, please. Again, a number of other tax-related Bills, we are tracking these and working with the Board of Assessors and the -- and ACCG and others. Some of these, just kind of understanding the impact on Fulton County and our tax digest timeline. Those are some of the concerns that have been raised. There is some discussion about how these will be implemented in some cases. So we'll continue to report back, don't want to belabor that during this discussion. Next slide, please. This is one of the most impactful Bills, and there have been letters, we talked about this at the last meeting. This had already passed. The House Bill 369, creating nonpartisan elections for almost all county roles in the five Metro Atlanta Counties. ACCG has requested that the Governor veto this Bill. Many have -- have indicated that they believe this is unconstitutional for there to be one set of rules for five counties that is different than the other 154. So that's something that we're continuing to monitor. And again, the Governor has until May 12th, if he does choose to veto this legislation. Next slide, please. House Bill 960, which was one of the kind of major Election Bills, did not pass. In fact, none of them major Election Bills passed in the end, which is one of the reasons there's been some discussion of a pop -- of a possible -- cannot speak today -- a possible special session this summer. Next slide, please. Again, won't go over all of these in details, but you can ask if there's any questions about these, we're glad to take those. Next slide. Finally, we'll be monitoring study committees over the summer. So these were a number that were set forth by members of our delegation, specifically Senators Halpern and Senator James. Next slide, please. So we will be having a wrap-up session with all the liaisons, your staff, and you, of course, are welcome to join us for that call. We've been doing that every Friday during session, just to go over these. And we'll have more discussion about that after the veto deadline. We'll prepare a weekly report. Of course, a ACCG has meetings over the summer, and we'll be serving departments about any priorities for the next year. With that, we can take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Got two questions."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Sure."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Or two areas for questions. On slide seven, House Bill 297, there's a bullet point that says that this new authority assumes responsibility for federal transit funds and transportation improvement programs and non-attainment counties. You could -- if you know this, it's fine, or if not, you can look -- you can look it up and let

me know. Does this mean that this group will have responsibility for federal transit funds that will also be flowing to MARTA?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I think that's something we would -- let us research that to verify that --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: -- to verify that. Because I -- my understanding is even in the ATL Board era, MARTA has had some direct grants, was my impression. But --

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "-- please allow us to research that so we don't misspeak --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah, this -- yeah, whatever their responsibility is in terms of, like --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Sure."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- MARTA oversight, I guess."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And then on slide eight in Senate Bill 33, just so --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes, we do have an error on this slide, Commissioner, before -- if you -- I'm sorry, just in case --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay, go ahead."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "-- if that -- that is the bullet that says, can apply to all properties or only homesteads. That is -- actually should say, should applies to homestead exemptions only."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Gotcha."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Apologies for that."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So if -- all right, sort of maybe two questions here. The one, I guess, where the big one is, there -- this does not mandate any sort of new concept of a homestead exemption, such that it gets phased over a year at a time, such that there are no homesteaded property taxes? That was off the table, that's --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "That was taken off the table, yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "That was one variation. So that's -- that was eliminated. It doesn't mandate the floating homestead exemption --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- for all schools, cities, you know --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes, sir, all local government."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- counties, all local governments, which that Bill was done in 2024?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Correct, and --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right, so --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- the standard floater where which -- of which we operate under at the moment, which is very similar to the one we operated under prior."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "So the -- if this were -- if the Governor were to sign this, like, tomorrow or whenever, if he signed it right now, I know it's effective upon his signature. But for which -- is there any conceivable situation where this would apply for this current tax year, or would this only be for tax year 2027? You see what I'm saying?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I do understand. I understand the question. And I'm looking at Jasmine to see if she happens to know the answer to that off the top of her head, though. We will verify that --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "-- because I don't want to misspeak."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Well, could I just make a comment. I -- I'm not sure that I know the answer exactly to that question. But these Bills, this one being one, and then there's another one, having to do with formatting, we just met on last week. We've reached out to ACCG, but as of right now, it's jeopardizing our timeline as it relates to our property tax bills. Because A, we don't know what to program yet,

because DOR has not given any guidance. And B, when we do know what to program, that's now got to be built into the schedule. So --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So I did talk to Chairman Lee Morris last night. We're going to have a call on Friday, hopefully we have something back from ACCG. I contacted Dave, but you know, he doesn't know when the Governor is going to sign, nor, much less when DOR is going to issue some guide -- the good news is, everybody's somewhat in the same situation."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right. I mean, I guess there's sort of a little bit different if you were -- I mean, I'm not diminishing that issue, but that's an administrative thing, right, versus if you were a jurisdiction that did not have this, and you had --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "For sure."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- your --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "To recalculate --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- budgeted so forth --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "-- exemption, yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- in flight --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- based upon this not being in existence. Now, it doesn't change, you know -- it changes your growth mechanism. This is not a look back --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Right."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- right? But so, I guess it just would be -- it would be interesting to know that for not only the potential impacts on jurisdictions' budgetary processes, but also it's a further administrative item, if it's potentially effective. Now, we would have the data, I guess, which would be good, right, you know? But maybe not, maybe you have to -- it's a new date in which you're setting it for that particular jurisdiction."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I think that's a --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I mean, it's probably worthwhile to have them come in and make a presentation. I'm talking about now, the Tax Assessors Office. Giving us two more weeks --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Once they get the -- yeah."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "-- to know what all these implications are, and then Jessica to do some research --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Sure."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "-- with ACCG on timing."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Don't take any vacation."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "We will be --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "No conferences."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "ACCG's conference, next week actually. So I know this will be a hot topic --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Not talking about for the County Commissioners --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I'm talking about for the Tax Assessors."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yeah. But we will verify that. I just would prefer not to misspeak."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "That's fine. But I think it's important we get some --"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Understand."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "-- clarity particularly on -- on this particular tax issue, so."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "That's a very important point. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So back to four -- 297."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Do you know what vote was?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "I do not, as I speak, but we'll get that to you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That would instructive to know what the vote was."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Okay, we'll get that for you. Any other questions for us today?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Don't think so."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "All right, thank you very much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk, anything else?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No further items that come before us. Thank you for your participation. We are adjourned."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.