

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

October 01, 2025

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: November 5, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts

10:01 a.m.

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

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)

PRESENT

Bridget Thorne, Commissioner (District 1)

PRESENT

Bob Ellis, Vice-Chairman (District 2)

PRESENT

Dana Barrett, Commissioner (District 3)

PRESENT

Mo Ivory, Commissioner (District 4)

PRESENT

Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner (District 5)

PRESENT

Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner (District 6)

PRESENT

INVOCATION: Reverend Donald E. Bolton, 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**25-0725 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

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

Absent: Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

25-0726 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Michael Anthony Taylor Remembrance Day."
(Arrington)
September 19, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Alex Delotch Davis Appreciation Day."
(Barrett/Ivory/Arrington/Abdur-Rahman)
September 20, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Jasmine Guy Appreciation Day."
(Barrett/Ivory/Arrington/Abdur-Rahman)
September 20, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Keshia Walker Appreciation Day."
(Barrett/Ivory/Arrington/Abdur-Rahman)
September 20, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Todd Harris Appreciation Day."
(Barrett/Ivory/Arrington/Abdur-Rahman)
September 20, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Jermaine Dupri Appreciation Day."
(Barrett/Ivory/Arrington/Abdur-Rahman)
September 20, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Arts in Health Appreciation Day." **(Barrett/Ivory)**
September 27, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Alpha Merit Badge University Appreciation Day."
(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Ellis/Thorne/Barrett/Ivory)
September 27, 2025

Commissioners' District Board Appointments**25-0727****Board of Commissioners****DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

The seven (7) members of this board are appointed directly from the County governing authority, effective July 1, 1994, as a result of Senate Bill 469. If the County Governing authority fails to make an appointment within 90 days after the vacancy occurs, the DHR Commissioner is authorized to make the appointment. Incumbents whose terms have expired continue to serve until a successor is appointed. The Official Code of Georgia does not provide any guidance for determining which Commissioner should nominate an appointee in the event of a vacancy. However, the Board of Commissioners adopted a policy at the Recess Meeting, September 18, 1991, item #91-FM-150, assigning one position on the DFACS board to each Commission district.

Term = Five (5) years

Term below expired: 6/30/2024

Vacant (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Robert Hill for a District appointment to a term ending June 30, 2029.

Open & Responsible Government**25-0728****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 Medley Johns Creek Phase 2 Owner, 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 11660 Johns Creek Pkwy, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0729**Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Resolution approving a Radio Communications Tower Lease Agreement between Fulton County, Georgia (Lessee) and the Georgia Technology Authority (Lessor), for premises located at 5651 Stonewall Tell Road, College Park, Georgia from the effective date through December 31, 2025, with nine (9) annual renewal terms, at no monetary rental cost to the County; authorizing the Chairman to execute the Lease Agreement and related documents; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the Lease Agreement and related documents as to form and to make any modifications thereto prior to execution; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0730 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Resolution approving corrective quit claim deeds for property previously transferred from Fulton County (Grantor) to the Metro Atlanta Land Bank (Grantee) via Quit Claim Deed; authorizing the Chairman to execute the corrective quit claim deeds and related documents; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the corrective quit claim deeds and related documents as to form and to make necessary modifications thereof prior to execution; and for other purposes.

(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Health and Human Services**25-0731 Public Works**

Request approval of a change order less than 10% - Public Works, 17RFP031617K-DJ Progressive Design/Build Services for Big Creek Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Expansion Project Phase 2B in the amount not to exceed \$4,810,722.37 to recognize a substantial completion date of August 6, 2025 and to change the final completion date to October 31, 2025 with Archer Western-Brown and Caldwell Joint Venture (Atlanta, GA) to cover costs and time associated with the completion of the project. Effective upon BOC approval.

(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Justice and Safety**25-0732 State Court**

Request approval to extend an existing contract - State Court, 14RFP93286A-CJC System with File & ServeXpress LLC (Irving, TX), to provide an integrated electronic filing system for all case types within the jurisdiction of the State Court for an additional 12 month period effective October 5, 2025 through October 4, 2026. This is a revenue-generating contract. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

FIRST REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**25-0733 Board of Commissioners**

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Ivory and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to adopt the First Regular Meeting as amended by removing items #25-0719 and #25-0720 as requested by Commissioner Ivory. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

25-0734 Clerk to the CommissionRatification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

First Regular Meeting Minutes, September 3, 2025

Second Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, September 17, 2025

A motion was made by Commissioner Ivory and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to ratify the meeting minutes. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Ivory

Absent: Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Pitts

25-0735 Board of CommissionersPresentation of Proclamations and Certificates. **(PRESENTED)**

Proclamation recognizing "Filipino American History Month."
(Pitts/Ellis/Thorne/Barrett/Ivory/Abdur-Rahman)

Proclamation recognizing "Let's Talk Month."
(Pitts/Ellis/Barrett/Ivory/Abdur-Rahman)

Proclamation recognizing "Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Appreciation Day." **(Thorne/Pitts/Ellis/Ivory)**

Proclamation recognizing "GALEO Appreciation Day."
(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Barrett/Ivory)

Proclamation recognizing "Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Month."
(Barrett/Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Ellis/Thorne/Ivory)

Proclamation recognizing "Domestic Violence Awareness Month."
(Abdur-Rahman/Pitts/Ellis/Thorne/Barrett/Ivory)

PUBLIC HEARINGS**25-0736 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)

10 Speakers: P. Christine Mayfield (Sadie G Mays); Milkshake Mayfield (Sadie G Mays); LA Pink (Jail/Sheriff); Walter Reeves (State-International Affairs); Johnny Wise (Sadie G Mays); Shirley Coleman (Sadie G Mays); Caitlin White (Animal Court Cases); Reed Stillson (City/Property Taxes); Margie McCloud (Magistrate Court Funding); Jodi William (Magistrate Court Funding)

2 Zoom Speakers: Chris Hayden (Republican BRE Nominees); Matt Rowenczak (Republican BRE Nominees)

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD**Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority****25-0737 Board of Commissioners**
MARTA Quarterly Update (PRESENTED)

COUNTY MANAGER'S RENEWAL ITEMS**Health and Human Services****25-0738 Public Works**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Public Works, 25ITB1357598A-ST, Soft Dig Services in an amount not to exceed \$254,500.00 with (A) Southern Hydro Vac, LLC dba AIMS Companies (Powder Spring, GA), in the amount of \$127,250.00 and (B) Vacutek Integrated Services (Buford, GA), in the amount of \$127,250.00 to provide soft dig services. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0739 Senior Services

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Senior Services, 21RFP000016A-CJC, Alternative Senior Transportation Services in an amount not to exceed \$3,134,178.00 with Common Courtesy (Atlanta, GA) to provide transportation services/ride sharing to eligible Fulton County residents aged 60 and above. This action exercises the fourth of four renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0740 Senior Services

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Senior Services, 21RFP000027A-CJC, Senior Transportation Services in an amount not to exceed \$7,625,171.58 with Transdev, Incorporated (East Point, GA) to provide transportation services for Senior Services and Behavioral Health programs. This is the fourth of four renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0741 Senior Services

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Senior Services, 23RFP137278A-CJC, Comprehensive Nutrition Care in an amount not to exceed \$2,725,884.69 with Open Hand Atlanta (Atlanta, GA) to provide congregate and home delivered meals, meal delivery, nutrition education and nutrition counseling for Fulton County residents aged 60 and above. This action exercises the third of four renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0742 Senior Services

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Senior Services 22RFP035A-CJC, Aging Services in the total amount of \$4,363,792.43 with (A) Senior Services North, Inc. (Alpharetta, GA) in the amount of \$1,779,844.50; (B) South Fulton Senior Services (College Park, GA) in the amount of \$1,469,171.63; and (C) Visiting Nurses Health Systems (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$1,114,776.30 to provide Aging Services for Fulton County seniors aged 60 and above. This action exercises the third of four renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective date January 1, 2026 thru December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0743 Senior Services

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Senior Services, 25ITB1357652AKM, Indigent Burial Services in the amount not to exceed \$494,975.00 with Mutual Meadows Inc. (Peachtree Corners, GA), to provide dignified professional burial services as a last resort for any deceased person declared indigent or unclaimed Fulton County resident if the death occurred within Fulton County. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0744 Senior Services

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Senior Services, 23ITB125742A-BKJ, Therapeutic Pool Maintenance Services in an amount not to exceed \$228,924.00 with United Pool Maintenance of Georgia, LLC (Roswell, GA), to provide pool maintenance, repair and preventive maintenance for all four Senior Multipurpose Facilities. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.
(APPROVED)

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

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

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****25-0745 Finance**

Presentation, review, and approval of October 1, 2025, Budget Soundings and Resolution. **(PRESENTED/APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis

25-0746 Registration & Elections

Request approval of an amendment to the existing Annual Maintenance Listing (AML) software & hardware service contracts - Department of Registration & Elections with Dominion Voting Systems, Inc. to change service periods from rolling 12-month contracts to a calendar year, January 1 to December 31. Request approval of \$343,222.68. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0747 Registration & Elections

Request approval of a statewide contract - Registration & Elections, SWC# 99999-001-SPD0000211-0002, Printing Services in the amount of \$125,000.00 with Moore Partners, Inc. dba More Business Solutions (Peachtree Corners, GA) to provide printing services for the preparation and operation of the Public Service Commission General / Municipal General and Runoff Elections. Effective August 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0748 Registration & Elections

Request approval of a statewide contract - Registration & Elections, SWC# 99999-SPDES40199376IS-02, In-State Car Rental in the amount not to exceed \$480,214.68 with Enterprise Leasing of Georgia, LLC (Atlanta, GA) for the rental of box trucks, passenger vehicles and cargo vans, total rental of 126 vehicles for the Public Service Commission General / Municipal General and Runoff Elections. Effective September 9, 2025, through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0749 Registration & Elections

Request approval of a statewide contract - Registration & Elections, SOS# 47800-SOS0000037, Master Solution Purchase and Services Agreement in the amount of \$427,836.60 KNOWINK, LLC (St. Louis, MO) to adhere to Secretary of State mandated mail for 'No General Election' mail notices. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0750 Registration & Elections

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement, Registration & Elections, to conduct Special Elections in conjunction with the November 4, 2025, Public Service Commission General / Municipal Elections and the December 2, 2025, Public Service Commission General runoff / Municipal Runoff elections for the City of: Alpharetta, Atlanta, Chattahoochee Hills, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Johns Creek, Milton, Mountain Park, Palmetto, Roswell, Sandy Springs, South Fulton, and Union City. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0751 Registration & Elections

Request approval to increase spending authority - Registration & Elections, SWC# 99999-001-SPD0000136, Temporary Staffing Services - Clerical & Light in the amount of \$180,000.00 with Abacus Corporation (Morrow, GA) to cover the cost of additional work hours and staffing to conduct the Senate District 21 election, which was not included in the original 2025 election calendar, additional spending authority is requested in case expenses exceed the original allocation. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

Yea: Pitts, Barrett, Ivory, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Thorne, and Ellis

25-0752 Information Technology

Request approval to increase spending authority - Information Technology, 22ITBC1006B-PS, Fulton PC Refresh Enterprise Workstation, in an amount not to exceed \$850,000.00 with CDW Government LLC (Vernon Hills, IL) to provide enterprise business class desktop personal computers (PCs), laptops, monitors and docking stations, specialty computing devices to include iPads, iMacs, MS Surface Pros and supporting peripherals. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Health and Human Services**25-0753 Public Works**

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing - Department of Public Works, Sourcewell Contract # 9999-001-SPD0000177-0024, Heavy Construction Equipment with Related Attachments and Technology in the amount not to exceed \$249,160.00 with Caterpillar through Sourcewell's Authorized Representative Yancey Bros. (Atlanta, GA), for the purchase and delivery of one (1) Caterpillar, Inc. Model: 315 Excavator. This is a one-time procurement. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0754 Public Works

Request approval of a Resolution that will authorize an increase of five percent (5%) to the water and sewer volumetric rate increase for each of the next two (2) years; to make the necessary increases to the water and sewer fee schedules; to approve modifications to the water connection fees for North Fulton; to provide for an effective date; and for other purposes which are necessary to complete the projects included in the 2025 Water Masterplan and the Public Works Capital Improvement Program. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**25-0719 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval a Resolution to amend Fulton County's current budget to increase the departmental budget for Magistrate Court by \$178,000.00 based on current underruns in the County's overall 2025 fiscal year budget; and for other purposes. **(Ivory/Barrett/Arrington) (MOTION TO APPROVE AS AMENDED FAILED ON 9/17/25) (REMOVED)**

25-0720 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to amend Fulton County's current budget to increase the departmental budget for the office of the Public Defender, Atlanta Judicial Circuit, by \$1,428,000.00, based on current underruns in the County's overall 2025 fiscal year budget; and for other purposes. **(Ivory/Barrett/Arrington) (MOTION TO APPROVE AS AMENDED FAILED ON 9/17/25) (REMOVED)**

25-0722 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General Provisions and County Governing Authority), Article II (County Governing Authority), Division 2 (Rules of Order and Procedure), Section 101-63 (Presiding Officer and Rules for Debate) of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED ON 9/17/25) (APPROVED)**

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

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

Nay: Barrett, Ivory, and Arrington

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

Yea: Barrett, Ivory, and Arrington

Nay: Pitts, Thorne, and Ellis

Abstain: Abdur-Rahman

25-0755 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to increase the compensation paid to each member of the Fulton County Boards of Equalization from \$100.00 per day to \$150.00 per day; and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD)**

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

b. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to prioritize the \$150.00 enhancement in the FY2026 Budget along with the recommendations from the County Attorney. **(WITHDRAWN)**

Commissioner Arrington offered a friendly amendment to make the requested enhancement recurring with annual cost of living increases. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman did not accept the friendly amendment.

Commissioner Abdur-Rahman withdrew the motion.

Commissioner Thorne withdrew the second.

c. A substitute motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to hold. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Barrett, Ivory, and Arrington

25-0756 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to direct County management to develop a comprehensive “Project Care” public health strategic plan that addresses the healthcare disparities in Fulton County as outlined in the 2023 “Project Care” study and builds on efforts already underway; to include related costs in the FY2026 budget as needed; to ensure that the “Project Care” plan includes goals, key performance indicators, and regular reporting to the Board of Commissioners; and for other purposes. **(Barrett) (FILED)**

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

b. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to file. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Barrett, Ivory, and Arrington

EXECUTIVE SESSION**25-0757 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

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, Ivory, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve the requests for representation in items #1, #2, #3, and #4 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
FIRST REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 2025
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC
"A Court Reporting Firm"

(Whereupon, the meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the First Regular Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners in October. Today is October 1st, 2025. It is 10:01 a.m. Madam Clerk, please, call the roll."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chairman Bob Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Mo Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr. Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman. Mr. Chairman, you have a quorum."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Please rise for the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **25-0725**, Adoption of the Consent Agenda - All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the First Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: All right. Anything on the consent agenda? Madam Clerk, no? Commissioners, no?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll entertain a motion to adopt the consent agenda. All right, motion to adopt by Vice Chair Ellis; seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote.

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

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 4, First Regular Meeting Agenda, **25-0733**, Adoption of the First Regular Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, there are two items to be removed from today's agenda. On page 9, 25-0719: Request approval of a Resolution to increase the departmental budget of the Magistrate Court; and 25-0720: Request approval of a Resolution is to increase the departmental budget for the Office of the Public Defender. These items have been requested to be removed by Commissioner Ivory."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to adopt the agenda as amended by Commissioner Ivory; seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0734**, Ratification of Minutes: First Regular Meeting Minutes, September 3rd; Second Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, September 17th, 2025."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Ivory; seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 5, **25-0735**, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates: First proclamation is recognizing 'Filipino American History Month' sponsored by Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Ellis, Commissioners Thorne, Barrett, Ivory, and Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Do we have anybody here who wants to come down for the proclamation for the Filipino American National Historical Society? Oh, wonderful. Thank you. All right, welcome. Good morning, everybody. WHEREAS, the Filipino American National Historical Society established Filipino American History Month in 1992, and Filipino Americans make up one of the largest Asian American ethnic groups in the United States today; and WHEREAS, the mission of Filipino American History

Month is to honor the rich history, enduring contributions, and legacy of early Filipino settlers in the United States, and to educate and inspire younger generations to take pride in their heritage and offers an opportunity for all Americans to learn about and appreciate the deep rooted impact of Filipino Americans on our nation's history; and WHEREAS, during World War II, more than 260,000 Filipinos and Filipino American soldiers bravely served and sacrificed under the American flag. The Filipino veterans of World War II, Congressional Gold Medal Act, unanimously passed through Congress, and was signed into law in December of 2016; and WHEREAS, Filipino Americans have contributed to our society through their service in the Armed Forces, skills and expertise as medical and healthcare professionals, scientists, entrepreneurs, and accountants, educators, lawyers, and their participation in public offices, civic affairs, economy, and the community life; and WHEREAS, the contributions of Filipino Americans have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness that America continues to enjoy today. And the customs and traditions of Filipino Americans are respected and celebrated as part of the rich history of our state and nations. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Filipino American History Month and the more than 50,000 Filipino Georgians who have made great contributions, the multi-faceted fabric of our society; and does hereby proclaim the month of October 2025 as 'Filipino American History Month' in Fulton County, Georgia."

JANE ROLEN, RECIPIENT: "On behalf of the Honorary Consul General of the Philippines, and being the chairman of the Filipino American History Month, a committee of Georgia, we thank you, Commissioner and Commissioners; everyone here. We are so happy to be here and we are so proud that we are now being seen. Representation matters, and we want to be seen and we want to be heard; and rest assured that we will be continuing to serve and to be worthy of this nation. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Let's Talk Month' sponsored by Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Ellis, Commissioners Barrett, Ivory, and Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Do we have representatives, I think, from public health who are going to join us? All right. WHEREAS, each year the Fulton County -- come on down, come on down. Come on. Gather in here close, let's go. Looks like you're excited about Let's Talk Month, right? Just starting the day, right? Thirty-one days to go. All right. WHEREAS, each year, the Fulton Board of Health joins medical professionals nationwide in recognizing October as Let's Talk Month, a time to encourage parents and caregivers to engage in open and honest groups conversations with their children about important topics such as sexuality and healthy relationship; and WHEREAS, these conversations address important issues including body image, mental health, boundaries, end the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections; and WHEREAS, the Fulton County Board of Health recognizes that while the talk with teens about sex may be difficult, it's critically important beginning conversations early having them often, often, often, and continue them over time can make a greater impact than a single discussion; and WHEREAS, studies have found that when parents provide accurate information and engage in open and honest discussions with their teens about relationships, they promote healthier outcomes, and reduce the likelihood of risky behavior; and WHEREAS, the Fulton County Board of Health through its adolescent health programs, SKY, which stands for skills, knowledge, and youth empowerment, and adolescent and healthy youth program, AHYD, program, provides

youth based, evidence based sexual health education to adolescences along with tips and tools to support parents and caregivers in having these essential conversations. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners hereby commends the Fulton County Board of Health for its commitment to supporting parents and teams in having meaningful and impactful compensations to improve overall health and well-being for adolescents; and does hereby proclaim October 2025 as 'Let's Talk Month' in Fulton County, Georgia. All right."

RECIPIENT: "It's an honor to accept this proclamation on behalf of the Fulton County Board of Health's health promotion division, where we operate two well-established programs, the adolescent health and youth development program, and the skills, knowledge, and youth empowerment program that are both dedicated to educating teens about the risks of sexual behaviors and to help reduce those risks. But we also honor the role that parents play in educating their youth about sexual health. We know that initiating these conversations can be awkward and difficult, but no one ever said that parenting was easy. Anyone who said that it is was maybe not telling the entire full truth, but we know that parents remain one of the strongest influences in whether or not a kid will engage in risky behaviors, and that's what Let's Talk Month is all about. We like to take this time to encourage parents to push past that discomfort and open the door to honest conversations about sexual health and other issues that their teens face. Our programs are also about supporting parents in opening these conversations, the line of communication in helping them to build confidence in having these conversations with their youth. This year, our focus of our sexual -- our Let's Talk month activities are in the dangers of the digital world. Social and online spaces expose youth to pressures, misinformation and unsafe behaviors, and equipping parents with having real conversations about these risks is essential to keeping our youth safe. To that end, I invite all parents to our seminar Let's Talk Month event on October 15th at the Jefferson Park Rec Center in East Point from 6:30 to 8:30. It's titled 'Keeping It 100', about the dangers of the digital world. On behalf of the health promotion division, I thank Chairman Pitts, Commissioner Ellis, and the full Board of Commissioners for this proclamation and their ongoing support in strengthening families and empowering youth in Fulton. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioners Thorne, Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Ellis and Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It's my pleasure to give a proclamation to the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and I've got my fellow Commissioner, Mo Ivory, here by my side, who also has a Hispanic background. I just admire the work they do as being the vital empowering Georgia Hispanic business, being the -- getting Hispanic leaders in commerce and industry; and kind of basically being the support of these businesses in fostering courage to Latin American entrepreneurs. I had the pleasure of going on a trip with them to Columbia, and it was a pleasure to see the barriers that exist in how they try to eliminate those barriers for business to come in here and investing here, and in supporting those businesses once they're here. They just hosted the US National Hispanic Chamber. They had about 800 people, and everybody loved it, had a great time. They said they loved the southern Latin hospitality here in Georgia, so, THEREFORE, WHEREAS, the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is a

501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to promote and support the domestic and international economic development of Hispanic businesses and individuals, and to serve as a link between non-Hispanic entities and the Hispanic market in the state of Georgia; and WHEREAS, the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was established in 1984 with a focus on business formation, business growth, and civic and leadership development and engagement; and WHEREAS, the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has over 1,000 members making it one of the largest Hispanic Chambers in the United States, and has over ten networking and workshop opportunities each month; and WHEREAS, the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce serves entrepreneurs and business owners through consultations, workshops, and seminars and partners with organizations to bring quality programming to the Hispanic business community; and WHEREAS, the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce provides access to networking groups in Gwinnett, North Fulton, Cobb, Douglas, DeKalb, Gainesville, and South Georgia. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, in honor and recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for its many contributions to the fabric of our society; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 1, 2025, as 'Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "I just want to say real quickly that as the first Afro Latina Commissioner on the Board of Commissioners, I'm presenting this proclamation today not in the name that most people know me which is Mo Ivory, but in my real name, which is Moraima, and that is given to me by mother who was born in the Dominican Republic and came to the United States, and in honor my grandmother, Lupita Rodriguez, who lived to be 112 years old and was born in Mexico City. And so, I'm very proud to be here today to present this to you."

ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ, RECIPIENT: "Gracias, Modima. Good morning, friends, my name is Anthony Rodriguez. I'm pleased to serve as the parliamentarian for the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. And on behalf of the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, our Board, our staff, and our members, I want to express our gratitude as we receive this proclamation from Commissioner Thorne and Chairman Pitts and the entire Fulton County Board of Commissioners today during Hispanic Heritage Month. This honor not only acknowledges our efforts, but also fuels our passion to continue driving for positive change in fostering vibrant business relationships within our community. We're deeply appreciative of this recognition which serves as a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in our mission. Together, we're building bridges, empowering entrepreneurs, and creating opportunities that resonate far beyond our own community. So again, thank you, Fulton County, for your unwavering support and your belief in our vision. We're excited to continue this journey together making impactful strides for a brighter future. And I would be remised if I did not mention that you do not have to be Hispanic, or own a Hispanic business to be part of the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. We want to help uplift any business that is here in our community uplifting and supporting Hispanics, which I think we all serve and would love to do. So thank you very much."

NORMA ZUNIGA-CARDOZA, RECIPIENT: "Buenos Dias, Buenos Dias. All right. Good morning. I also wanted to thank and on behalf -- from our CEO and president

Veronica Montanaldors-Torres, who couldn't join us today; our Board of Directors, and the dedicated teams at the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. I'm Norma Zuniga-Cardoza. I'm the Executive Director of the Hispanic Business Center. We are a nonprofit, and the business educational arm of the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and we are very, very grateful also to receive this during the Hispanic Heritage Month. This month is a powerful reminder of the impact of the Latino community with a four trillion-dollar GDP. We are driving growth, innovation, and opportunity across the nation. Thank you to our Board member, Anthony Rodriguez, for his inspiring remarks. At the Hispanic Business Center, we remain committed to equipping Hispanic businessowners with the tools and support they need to thrive, and thank you to Fulton County for believing in our mission. Gracias"

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Month'."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, this is -- we're going to do the breast cancer one now unless you want to do the -- since the GALEO folks are already up here. Douglas, can we switch out and do the GALEO one, please? Sorry to confuse everybody, but we've already got people standing up here for it, so let's do that and we'll put this aside."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'GALEO Appreciation Day'."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can all the members of GALEO, please, join us that are present. Okay. All right. You all, this is a day that I'm very proud to do, because it is during Hispanic Heritage Month. WHEREAS, GALEO is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Norcross, Georgia and founded in 2003 by Jerry Gonzales. Representative Sam Zamarripa -- I don't if I'm saying that right. Please forgive me -- and Representative Pedro Marin. The organization is based in Norcross, Georgia, but has a strong presence in Metro Atlanta and communities across Georgia with high Latino population; and WHEREAS, GALEO strives for a better Georgia where the Latino population is engaged in building community. Their contributions are respected, and policy measures reflect their values; and WHEREAS, their mission is to increase civic participation by educating and empowering the Latino community and to develop Latino leaders throughout strategic leadership programs throughout the entire state of Georgia; and WHEREAS, when this organization was first established, Georgia's Latino community was not as well represented as it is today, nor was it a viable electoral force. Today, there are nearly one million Latino citizens in the state of Georgia. You can feel free to clap for that; with over 400,000 registered to vote, up from just 10,000 in 2003. And WHEREAS, since its inception, GALEO has approached community organizing as a means to which the Georgia's Latinx community needs will be identified, shared, and addressed through empowerment, enhance leadership skills, and opportunities for involvement. So it is with great pride that me and my colleagues NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes GALEO for highlighting the many contributions of the Latino community and the fabric of this great Society; and does hereby provide proclaim Wednesday, October 1st, 2025 as 'GALEO Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Would you please put your hands together for a

wonderful organization? Do we have anybody to speak on it? Are we good? Okay. All right. We'll take the picture."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Month', sponsored by Commissioners Barrett, Abdur-Rahman, Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Ellis, Commissioners Thorne and Ivory."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "While we're bringing everybody up, we are going to recognize the Board of Health for their efforts around breast cancer and cervical cancer screening; but I want to say it's breast cancer awareness month in October as always, and I would like to invite anybody in the audience who's been touched by breast cancer; survivors, or if you've had family members and you'd like to stand with us, you're more than welcome to come down and join us. I think, you know, having folks stand with us here is really about reminding everyone to get their screenings. I'm a breast cancer survivor. I'm about 12 years past my own breast cancer. My mother is a breast cancer survivor of about 23 years, I believe now, and we both are here today because we had our mammograms and we had early detection. So I really, really encourage everybody to get screened, and with that, I will read the proclamation. WHEREAS, breast cancer is a leading cause of cancer-related death among women in Georgia with black women and women in rural communities experiencing disproportionately higher mortality rates; and WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Public Health sites early detection as critical to increase chances of surviving breast and cervical cancers; and WHEREAS, the Fulton County Board of Health breast and cervical cancer prevention program diagnoses and advises women on the best treatment options for these potentially deadly illnesses; and WHEREAS, the breast and cervical cancer prevention program provides screenings, diagnostic services, and referrals for treatment to help reduce the impact of breast and cervical cancer on uninsured or underinsured women in Fulton County; and WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2025, the Board of Health provided services to more than 260 Fulton County women for breast or cervical cancer at their clinics in Adamsville, College Park, Vine City, and North Fulton. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commends the Fulton County Board of Health for its work to connect our communities with care and resources; and does hereby proclaim October 2025 as 'Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Month' in Fulton County, Georgia."

SHONDA MUFA, RECIPIENT: "Good morning, everyone. My name is Shonda Mufa [Phonetic.]. I am a nurse manager and also nurse practitioner with Fulton County Board of Health; and on behalf of Fulton County Board of Health, we would like to thank Commissioner Pitts and all the Commissioners for taking the time to recognize our continued work in the fight against breast and cervical cancer. For more than 30 years, Fulton County Board of Health has been dedicated to ensuring access to breast and cervical cancer screenings through the BCCP program. We are proud to provide these screenings every day of the year, not just in October, because we know that early detection saves lives. We are especially committed to serving women who are Fulton County residents, who are underinsured or uninsured, making sure that financial barriers don't stand in the way of care or access to screenings. Appointments are available at any of our centers, often same day, next day, or within the same week. During the week of October 13th through October 17th, we will be providing walk-in services to the community for breast exams, mammogram referrals, and cervical cancer

screenings. We invite everyone to stay connected with us through our social media channels for updates and resources on preventing breast and cervical cancer. And again, we want to thank you for recognizing our commitment to prevention, early detection, and equitable care for community."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Domestic Violence Awareness Month' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Ellis, Commissioners Thorne, Barrett, and Ivory."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Feet of Clay or Sequoia -- Feet of Clay, can you please come down? Thank you. Oh, y'all wore purple, I'm sorry. My favorite color. Exactly, I should have worn the other color. This proclamation, WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month was first observed in October of 1981 as a national day of unity to unite advocates across the nation in efforts to end domestic violence; and WHEREAS, community and advocacy organizations across the country connect with the public and one another throughout the month to raise awareness about the signs of abuse and the ways to stop it; and to uplift survivor stories and provide additional resources to leaders and policymakers; and WHEREAS, Feet of Clay, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic abuse in Metropolitan Atlanta, with a mission to provide survivors of domestic violence with safe shelter, resources, and other things to ensure a successful transition to a life free of violence; and WHEREAS, under the leadership of founder and CEO, Lawanda Jordan, who is also a survivor of domestic violence, Feet of Clay has served as a beacon of light to those seeking refuge from dark and dangerous domestic situation and helps to release the shame and silence often associated with abuse; and WHEREAS, everyone has the opportunity to make the difference in ending domestic violence and use our resources to raise awareness of domestic violence in our communities. And a personal note, I am a survivor myself of domestic violence. And so, this hits home with me, and it's with great appreciation and humble pride that NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners supports efforts to end domestic violence in our communities; and does hereby proclaim the month of October 2025 as 'Domestic Violence Awareness Month' in Fulton County."

MARGIE YONDORF, RECIPIENT: "Good morning, everyone. My name is Margie Yondorf. I'm on the Board of Directors for Feet of Clay and on behalf of our founder, LaWanda Jordan, who could not be with us this morning; I want to make the Commissioners for this proclamation and for recognizing the first day of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We're a very small -- three people nonprofit, but this year alone, we have placed 17 families in hotels, assisted nine families with rent and deposits, provided five individuals with monthly bus passes, covered weekly hotel fees for 34 families, and we've helped eight individuals secure employment, 12 families access childcare, supported eight single mothers leaving violent relationships, and place nine women safely here in Georgia after escaping abuse. Thank you. These numbers are not just statistics; they are families rebuilding their lives with dignity, safety, and hope. We'd like to thank Fulton County Commissioners for honoring this work. Your recognition strengthens our resolve to keep showing up for one family at a time. And I would just like to add on the personal side, I, who have not been affected by domestic violence, knock on wood, and thank God -- is the whole reason I help this organization because I know I go home to a very safe home and a very loving home

every single day. I'm not afraid. I don't live in fear. I'm not harmed, and I hug my husband extra tightly every night, and if you are one of those people in this room, I highly recommend you do the same thing as soon as you get home tonight. If you are -- if you have been affected or know someone that's been affected or just like to help, we invite you to our website at FeetofclayATL.org. Thank you so much."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 5, Public Hearings, **25-0736**, Public Comment - Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing by registering on the county website, www.fultoncountyga.gov. Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 60 minutes. In the event the 60 minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have received 11 speaker cards here in Assembly Hall. Will the first six speakers, please come forward: P. Christine Mayfield, Milkshake Mayfield, Lieutenant Antonio Richardson, LA Pink, Walter Stateman Reeves, and Johnny Wise."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, come on down, please. All right. First speaker, when you have 15 seconds, I'll say 15 seconds remaining for you to begin to complete -- conclude your remarks. First speaker, yes, ma'am."

P. CHRISTINE MAYFIELD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you. Good morning. It's an honor to be able to speak on such a subject as care for the elderly and care for the sick. I am the spouse of Milkshake Mayfield. His mom is Bessie Davis. She resides in Sadie G. Mays Rehab, and she's been there since April of 2024. I have -- my two favorite sector of people are babies and the elderly. Why? Because they're the most vulnerable and the least protected. Mama Davis, who I call Mama Davis, Shake's mother, is like my mom. I took care of my mom as a caregiver for seven years, between two households, mine and hers, in Jackson, Georgia, Butts County. So I know a little bit about caregiving. And I visited various nursing homes over the years, 30, 40 years, visiting family, friends, loved ones, and I've noticed -- even I've been a visitor have noticed the decline in the care, if you will, in the nursing home system. Something as simple as beds being made, on days when they have visitors; something as simple as maybe being a little late in getting your meds; something as simple as not getting the therapy that you need --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

P. CHRISTINE MAYFIELD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- okay. I just want to -- this is basically my position, and I just want to say this one thing. The advocacy that we are

speaking today may be the advocacy that someone would have to speak for us in years to come. Think about that. Thank you so much."

MILKSHAKE MAYFIELD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'm here speaking on behalf of my mother at Sadie G. Mays. Seeing her decline to this point is really hurting, and not being able to get her bed made when she's used to trying to do that herself; and getting her medicine on time, because they're shorthanded. I was informed that the Commissioners' only been giving, I think, a hundred and thirty thousand dollars a year for years. I can't hire bandmembers for prices that used to be back in the day. Time has changed, economy has changed. Please consider giving them more money to help the seniors. We all going to end up one day in that predicament. You can't get money out the bank if you don't put money in the bank. So please consider giving them more money. I go around to a lot of nursing home to perform, to just uplift the spirits of the seniors. I dreaded it at first, but then once I start doing it and I saw what the music does for the seniors; they can't go out, they can't come out to the restaurant where I perform all the time. So we take it to them. So if you please consider giving them more money, the more you give, the better their lifestyle would be. And that's for all of the seniors --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MILKSHAKE MAYFIELD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "—so just once again, it's a plea to give them more budget to operate. Thank you."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "So I'm going to continue to walk y'all like a dog until corruption is corrected. So, Mo Ivory, we are dying to see you in Mechanicville for the Mechanicville massacre that you was invited to by me and you've never returned. They have not -- families have not seen -- since you want to give away so much money. Ike Arrington, we were surprised to see you standing next to domestic violence including your history. You know, what we talked about. But let's get to the real issue of why I'm here today. There was a killing -- well, I don't know really what it was because the Sheriff lied and said that it wasn't anything going on in the jail, but he had a mini concert -- I'm so tired of these performances, because until we change something, people need to stop performing. But there was like performance down with Young Thug, and it was Stop the Violence. How are you supposed to stop the violence in the street when you can't stop it at Rice Street? Here it is we have a young lady that had her throat slit. Well, we really don't know exactly what happened because, like I said, the Sheriff is saying nothing happened; but now we have a text message that somebody sent me with someone being charged for this murder now. It's a murder. But first he said he told Angelique Proctor nothing happened. LA Pink is lying when I put it out, sent it to the news. So we are tired of the coverups. We're tired of the extra not understanding the Sheriff needs money. Well why y'all always begging for him, go beg for these families to get help off in there to get their child out. How about that? Instead of begging to give him some money. How about going to get these families that he done -- the life they done destroyed and help them."

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

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "So Dana, Mo, Ike Arrington, yeah, y'all on the chopping block for y'all's jobs."

WALTER STATEMEN REEVES, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Statesmen Reeves, Georgia candidate for governor. I would like to DO a shout out to Dana Barrett and Mo Ivory. I heard y'all on Closer Look with Rose Scott, and the issue I'd like to discuss is that, the day after y'all was Ambassador Frederick Bernard from the kingdom of Belgium, and he was there to do his best -- he's sent by the Crown, and it is namely of the very sordid issue at the US Embassy in Brussels, believe it or not, it is worse than Epstein Island, that's been going on since 2009 with very sleazy Howard Goodman. He was the socially appointed ambassador to -- US Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium and is unfortunately dancing with the Belgian kiddie porn stars and, unfortunately, of the Belgian kiddie porn stars are a luxury brand by socially prominent perverts here in Atlanta. This is going on with a playpen. It was shut down by FBI, Operation Pacifier. This needs to be taken seriously, and FBI agents, Daniel Al Finn and Laura Swartzenberger were shot down delivering arrest warrants in Florida, and it's because of both Atlanta and Miami, all in advance with the World Cup, unfortunately, but we will all move forward and I will be discussing this with y'all latter. And a counter event is the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: -- 15 seconds.

WALTER STATEMEN REEVES, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- Atlanta City Hall, line dance - y'all heard about boots on the ground, is something similar at the Fulton County. God bless, y'all."

DEACON JOHN WISE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Deacon Johnny Wise, and I represent Dixie Hills Community Development Corporation. I'm Executive Director; we're a 501(C) 3 nonprofit arm of the Dixie Hills First Baptist Church. I'm here to support Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehab Center in their request for increased funding from Fulton County. Our organization volunteers at Sadie G. Mays, and we bring food, gifts for the residents on Mother's Day, Father's Day, Thanksgiving and more. My late mother, Ms. Emily Wise, started a special program for the residents who are 96 years old in 2000 and led it for 17 years. Matter fact, the city gave her a proclamation for her service to the community and Sadie G. Mays. This year, we restarted the program by honoring 13 residents who are 90 years old with a wonderful program with music, scriptures, speaker, refreshments, and gifts for the honorees. Sadie G. Mays is an important part of our community serving our senior citizens who are sick and disabled. We've had many church members who have been there over the years, even members who work there, such as Ms. Amanita Lee who worked there for 30 years -- over 30 years. So we ask that you, please -- I say again, we ask that you please increase the funding for Sadie G. Mays so they can continue to serve our community for years to come. Thank you for your time."

CLERK GRIER: "Last five speakers in Assembly Hall, please come forward: Shirley Coleman, Caitlin White, Reed Stillson, Margie McCloud, and Jodi Williams."

SHIRLEY HENDERSON COLEMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Shirley Henderson Coleman and I'm director of development with Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehab Center, a nonprofit. At our last visit here, we briefly touched on the long relationship between Sadie G. Mays and Fulton County, and we're so grateful for

your support over these many years. But now we'd like to give you a little bit more details about our requests. So we're here to request that the renewable grant that Fulton County provides for Sadie G. Mays be increased from \$135,000 to \$1,277,000 per year. So that might seem like a big jump, but when you look at the background you'll see 87 percent of Sadie G. Mays residents are low income, so the Medicaid program is our primary source of income. And the low Medicaid reimbursement rate results in a \$50 shortfall per person per day, so over 365 days, that adds up to over \$2 million. In addition, they are making cuts this year and more cuts are expected over the next ten years. So you can see that we've been receiving the same amount, 135,375 annually since 1990, so that's 35 years without an increase, which is not really sufficient to cover the rising costs of nurses salaries, food, which our food bill is over 500,000 by itself; equipment, supplies, personal care items, not to mention the rehabilitation therapies and medications that Medicaid doesn't cover. So that's for an average of 140 residents per year. And also, our building is 57 years old, so there's always ongoing repairs and improvements that must be made."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds.

SHIRLEY HENDERSON COLEMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you. We just want to ask you to please consider giving us this additional funding to offset the losses due to insufficient Medicaid reimbursements and to help us in our daily operations. Thank you very much."

CAITLIN WHITE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi there. My name is Caitlin. I'm a resident here in Atlanta and a volunteer at the Fulton County Animal Shelter. I'm here today because I e-mailed all of you and I've not heard back, as of many other volunteers, regarding the situation with court case dogs at the shelter right now. I'm here to speak because the dogs can't. Right now over 70 dogs are being held indefinitely at the shelter while their court cases drag on. Some of them have been there since 2023. A couple of weeks ago, two puppies were born to a court case dog at the shelter due to negligence. Those puppies will grow up in the shelter and will likely be euthanized once their case resolves because of their poor quality of life. Shelters are not designed for long-term care. Animal welfare experts agree three months is the maximum before serious mental and behavioral decline. Court case dogs for Fulton are regularly stuck in the system for over a year and are regularly euthanized once their hold is released. These dogs are currently taking up 18.5 percent of total kennel space for Fulton County. Right now, 65 dogs are going to be euthanized this week for space at the county shelter. This is a failure of communication and leadership. What needs to be done is you, the Commissioners, need to direct the Fulton County Attorney's Office to do their job and file cost of care petitions and motions to dispose. You also need to direct them to work with the animal shelter promptly when requested. That's it."

REED STILLSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. My name is Reed Stillson. I'm a Fulton County resident. I live and work in the Buckhead area where I'm the leader of a local coffee shop and community hub. I'm also a candidate for County Commissioner here in District Three. I come before you today to discuss the allocation and management of our tax dollars, specifically on two points: the unfair property tax appraisals of multimillion-dollar trophy properties as well as the irresponsible extension of tax allocation districts recently proposed by Atlanta Mayor, Andre Dickens. It's well-

documented that there are a plethora of corporate owned properties around our county that are not paying their fair share in property taxes. When you compare the estimated values and sale prices of buildings worth \$15 million or more in our county, sorry -- when you compare these prices to what they were actually appraised and taxed at, these corporate properties are paying on average only 55 percent of the property taxes that they should. This lack of fair taxation is costing us, our school boards, and our cities hundreds of millions of dollars in very necessary tax revenue. I urge you to hold the Board of Assessors accountable to appraising and assessing each and every corporate owned trophy property accurately and fairly just as it's already done for everyday homeowners. If billionaire owners of trophy properties are going to pay half the property taxes they ought to, we deserve to know why we, the everyday citizens of Fulton County, are being asked to foot their bill. Secondly, it came to my attention just this morning that Mayor Dickens is calling for the extension of eight tax allocation districts which would require both Fulton County and Atlanta Public Schools to bypass their shares of tax revenue totaling over \$5 billion in funding. This is just an attempt to dangle the carrot of things we desperately need, such as affordable housing, food access, and Beltline Rail while refusing to properly allocate funding for these crucial items in the general fund where we can better hold our government accountable."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

REED STILLSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "These TADS have too little oversight, and so very rarely do what they set out to do. This will lead to an increase in taxes when we are already stretched so thin in this economy. So please, let's keep our tax dollars here where we need it most and oppose Mayor Dickens' plan for TAD extensions. Thank you."

MARGIE MCCLOUD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. My name is Margie McCloud. I'm here because Judge Kirk -- Cassandra Kirk been coming down here for two years just like I've been coming down two years for rent control, and rent is out of the roof. So when she's saying -- it's just like a doctor, if you want to go a doctor and the doctor is tired, do you want that doctor to work on you? No, Arrington, I don't think you would. So that's what I'm looking at. She's telling you she need more judges, she need more lawyers to help with the cases. Only thing she's asking for \$600,000. So what's the problem? Can we all get along? You say we need to work together. Rob Pitts, you're saying in the presence of the mayor, hey, let's join. I told you that a long time ago we need to work together, so why we can't not give this Judge, Cassandra Kirk, this money? Because I'm afraid, just like this is medical, going to the hospital, the doctors be short because they tired. So you're going to give that money, why not? What's the problem? Why you can't -- she just asking for \$600,000. That's all. But you want the best lawyer, you want the best judge, you want not to be tired. You don't want the doctor writing and he half asleep, and he doing an operation on you; do you want that type of doctor? Why you can't give her, again, please give her the money that she is asking for."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MARGIE MCCLOUD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: -- that she can operate right. Thank you."

JODI WILLIAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I'm Jodi, and I thank you guys for having comments for the public. I want to commend Ms. Dana Barrett and Mo Ivory. I see you guys doing a lot of good things in the city and speaking up for the people, so I thank you guys for that. I also want to comment on Sadie May because I have a really great friend there who was the first Commissioner of DeKalb County, Mr. John Evans. So I ask you guys to give them that money, you know you don't want an injunction filed against you because, you know, you're not doing what you should be doing for Sadie May. Okay, so the reason I'm here is on behalf of the judge. She keeps asking you guys for this money. Is there any reason you guys aren't giving her the money? Do you not have it? What is it? Because I have friends who tell me about their situation when they're incarcerated and how they've been in there for 15 months because of a judge issue. So I'm pleading with you all to give her that money. Do you not have it? Someone answer me, do you not have it? Is that the problem? Please give her that money. She needs to be able to do a better job because I know she wants to. So if you guys could just pitch in and help her out, you know, come up with a little money. She's only asking for a little, so give the judge the money so that she can --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

JODI WILLIAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- do a better job. Thank you."

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

BENNIE MARCUS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: "Good morning, Commissioners. The first person to speak is Chris Hayden. Chris Hayden. Chris Hayden."

CHRIS HAYDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No. Speak up."

CHRIS HAYDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. Can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, we cannot."

BENNIE MARCUS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: "Chris Hayden."

CHRIS HAYDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello, yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Go to the next speaker and try to come back to him."

BENNIE MARCUS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: "Yes. The next person to speak is Deborah Jean Arnold. Deborah Jean Arnold. Next person to speak Matt Rowenczak. Matt Rowenczak."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "There must be a problem, because we can always hear Matt, so there must be a problem. Yeah. So try to work this out and we'll come back to the Zoom speakers. Find out what's going on. In the meantime, continue."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, Presentations to the Board, **25-0737**, MARTA Quarterly Update."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "When you determine what the problem is, let us know, we'll go back to the Zoom speakers after the MARTA Presentation. Good morning, sir, welcome."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts. One second here. Good morning, Chairman Pitts, good morning Commissioners. Thank you to the Fulton Board Members who are present, Mr. Pond also watching online, Board members Freda Hardage as well as Beth Bolton Harris. Give the folks a second to pull up the presentation. Good morning, my name is Jonathan Hunt. I'm your interim General Manager and CEO of MARTA. On the cover page of our presentation is a picture of Labor Day weekend, which was very busy with Dragon Con, Aflac Kickoff Game, Black Pride, and MARTA successfully moved 423,000 customers safely and efficiently with the support of 277 transit ambassadors, our full workforce. The MARTA police department implemented enhanced safety measures including drone surveillance and a mobile command unit to ensure passenger security. Officers included K-9 units, field protector specialists, patrol stations, trains, buses, and bus intermodals. We had no major incidents during the Labor Day weekend, and most of our calls were to help support with medical assistance and other matters. Moving on to our -- the next slide on the agenda: We're going to go over ridership, capital program, some partially funded projects as well as some unfunded projects we're planning for as well as some other news. In ridership -- just waiting on the slide -- next slide. Sorry. One more slide. Thank you. We continue to see a climb in ridership -- one more slide. Thank you. We continue to see a climb in ridership. We anticipate an increase with a return to school and more companies implementing a return to office policy as we've seen in previous years. In fact, MARTA itself has implemented a return to in-office work, which began September 15th. We're also looking forward to our new AFC 2.0 payment system, and AFC stands for automated fare collection system, which will be mentioned a bit later in the presentation, and our new fare gates will prevent fare evasion and give us more accurate ridership data. Next slide. We're going to progress on to our capital programs. Next slide. One more slide. Thank you. At Airport Station, we continue to see progress with our airport station rehabilitation. The second elevator has been installed and the new ride store is nearing completion. We had a mural artist by the name of Michael Jones and who is a local Atlanta artist and painter who created this original artwork. As a painting originally, we had that converted to a mosaic tile, and that art installation continues to be a social media worthy spot to take a great picture when you're riding to the most traveled airport in the world. Next slide. We're going to talk about the MARTA Rapid A line on Summerhill Avenue. Last quarter, we reported a number of less than ideal conditions impacting the completion dates for the project. I'm pleased to report the technical staff of MARTA, the city of Atlanta have been working diligently to bring forth solutions to the table. The team has proposed alternate payment designs for the section reducing the need for shallow surface utility repair work, and we're actively working with GDOT to get a sync transit signal priority units installed along signaled corridors. In downtown, we have work to do and install drainage lines in coordinating this work with the city of Atlanta. We're also targeting finishing pavement work in the

area by the end of November. We've been pleased to announce the full amount of the Tiger Grant from fiscal year 2017 has been drawn down. We submitted the final cost in advance of the grant sunset date, which was yesterday. So we fully captured all of those federal funds. In November, we will begin the bid process work for operators to begin training in preparation for full system implementation. The top picture is a station pad being installed right next to City Hall -- Atlanta City Hall. In the bottom picture, is a station pad in front of the Sloppy Floyd building next to the capitol. Next slide. The rapid response team, as you can see, our public engagement has been extensive in September going into this month of October. Our rapid response team sent out construction updates via website, e-mail, social media as well as community engagement activities. Looking ahead to the fourth quarter, we will be at the Pounce Around Hurt Park with Georgia State University as well as Atlanta Streets Alive in October. We will also be sending out updates via newsletters and e-mail and social media. We are shifting engagement to a get-ready-to-ride mode. This phrase will began preparing customers for the new payment processes on our bus rapid transit lines. Bus rapid transit lines use a proof-of-payment method where a customer will pay the fare and validate their ticket before they get on the bus. This typical -- this is a typical payment methodology for bus rapid transit, and it allows customers to board on all doors, minimize the time the bus will dwell, waiting for payment at each station, and making the boarding process a much smoother and providing for enhanced or reduced headway times. The picture on the right is our Summerhill outreach team at the Georgia State informing students about the new rapid A Line coming in April, which they will utilize greatly. Next slide. I'd like to transition to begin talking about our Five Points transformation project at the Plaza level. Next slide. One more slide, that is. Next slide. Next slide. Am I not projecting? Typically, I don't have that problem. Yeah, next slide. There we go. Okay. Five Points transformation at the Plaza level: Construction manages -- this is a construction manager at-risk project, and we continue to advance with safety work in preparation cutting into the northwest corner of the walkway and we'll continue to move east. We are finishing our Ashby compound were temporary services that were located at Five Points, MPD's offices, our ride store, MARTA Hope, as well as our reduced fair offices are being relocated to the Ashby station. That project is near completion of construction and just about ready to open. And pedestrian access will be open via Forsyth Street at Five Points station. Next slide, please. Thank you. A gentle reminder that the Five Points station work has two projects happening in one. Let's shift and discuss the platform level rehab work which has been ongoing. We continue with this new tiling across the station on the floor and walls, the new reflective ceilings as well as the lighting, help brighten and make the station safer, more aesthetically pleasing and attractive. We're also installed new seating areas for customer comfort and the first and second images that you're looking at on the wall tiles with the new LED lighting fixtures, and then the third image to the right in the center platform are some images of the new seating areas in orange. Next slide. Our Cleveland Metropolitan Arterial Rapid Transit project, or ART: as you know, this project is the first arterial rapid transit project for more MARTA. The original bid we put out only drew one bid at our greatly elevated costs above our independent cost estimates that we did internally, so we worked with ATL DOT to beef up the constriction bid, which is now closed. The design packages from ATL DOT construction have been received and thus far we are very pleased with the bid proposals that we received. Our anticipated groundbreaking for construction will be sometime in early 2026. And you got a little -- that slide is perfect, because I'm turning to MARTA Rapid Cambellton/Greenbrier transit hub right

now. We are at the 15 percent design. We're working on ideas to minimize right-of-way impacts along that corridor, which is a little tighter than Summerhill, by way of comparison. Our final gold line solicitation was awarded in September, and MARTA's CIG application was still preserved in the president's funding report. So the MARTA Campbellton/Greenbrier transit hub is still in that report, although we don't have a decision as yet. The fly over is the bridge from I-285 from Greenbrier Mall to Barge Road Park & Ride to minimize right-of-way impact as well as increase head way times. The bridge will include parallel pedestrian access along the alignment, and bike lanes will be part of the final design and with a separation included from traffic. We have a transit-oriented development study procurement underway, and we met with stakeholders in June and have done a popup shop at the closest station to Oakland City to gather more information. We also participated in the Greenbrier community western event on August 23rd of this year. Next slide. Thank you. We are currently at 16 percent design for the Bankhead platform extension. The importance of this project will allow for all of you who know, the Bankhead, or the Greenline, has a shorter train because the length of that platform can only accommodate a shorter train set. With our new train cars coming in, we're going to extend that platform, so the same length train can traverse the entire system. The design review was completed in August, and we are working with the city of Atlanta on the permitting process as well as planning delivery to minimize community impacts to the greatest extent possible. The bid for construction will go out in the second quarter of 2026. Next slide. The MARTA and the 285 express lane transit study team continues to work alongside GDOT on the 285 top end express lane's program. We extended our contract in an additional year to advance the design and to continue coordination with all the key stakeholders. After our policy working group meeting, we took preliminary findings from that group and public meetings, which we held in early May, to help garner and guide our decision-making through the process. Beyond sharing our findings, the purpose of the meeting was to better understand the transportation patterns along the corridor. On the right of the image above, you can see the draft service plan, how MARTA can utilize the express lanes for transit once built out by GDOT. One note about the map is that each line is a transit route along 285, and the stack lines illustrate multiple ridesharing the same roadway. The lines are color coded to label and differentiate routes, serving east and west. And then the dotted lines, extending out from 285, represent examples of potential future service areas that will be identified in the future. Next slide. We're going to move into a discussion of partially funded projects -- next slide, thank you. MARTA is continuing to advance the Georgia 400 bus rapid transit project by working towards a 30 percent design with our partners at GDOT and our proposed three stations. One note is, and you'll see four stations on the image -- I am not -- I can count three to four, but the Old Milton is a to-be-determined station. It's not -- it's in the contract agreement, but it's not yet fully funded. We're working with our partners in North Fulton regarding that potential stop. While the hundred million dollar state bond providing some of the station infrastructure, MARTA is continuing to try to identify funding sources to fully complete the project, or our portion of the project, I should say. MARTA is working with the True North CID to update cities on the alignment, and we are waiting GDOT to mobilize with the State Route 400 Peach Partners before we begin full engagement. As you're aware, they've made that award, they've receive funding, they just need a little time to partner up with Peach Partners, and then we'll be able to visit with them collaboratively. Next slide. Our Automatic Transit Network or ATM pilot. The Automatic Transit Pilot Project was being conducted by the ATL Airport CIDs and is

progressing through its design process. That is expected to conclude at the end of 2025. MARTA is a financial contributor to that. Next slide. And leading into that, we're working on ATM feasibility study. This is being conducted in conjunction with the pilot and the ACID, which is in full swing. The team is focusing on completing the study of the existing conditions as well as an industry review. Following this, we will progress to examining a broad buildout concept, identify different use cases on automatic transit networks and corridors, and apply those new cases to potential broader uses. A project governance meeting for ATN is scheduled for October 14th, which Fulton County sits on as a voting member. Next slide. We're going to start a discussion about unfunded projects. Next slide. First of which, is the South Fulton Parkway and Roosevelt Highway ART initiative. Since we last reported on this project in 2020 -- earlier in 2025, we've briefed all the mayors along the potential corridor and the three ART route alternatives. We also finalized implementation plans but, however, since we did not receive the USDOT's BUILD grant funding; we will continue to look for other funding mechanisms to progress this project forward. Next slide. In other news, thank you. We want to talk a little bit about our community engagement activities. MARTA has been active throughout Fulton County and across the partner cities connecting with riders and residents at a variety of community events. In the first photo, May 28th, during older American's month, MARTA was at the international Convention Center in partnership with Commissioner Abdur-Rahman for the Fulton County Senior Summit. We registered close to a hundred seniors for the reduced fare Breeze cards during this event. On August 26th, in the middle photo, at the Lieutenant Governor's DeKalb and Fulton Constituent Services Day, MARTA provided breeze cards and shared information about our programs and our services with Fulton County residents during that event. And then to the right on the top photo, on September 9th, MARTA presented at Councilman Atkins' Town Hall where staff engaged with East Point residents to discuss the NextGen Bus Network Redesign in highlighting local bus route changes, and we also promised to return to provide even more detailed information as we get closer to the NextGen Bus Network rollout. On the bottom right, September 16th through all our commitment to civic engagement, MARTA hosted our national voter registration day activities and nonpartisan event at select rail stations, many of which are located in Fulton County. The Fulton County Department of Registration and Elections was onsite at the College Park station, AG Homes, and North Spring stations to provide voter education and registered residents wanting to register to vote. Next slide. As mentioned previously, we're going to talk about our automatic fare collection 2.0, or AFC 2.0 project. You can think of it as a better Breeze system. By next summer, our new better Breeze system will allow riders to pay directly at fare gates with credit and debit cards -- did I reached my two minutes -- allow riders to pay directly at fare gates with credit and debit cards, virtual wallets, or Breeze cards. Breeze cards will be available next fall at retail outlets, but this system is taking Breeze from where we are back to the cutting edge. We'll have new fare boxes and validators on the buses as well. The new ticket vending machines will be easier to use and reduce lines and dwell times. Our new fare gates are designed to reduce fare evasion and make the system safer. Fare gate installation has begun at Lindbergh Station as well as Doraville station in the pilot phase. We're using those two sites to go through the fare gates through the head-in and through the software to get out any bugs, but we are looking to launch this in April of next spring to the entire system. Next slide. Thank you. Our NextGen Bus Network redesign: as you may know, the NextGen Bus Network is the first comprehensive redesign in a generation. Put simply, it's smarter, faster, and better bus service. We're targeting 15-minute

headways. Presently, we have 113 bus routes which we're going to take down to 81 bus routes and provide access to 75 percent more jobs and job centers as well as more grocery stores. The new network is designed with simpler and more straightforward routes, fewer and easier transfers in a new on-demand service. There will be 12 MARTA reach zones, and that's the on-demand service. And with those zones, folks will have a Uber like experience because they're able to call on MARTA Reach and bring them to our fixed route system, our rail and bus routes, as well as travel within that zone. We're very excited about MARTA Reach. The MARTA Board approved the network on June 12th, and currently, our team is preparing to launch this network, which will be a significant service change. Of course, we'll have a major outreach effort prior to launch, which will be in April of 2026. Please reach out to any constituents. We're happy to partner with you. We will share our updated partner package with all of you in our newsletters. At present, our outreach efforts will include the typical posters, flyers, information all across our system on our vehicles as well as our stations. We're planning events and pop-ups to let our customers and the public know, and there will be information on our website now and through the launch. We would love participation from the Commissioners. You all are very engaged socially. Commissioners Barrett and Ivory, you are especially active, and we'd love to partner with you, because this is going to be a big change for our customer base, and we need to reach them to make it as easy and as smooth as possible. We're going to move to the next slide, but I'm going to ask my chief of police, Chief Scott Kreher, to come up and share a few safety moments with you, and then I'll come back and answer questions. Chief."

CHIEF SCOTT KREHER, MARTA PD: "Thank you, sir. Good morning. Mr. Hunt and I decided it was time for me to come down and introduce myself. I think this is my first Commissioner's meeting. I'm Scott Kreher. I'm the chief of police for MARTA. Some of you might know, I retired from the Atlanta Police Department in March of 2020 after 28 years as a deputy chief and took over MARTA that same week; quite an experience running into transit policing, and then a worldwide pandemic. So we hit the ground running once we got here. But there's been some discussion in the last couple months about the safety on MARTA, and I wanted to ensure this Commissioner group here that MARTA is safe. MARTA had over 400 Part One crimes; those seven Part One crimes that we report to the FBI in 2019. As of the end of 2024, we had less than 210, so we've cut that crime in half in those five years. Currently, this year to date, we're 21 percent down in violent crimes and overall crime -- I'm sorry, 21 percent down in all crime a year-to-date compared to last year, and almost 30 percent down in our violent crime, aggravated assaults and robberies. While those are great statistics, if I have one customer that doesn't feel safe on MARTA, I still have work to do. My team still has work to do, so that's our responsibility to make sure that our ridership feels safe and is able to enjoy a safe, you know, transit to wherever their destination may be. I wanted to just let you know a little bit about MARTA PD. It's a full-service accredited police department, both nationally and state. So we have about 250 sworn police officers. We have a cadre of nonsworn security staff. We call them field protective specialists. You'll see them in the blue uniforms, out in the system and, of course, our civilian staff that supports it. We have every bell-whistle toy that a regular police department has. We have a canine units, bike units, motorcycles, SWAT team, all of these different auxiliary units, that help us fight crime on our system, and we also have partnerships with our federal partners over at FBI MO task force, the US Marshal task force and, of course, our TSA partners. I think what I wanted to stress to everybody is that MARTA doesn't

work in a vacuum; we work in four counties. We have multiple cities, multiple communities, multiple neighborhoods that not only our rail service but our bus service operates in, so that's why it's really important for us to partner with our local law enforcement agencies to fight crime, not only on MARTA, but in the surrounding jurisdictions around MARTA. So we have really good working relationships with our South Fulton, Fulton County Police Departments, Atlanta of course, East Point, and then we go up to Dunwoody, Sandy Springs. All those chiefs of police in those departments and I speak monthly, if not weekly, about what's going on in the region, and we're able to communicate and work through these details together to not only combat crime on MARTA, but also in the jurisdictions that we operate in. Of course, we have 38 rail stations and over a hundred bus routes, so we don't have enough cops and probably never will, to be able to have a cop on every bus and every train and every station, so we rely heavily on technology. And MARTA has spent quite a bit of money over the last several years improving our technology. We have over 3,000 cameras on our buses, on our rail system, in our stations, and we stood up what we call the real-time crime center this year, and this is a center of officers that monitor our camera system 24/7. So they are able to react to things that happen very quickly, and they're able to monitor hotspots where we have issues that we might want to pay more attention to, and we utilize the real-time crime center to do that, because we just don't have enough officers to hit every corner of every station. Back in 2018, MARTA police went back to the Board and ask for what we call the "Ride With Respect" program. So this a program that we use for people that violate rules and regulations, not necessarily the law. So we have the ability to suspend riders from our system for violating our rules and regulations. That could be a 12-hour suspension or that could be up to a permanent ban which we got passed by the Board in 2022. COVID hit, we had a situation where we didn't know what was going on, we didn't know how healthy -- and our officers didn't phone it in. They were out on the line, they were out on the buses, they were on the rail system along with our operators every day, so the enforcement effort wasn't where it should be those first couple years of COVID. Since then, we have a new madras, back to basics, and this past year and a half, as you can see in the crime stats, our enforcement efforts have tripled in percentage rates. That includes our rider respect program that we use. Last but not least, a little bit about World Cup. There were some discussions about MARTA's participation in that. I promise you we are fully engaged with our agencies around the region to get prepared for World Cup. Unfortunately, we had a TSA tabletop exercise scheduled for next Tuesday, and because of the government shutdown, we had to reschedule that. They're not able to participate in that right now, but I imagine as soon as that's taken care of, we'll be back to doing these tabletop exercises. And that's not just with TSA; we'll continue to do those with our regional partners also. And last but not least, staffing, because of COVID, because of policing in general, the profession, we almost lost a hundred police officers due to attrition in last three or four years. This past year we've really beefed up our recruitment efforts, and I have to thank Chief Wade Yates, that's where we sent a lot of our recruits for police training, and he's assured me I have 21 seats to fill in the January class, and that's the largest MARTA police class that we've had in years, and I have to thank him for that. But we've seen an uptick in our hiring, and I think by the end of next month, we'll have all our funded positions filled and then, of course, Mr. Hunt has promised me multiple positions, so we'll see how that goes. And last, I just want to say, our police officers are supporting breast cancer month with our badges this month; that

was something we did several years ago, and it has touched me personally. So thank you for doing the proclamation, and that's all I have. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, is your question for the chief or Mr. Hunt?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Chief, come on back, Chief. Question from Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "One moment before the question, if you don't mind."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Not really, but go ahead."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Sorry. You mentioned staffing, so yes, we'll have the full allotment of sworn officers, and I've committed to ten additional field protected specialists and 30 additional officers. We like to invest in things that pay dividends at MARTA. Sorry Commissioner, thank you all."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "You and I are going to get on the same page eventually. Hey, Steve. Chief, first of all, thank you for the hard work that you and your offices do. Having been an avid rider of MARTA for years, my late husband was a 20-year employee of MARTA. I am one of the biggest proponents of MARTA. And so, I always want to give you your kudos. The Police Department for MARTA has always had a customer service side. It was never adversarial, it was always helpful, and I want to commend you on that because it's still that way. My office still gets calls, and sometimes, they're not so good, but a lot of times they are good and they are commending the work that you all are doing. So I just wanted to personally go on record and tell you I appreciate the customer service element. All right, y'all, let's get it together there. And in the day and time when law-enforcement receive so much backlash, and so many times the law enforcement is viewed as not working with the community -- now I'm showing my age, I'm 61. I remember Officer Friendly that used to come to the schools. I'm really showing my age now. But what I'm saying, what I want to thank you and the atmosphere there, is that you all have been able to transcend what some local departments have not, and to have that friendly face and that friendly interaction. Now, when something happens, I've been at MARTA stations, and even something may have happened and it may not have been to the level of criminal activity, but it may have been a patron fainting or someone tripping, you know, just something very, very small. But you always run to action, you always have a friendly face, and I just wanted to thank you for that. Now, a question that I want to know, as someone that sits on the Board for the Diversion Center, can we work to see if we can get use of the diversion center with the MARTA police? I think it's a great tool, and I would love to see you all take advantage of it."

CHIEF SCOTT KREHER, MARTA PD: "Absolutely. We just met with the staff a couple months ago to get all the details and we created -- they asked us to create a general order or an SOP, so we created that. So it's brand-new to our officers. You know, we

were using the PAD program for a while, and now we're going to transition to that. We do see a lot of mental health issues that we have to deal with, and sometimes that doesn't work out for the Diversion Center. So we're always looking for other alternatives for those individuals that need that kind of help, but I want to thank you too for recognizing the women and men as they do work hard, and we kind of have a logo that Mr. Hunt and I talk about all the time. It's called enforcement with compassion. So that's what we try to do."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Well, I appreciate that, and like I said, I've witnessed the great work that you all do. I've witnessed the environment in which your officers display professionalism. They always -- a lot of times, they're stopped, people ask them what route is this, and they're always kind and courteous, and I appreciate the work that you all do and the MARTA police do and MARTA in general. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thanks, Mr. Chair, and I want to extend my thanks to the chief for coming down and I hope that this becomes a regular part of the report, you know, going forward. So I definitely appreciate, you know, the work you're doing in coming down and sharing with us today. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman did address the one thing I wanted to address with the chief, and that was relative to the Diversion Center, so I'm glad to hear that, you know, we got a joint focus on that in trying to, you know, kind of increase, you know, kind of participation for situations that are right for that. I guess my other questions were not necessarily for the chief, but for Mr. Hunt. Obviously, there've been a number of leadership changes at MARTA since the point of our last report. Could you highlight, you know, for the public what those key changes are and what you as CEO expect those to do in terms of the expectations; in terms of improved performance at MARTA."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Thank you, Commissioner Ellis. Yes, obviously myself, I'm a key leadership change announced by the Board. We let go two members of my C team. I let go of and replaced them with one member here to a new deputy general manager, Rhonda Allen, who is my right hand, 26 years of MARTA experience, Georgia Tech grad, outstanding transit advocate and professional will help lead the charge. Larry Prescott, who is here, is our interim chief capital officer, and our new Chief of Operations in Urban Planning, Paul Lopes are the major changes that were announced. I trust my executive team immensely. I expect them to lead and put service as a front foot. We're moving to a customer focused, or a customer centric mindset at MARTA, improving operational reliability, getting World Cup ready, delivering and advancing our capital programs while I'm in the interim role. Those are our key focus. We are laser focused on that, and we're going to accomplish those goals."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you for that. One of the slides that I've been focused on since, you know, probably since maybe two predecessors back, is the ridership slide and I've been asking questions about that for some time. And, you know, obviously, the trends there, you know, kind of -- we still are not great, you know, compared to 2019, and as one of the main signatories to, you know, kind of the MARTA contract, you know, we're representing, you know, Fulton taxpayers, right? And sales tax revenue from MARTA have grown from about 372 million in 2015 to 740 million in roughly 2025, if I'm

looking at the numbers correctly, so nearly double in just in terms of magnitude of what that is -- I mean, sales tax revenue, we at Fulton County receive about 25 million. So you're receiving, you know, a lot of money, and you obviously, you know, kind of heard or were a witness to some of the public comments and some of the demands that are -- and the requests that were made by our citizens for services. And when we -- when I look at ridership slide and, you know, and seeing it going in the opposite direction, 44 percent decline in ridership and rail since 2019 and 33 percent on the bus side, and I look at the funding side, you know, those two divergences are pretty wide. And so, I guess one of the things that I'm curious about is there -- I mean, you highlighted three things that you're focused on in service and reliability and all that sort of stuff, and those are great, but you know, kind of what is the yield? Is there -- you all have a targeted stated figure for ridership for year-end 2025."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "We do. We have ridership projections. We want to get five million riders. We have a projected ridership which ties back to our budget and our budget projections. But since COVID, we have dropped like everybody else. We have been basically moving laterally; we've been flat. That's not acceptable. I've told our leadership team, I've shared with our Board that ridership is going to be our guiding posts as well as customer service and sentiment of MARTA as our guiding post in our terms of our key performance indicators. I didn't go into all the items we're doing to address this, safety and security is one of them. We have new railcars that we're bringing on. Our railcar reliability in the oldest fleet in the United States is an issue. When our railcars are breaking down, that reduces headways when somebody has to wait instead of 15 minutes for a railcar to 20, 22 minutes, that's off putting. We've just received last week our second new railcar, and those railcars are going through testing right now on our tracks. At night, when people don't have to interact, it doesn't impact customer service, but that is another one. We're moving very quickly into moving more maintenance of way and track service so that we don't take that brand-new car and put it on a poor old dirt road, poor tracks, so our state of good repair program is beefed up. These new service modes, we expect to have higher ridership there; and we're very excited about what it's attracting in terms of our newer customers, and even in terms of our employees. We're getting younger, we're becoming more agile, and we're not staying static."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So you said your targets or projections, do you have what those are for --"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "-- I don't have all of the projection off the top of my head, no, but we can bring those back to you and share those with all of you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. If you can share those, that would be --"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "-- absolutely."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That would be helpful. And I guess sort of similar, when we're looking at expansion projects, have you all looked at or do you have sort of within the expansion projects, targeted increases in ridership associate with --"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "-- yes, we have ridership targets with all the expansion projects to receive funding internally or applied for funding externally."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. I think noting that on those --"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "-- we will share those --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- as a line of sight going forward in all these when we're doing the updates in the capital projects would be helpful. And then on the fare collection or whatever you call them --"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "AFC 2.0 or our Better Breeze?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The stuff you noted that will be rolled out online in April, right?"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Yes. So we have a bus network redesign --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- no, I'm talking about the automated fare collection."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Yes, yes, in April --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- AFC. On that, what's the cost of that overall project?"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "I believe it's north of 220 million total, so we're talking software, a head-in system as well as all the fare gates, the router system, as well as all of the payment methods on our BRT routes, ART routes, as well as all of our moving stock: buses."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "All are being replaced."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "\$220 -- roughly \$220 million expenditure. What are the -- walk me through some of the ROI measures on that in terms of anticipated revenue increase, ridership increase, but revenue increase, I would hope or longer term operational costs. I'm just trying to understand kind of the payback on this."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "So right now with our current Breeze system, it is aged. The fare gates are prone to breaking down. We do have a contractor that we pay for maintenance and operation. That is a very large cost right now, and it's hard to get to all 38 stations as well as cover all of our moving stock overnight if there's any damages there. So we're running higher than normal cost to operate the current system. In terms of ridership data, the ridership data with the system that's not working effectively isn't the best. So we plan on capturing better ridership data, getting more folks to pay rather than seeing an open gate regardless of what your social economic status is. We've observed folks from CEOs down to a janitor

just walking through that gate because it's open. That stops with new and better fare gates, as well as increased security, increased visibility of staff."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So that -- you said installation begins in Q4?"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "The insulation began in September."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Begin in September?"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And it's launching in April. When you say launching, we're talking about launching systemwide, or launching in certain locations?"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "It's going to be a systemwide launch."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "We will capture a large number of our rail stations with our World Cup coming up, so there'll be a slowdown in construction generally, and then after World Cup, we're going to capture all of our moving stock. We're trying to minimize customer impact while delivering the most bang for the buck, or ROI."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So in terms of really seeing the impact of this, it won't be until --"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "-- it's going to take a year post --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- late 2026 or early 2027?"

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Early '27."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Early 2027. Okay. All right. Thank you."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "I'll be really quick. I just wanted to say good luck to you. I know you're stepping into a time when MARTA has a lot, a lot of challenges and it's never easy to be the leader both on the financial constraints and as well as just, you know, coming into something that has been highly publicized in media. I wanted to wish you the best luck and ask you also, to please just let the people know what's going on. I found -- I live in Grant Park right near that Summerhill, and a lot of folks just feel like they don't necessarily know what's going on. Not everybody goes to the neighborhood meetings, right? So you may be always talking to the same 15, 20, 30 people that goes to the neighborhood meetings. It might be really good to just talk to the folks when you

get a chance to be in the larger media circles. Plainly, simply what is going on, and that is what I have heard from a lot of my constituents. So, you know, while we fully support you and want to see you, you know, strive, and for MARTA to do things we've been waiting for decades for it to do, I just really implore you to speak plain English to the folks that are out there so that if you have to do something drastic, let's say, you know, raise more money or impose something that is needed to move something forward, they'll understand why you're doing it. I think that's the most effective way, and in government, we don't do that. We don't tell the people what it is straight, the truth about what is going on and I just really implore you to please try to do that."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Absolutely. Thank you, Commissioner. On Summerhill, I personally, within the first week, walked that entire alignment and met with business owners, got some disagreements resolved between us and our construction staff, I completely agree with you, and we are moving to a greater level."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Great. And maybe before it goes live, you come to the District. I'd love to partner with you to do some sort of community event that doesn't just speak to just the leaders we know of in that neighborhood, but to all neighbors so that they will know what's going on in People's Town, in Grant Park, Summerhill, all of those areas."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "Absolutely."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. I'd love to do that. Thank you."

JONATHAN HUNT, MARTA, INTERIM GM/CEO: "We welcome that. Thank you, Commissioner."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Other questions or comments?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you for coming today. Continue Madam -- actually, are we ready with the Zoom speakers?"

BENNIE MARCUS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: "Next person to speak is Chris Hayden. Chris Hayden, please unmute."

CHRIS HAYDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

CHRIS HAYDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Okay. I am Chris Hayden from Fulton County. Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. These are the facts. Twice last month, a judge ruled that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners shall appoint Julie Adams and Jason Frazier to the Board of Registration and Elections. In the court the word shall has also been defined as must. Last month, I brought up the issue of where

is the money coming from placed in these court proceedings? Which budget item will be hit the hardest? Hello?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, continue."

CHRIS HAYDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Okay. In the last month, I brought up the issue where's the money coming from in these court proceedings? Which budget item will be hit the hardest? In a recent article in the Alpharetta Roswell Herald and other budget items were discussed. And I quote the newspaper, "Ivory said the inconsistent support for other Commissioners delayed funding for the arts community. Despite the amendment to allow potential jail funding and budget soundings, Ivory said it ties the Commission's hands if urgent needs arise in other departments, like unnecessary court costs. In a related matter, Arrington, Barrett, and Ivory sponsored a measure to increase the magistrate court's budget to 158,000. Ivory said she reduced the funding request for the magistrate court by around a hundred thousand after speaking with County Manager, Dick Williams and CFO Sharon Whitmore" end quote. I'll ask again, where is this money coming from to cover these court costs? Which arts program will be impacted? Which necessary jail project will not be funded? Please appoint Julie Adams and Jason Frazier to the Board of Registration and Elections. Thank you."

BENNIE MARCUS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: "Next person to speak, Matt Rowenczak. Matt Rowenczak."

MATT ROWENCZAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. There are several items on the agenda today related to the Registration and Elections Department. I would really -- for those of you that are on the Board that are genuinely interested in making sure that taxpayer funds are properly and efficiently spent responsibly to look at these items a little bit more closer. You have public comment that comes before you just about every single meeting, right, requesting for funds. I've seen the Board of Equalization, those volunteers asking for a slight raise just to be competitive with neighboring counties, yet that hasn't been approved; and 600,000 this morning for the courts. Yet you have a department that seems to be off limits when it comes to looking at the efficiency and the responsibility of their spending. I'll give you an example: almost half a million dollars is being requested this morning for vehicles for this fall election. That's one election. Secondly, there are items that are on here including to go into effect of August 1st. If I'm correct, today's date is October 1st. There's another item on here about overtime spending. I personally know several people that have worked prior elections that have been denied that have wanted to work and other people that were current workers that were not allowed to work again. Yet we're asking for overtime pay. So there is a clear and a trend here of overspending of taxpayer money and it needs to be looked at once and for all. Thank you."

BENNIE MARCUS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: "Commissioners, that ends the Zoom comments."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, County Manager's Renewal Items under Health and Human Services, **25-0738**, Public Works: Request approval to renew existing contracts in an amount not to exceed \$254,500 to provide soft dig services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne. Is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0739**, Senior Services: Request approval to renew existing contracts in an amount not to exceed \$3,134,178 with Common Courtesy to provide transportation services/ridesharing for eligible Fulton County residents age 60 and above."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Ivory, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I just wanted to clarify a couple of questions on rider count, if that is okay, Mr. County Manager. This proposal allows for eight rides per month, and to be clear that means eight one-way trips, essentially four roundtrips per month; is that correct? Okay, Dr. Roshell?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Yes, Commissioner Ivory, thank you for that question. Ladisa Onyiliogwu is the department director. We do have a short presentation that we would like to provide today, and we think that will answer all of your questions."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Perfect. Thank you."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Thank you, Commissioner."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Arrington, do you want see the presentation first or?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'll wait for the presentation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "If we could have the Senior Services presentation, please. So today the Department of Senior Services will provide an update on the success that we have seen in this program, which is a very popular program throughout the county. We will provide information on the ridership as well as how we are continuing to look at ways to sustain the program and improve the operational model. So I'll turn it over to the department director."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Thank you, Dr. Roshell. Good morning, Ladisa Onyiliogwu, Director, Department of Senior Services, and joining me is our Deputy Director, Dr. (inaudible) and Rafael Patterson. So we're going to share the success story, not for Fulton County government, but the success of the senior rider. Next slide. Senior transportation is one of our most popular and impactful programs out of the top programs inquired about through our Star Line every single month. Senior services tops that. Next slide. We wanted to share the face of a few senior riders; and this slide gives one of so many quotes and comments that our department tracks and receives, and I think the words speak for themselves. Yes, sir. And I'll read this quote from Carrie Spratly. As we have gotten up in age, Fulton County and Transdev have helped my whole family with our transportation needs, and we could not make it without them. Next slide. As I stated earlier, senior transportation is the top requested service that comes through our Star Line, and it is a supportive service that supports aging in place. Over 186,000 trips have been taken by seniors this year. Our services take seniors to their doctors, dialysis, grocery stores, and senior centers. An average of 3200 seniors use the service every month. Next slide. This is another quote from Vanessa Alexander who's a Common Courtesy rider who loves Uber, who shares that it has become unsafe for her to drive on her own, and this program helps her to still get out and about in the community and to important appointments. Next slide. Next slide. So now that you've seen the face of just a few seniors and heard the comments, this is the data to support why they're successful in the aging in place through our transportation program. For Common Courtesy, they are a transportation network company that helps us to provide Uber and Lyft services to seniors. We're meeting the demand with no waitlist; an average of 2300 riders use this service monthly. Note that over 6,000 seniors are registered and can schedule trips. The average monthly trips taken, is 11,368. Riders are permitted to schedule up to eight one-way trips each month. The average monthly trips taken is only five, and based on last year's recommendation to the Board and you approved it, we're able to provide an additional two one-way trips to support medical appointments. It's important to note that Fulton County is a leader in this alternative and innovative mode of transportation, and other counties in our region are following after our example. Next slide. Transdev is the second contractor and the second type of transportation, it's to support primarily neighborhood senior center trips and demand response. So on average, a little over 700 riders use this service, and we provide 11,900 demand response trips through the Transdev contract; 95,189 total fixed route trips and fixed route to and from our neighborhood senior centers have been provided to date. We also received your approval, Commissioners, to implement a pilot through You Serve, which is a subcontract Transdev to support demand response, and we've provided 212 since August. Next slide. Next slide. Our outlook is, is that we have a desire to sustain this very important service. We know that the Fulton County transportation program meets seniors at their point of need. We currently have a solicitation out right now to engage with a consultant to give us the landscape of transportation, not just in the county, our region, but to let us know what better models exist. And then we'll take that feedback and roll into the design of the transportation RFPs that will be issued next year because both of these contracts have one final renewal, which will end December 2026. We know that our seniors have more stories to tell. We look forward to playing a supporting role to their success. And that concludes today's presentation. We're available to answer any questions you may have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Commissioner Ivory can finish because I know she had asked the question."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "All right. Thank you so much, Commissioner Arrington and Mr. Chairman. I just want -- so you did answer my first question, which it is eight one-way rides -- four full round trip rides per month, correct? Okay. And so, in the presentation materials, you reported an average use of four to five rides per month. I just want to clarify specifically, is that based -- there's three measures, is it based on all eligible seniors, enrolled seniors or enrolled seniors using the service?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Can you ask the first part of your question one more time, Commissioner?"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Sure. You reported an average use is four to five rides per month, and I just wanted to know is that all eligible enrolled or enrolled and actually using the service?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "These are registered seniors, so they are eligible. They are currently enrolled in the Common Courtesy program, and these are seniors who are scheduling trips each month."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So it is eligible enrolled and actually using?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "That is correct."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: Okay, wonderful. Thank you. What would the estimated monthly cost be if seniors were allowed the former eight roundtrips per month cost, that was what was happening prior?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "It was happening prior. I can get that information and provide it to you, Commissioner. We have that data, based on the cost to administer the program, so that we can get that data to you."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: Okay. Wonderful. Given that the transportation period --"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "-- Commissioner, may I go back to that as well? Seniors used to be permitted to schedule 16 one-way trips. The average taken at that time was eight. So we're going to provide that information based on the utility of the program. So even though they were allowed to take 16 one-way trips, they were not scheduling up to that point. The Board approved for us to implement a spending control to allow seniors to take up to eight total trips and we're seeing in what we've presented is that they are actually scheduling five."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Four to five? Okay. Wonderful. So then are you deducing that the current ride allotment is sufficient to meet the real needs then?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. Thank you."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "You're welcome."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR: "Thank you. I think I heard you say something about they can get maybe two extra one-way trips from medical, so it's really ten not eight; is that correct?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "That is allowable, yes. Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. I think these numbers are good and I don't know what -- I'd love to continue to get some type of update on these numbers so we can continue to measure and determine whether it needs to increase or decrease, and I'm glad to hear about the RFP going out to help plan with this. I don't know if it makes sense or not. We just had a great presentation from MARTA and what they're doing. You know, maybe we might be able to use of their services and they might be able to use some of ours. So maybe our -- as we're talking to that transportation person, they can include or have conversations with MARTA. It sounds like y'all have something to say MARTA already though."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We do."

RAPHAEL PATTERSON, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir. We have a meeting with MARTA on Friday to introduce -- just tell them about our services and try to see how we can incorporate their vision."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, yeah, because you know, they're transporting a lot of seniors as well and maybe some of our burden can be pushed off on them and maybe they're pushing some off on us, but either way is mutually beneficial for our seniors, so thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I was going to ask the very same thing, if we work with MARTA mobility with our seniors as well. Over the summer, I visited senior services North Fulton, and they have a ridership program as well. Do we work with them? I know they operate all the way down into Atlanta as well. So I didn't know if our seniors are aware or they use both, or if they exceed their amount, do we refer them?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "I have Raphael come up and talk a little bit about the North Fulton Transportation program which is different from ours, but they are an approved contractor for our aging services contract."

RAPHAEL PATTERSON, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "So I believe that program is called TOPS. We don't work with them directly because that's part of their senior services,

North Fulton branch, but they do utilize our Transdev vendor to provide services to the senior centers in that area, in their catchment."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I know that they operate facilities in Atlanta as well."

RAPHAEL PATTERSON, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "They do."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So they coordinate with Transdev as well? Okay. Yeah, even if there was an informational piece about senior mobility, here are some options, here's how MARTA can help you, here's how, you know, I don't know if senior services South Fulton also operates a transportation program as well, but just kind of informing the seniors so they have options that they're aware of if we can't help them."

RAPHAEL PATTERSON, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "So that's what we do through our Star Line. So any senior that calls needing transportation needs, we provide them with a list of resources. Our program, MARTA Mobility, anything that we can offer a senior, any kind of referral source."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of questions. You talked about the average of eight rides before we made the cut and then that was based on that decision was made to go down to eight. But it looks like, unless I'm misunderstanding the data, that the demand -- and you did say five average now instead of eight average now. So I'm just wondering what you attribute the decline to."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We don't have an answer to that right now, Commissioner. We can explore further when the changes did occur, we informed our ridership, so we can look into that and follow up with you. I don't have an answer for why seniors are choosing and it just could be based on their review of how they previously used it, understanding what's allowable to them, and then just making the decisions to schedule trips based on their greatest priority of appointments and needs."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I was also just curious -- I mean, I see that we have 282 who have used the additional, so those people have gotten up to their eight, and then asked for two additional. Are there other people that are reaching eight, about how many do we have that are, you know, using the full eight every month or some months, I guess?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We can break that number down for you and let you know how many, because of course, we presented an average, so we get that information to you in a memo to the entire Board."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I'm wondering only because for those folks that do want more rides and need more rides -- if the average has gone down, there may be some way to offer more, again creep it back up a little to accommodate those folks who do need the additional rides and, really, just exploratory question not, you know."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Understood."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Depends on obviously, how many people and you'd have to map that all out, I guess, just to figure that out, yeah. The other question I had was more about, you know, research you're talking about doing and what's next in this environment. I really -- I think, as your presentation shows, overall, I think these services are really, really appreciated by the seniors, and really good. So this is not a criticism really at all. But the only thing I have for any negativity, if that's even the right word, about is the getting registered part, the confusion a little bit on having to choose Transdev over Common Courtesy and understanding the differences and the scheduling of rides. And again, not horrible, and it's just anecdotal. You know, it's not like hundreds of people have called me, but I have heard it from a few people here and there, particularly at the seniors services summit that you put on, Commissioner. And so I'm just wondering when you're looking into what's next, if we're also looking into sort of improvements on the booking side."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, Commissioner, you did ask the question last year about a workflow and a mapping, and we provided some preliminary information just on the steps, but what we can do, based on your comment, is just make sure we are clear in that education determining where we can be more visible in communicating that to different types of readers of information or those that are listening, calling our Star Line, so we'll take that into account and make sure that -- the entry point, of course, is Star Line, but then understanding the two different type of programs, what eligibility means, and then how we can get the seniors into the services."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I think I ask this every year too, but is the -- every time I look at the 60-year age limit, I see how much closer I'm creeping to 60. Every time -- well, I'll be 59 soon, so I also, I think, brought this up. I don't remember if I spoke to you or Dr. Roshell about this, but when we brought the user pilot online, I just looked at the company and it seems like they were doing some really interesting things, from a technology perspective. They had an app and all that. And when I think about myself in another year and a half or whatever it is, I want to use an app to book something, and I think that, with every passing year, we're going to have more and more people who qualify, who are more technological adept, and pretty much everybody has a phone these days, so I'm just sort of asking that as you look into whatever is next, I think those needs are going to become more and more important."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, since last year, our department has worked with IT to explore platforms that we can use to track our own data, but then how some of those platforms can be accessible to senior riders too. We're very close to implementing a system for our internal use and as the new RFP is developed, we can take these recommendations and will probably come from a consultant too, if that goes forward, to consider the advances in technology and how we can serve different older adults that are entering into our demographic."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you. I appreciate that."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "You're welcome."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "When do we anticipate, if you know, the RFPs to come out in 2026?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "So we just had the pre-bid conference today for the transportation consultant; it closes October 15th. And then our goal is to present to the Board by the end of the year, I'm just talking this out loud. Ideally, transportation takes some time and our chief purchasing agent, Dr. Roshell there, I'll yield just to get some feedback from my boss, Dr. Roshell."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Commissioner Arrington, Ladisa did lay out the steps. We anticipate an RFP in the first quarter because of some of the challenges we've experienced in the past with the interests. So as soon as we can get an RFP on the ground in partnership with Purchasing, before the end of the first quarter is our goal."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "How often or when is the last time that we surveyed the seniors about the transportation services or Transdev and Common Cause?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We survey quarterly for current users to gauge their satisfaction, how the services are impacting them. A countywide general survey about transportation was issued in 2018 or 2019, and our department is developing a new survey instrument to gauge any changes in the transportation needs of seniors in Fulton County."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. Thank you. Obviously, I assumed that you know and the transportation consultant will be using those quarterly survey results of the active users to help drive whatever models or plans that they may be coming up with for the RFP. I think Commissioner Barrett's point is very well taken. You know, I just pulled up senior transportation on Uber/Lyft, and you know, Star Line program is awesome, right, I love it. But it seems to me that there may be some efficiencies and that means we have to have somebody there to answer that phone, and somebody ought to just be able to go online and click and book the Common Cause, Uber or Lyft, right? Imagine if that capability was readily accessible, how many of those calls could be reduced to the Star Line freeing those people up for other -- to provide other services, right? And so, I think we got to, you know look forward, right? We got look forward and -- but it's not even really looking forward, right? It's present day. There's virtually not anything you can't do in the world online but by going on line and booking it, right? Now obviously, our seniors, some of them are not as familiar with going online and booking, and I'm not saying decrease the Star Line or the people that are answering Star Line, but certainly there's no reason that IT can't help make this process of registering for a ride more smoother and have it right there on the Fulton site where it says senior transportation. There should be a big link that says, you know, click here to book now, right? So let's, you know -- let's make sure we are working towards that as well."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Yes, sir. We certainly will look at that. Some of the reason that the department has not moved totally to an app platform, we're needing to figure out how to control for just the residents who are eligible. And so, we need to work through that and then, at the initiation of the service, as Mr. Patterson said, we do like to do the full assessment so that we can determine whether they're eligible for veteran's rides, for Medicaid, for MARTA, but we certainly do hear you on the efficiency side and we will be speaking with the consultant about platforms that will allow us to maintain control for eligible users and improve efficiencies, so thank you for that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So that goes back to my bigger point, Mr. CIO, of being able to attract Fulton County residents and their interactions, right? And so, if we know that -- it ought to be very easy to upload a database of eligible participants or to track whether they're eligible in a database right, like Air Table or something like that, right? And so, that should not really be a barrier, right? It should be very simple to either have some type of hashtag that tracks with the person's name and/or tracks with, you know, either eligibility column or something, so that that can be made more accessible, right? It might not necessarily be -- maybe there's an external app, but it might be something that we can do internally and, you know, I mean it's Uber and Lyft, right? I mean, the app's already there, right? That might be something that they need to do. We might even put that -- that might need to be part of this contract in this RFP, when it goes out, that they need to make that available to us, right? They're getting -- they're getting a lot of money, and they ought to be able -- they're technology companies. They ought to be able to help us do that. That ought to be a phone call away."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Thank you, Commissioner. We'll certainly look into it and look forward to bringing back the recommendations from the consultant. I did want to reiterate on the point of looking at the need for additional rides. We currently do not have a waitlist, and we have not had to turn away any seniors needing the additional medical trips."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Chairman, thank you. Thank you, Commissioner Arrington. Thank you, Commissioner Barrett, for these questions. I think we're all thinking on the same line, and thank you, Dr. Rosshell, for your attention to this matter. And I was thinking -- so my father who suffers from dementia, who is 84 years old who lives in South Fulton, has not been able to, you know, get it -- understand in how to do the Uber app and all that, nor is my stepmother who is also of 80 plus age, able to figure out how to do that to get to my house. So the default is, I always call Uber for them and they come to my house. It would be a great idea one day to think about being able to designate a person that can call the rides for -- under this program that could call the rides for the senior or for the seniors that live together and could utilize this program as a designee because I can't do it on my Uber app, right? I don't have the capability of doing that, and so that might just be something that would enhance the program, and I just actually thought about that while I was sitting here; it wasn't even the reason why I came into the queue, but I think that that would also be a way to enhance the program a bit for seniors who are just not able to call those ride for themselves and maybe want to designate a child or something like that to call for them."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We actually -- that's what Common Courtesy does, so we contract with them and their TLCs, their staff, schedule the rides. They book them. They track where the senior goes, so they're actually managing that process for the senior. Seniors that do not require a monitor and can safely ride in the vehicle to and from their designation."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So I just don't think a lot of seniors know about that. There needs to be a more awareness about it, and I think that when we ask the question, what happened between it going from eight rides down to four to five rides, I think that's a matter of messaging and communication, because the message was very loud when it went down from 16 to 8, right? And when I visited all of my senior centers, all that I heard was well, you all took the Uber rides away, you all took the Uber rides away. And so, that perception might have affected behavior in using the rides, which is maybe why we see a drop from 8 to 4 to 5. So maybe we could spend a little bit of time making a new message that says use your rides. We have them available. We're not using the full amount of funding and we don't have a wait list anymore. Join now again, we want you back. Something like that that lets them know that the money is actually there, because it's real loud when the money isn't there, but then people don't use the services when the money is there. So maybe it's sort of a reverse messaging, and we can let them know. I certainly will, and I will tell all of my seniors, but I think it might be a great thing to come from the top a message through that senior network where everybody can get it that we have these three to four extra rides available, no waitlist, please make sure you come utilize this service. There's nothing wrong with us actually advertising that we do something instead of talking about what we can't do."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. Dr. Roshell, thank you letting us know that there's no wait list. I can remember a time when we had a waitlist that was ridiculously long, and my office would get several, several calls about it. And so, to me, that speaks to the great work that you all are doing because the fact that we don't have a waitlist -- I remember when we revisited this before, and we were talking about what other community partners, whether it was churches or other organizations that were offering rides, and we were, at one time, looking at maybe a database when they use all their rides that we could refer them to someone else. So I want us to revisit that as well, Dr. Roshell, because we know, especially in this climate where money is getting cut, you know, at some point we're going to have to divert money in certain departments to other departments because they're not going to receive the federal funding. We know that we have a government shutdown. And so I want to, first of all, thank you all, for the great job that you all are doing, because I remember when we had the issue of individuals not being all computer savvy and was needing to talk to a physical person. See the thing about this -- the beauty about this, when you've sat here for five years and you deal with the seniors and like my office, the Mighty Six, that's not to say that everybody else does it, but when your office becomes a satellite, almost center, for the calls that come in, then we know what you all are working on. We know what you all have been dealing with. And so, thank you for making sure that that

communication, an issue that we had at one time has cleared up greatly. And then we need to make sure that they know what rides they can take, because some of them can't go from one area all away to another area. It's not in the parameters, and we talked about that before in educating them, because just like anything else, all of our seniors are not computer savvy, and sometimes our seniors need to talk to a live person which they do with this program. And so, thank you for the great work that I've seen in five years of being down here from where it seems like we were really, really behind the eightball trying to deliver the service and answer and critique the needs at the same time. And so, we're not perfect, and we're not where we want to be, but Lord knows we are not where we was five years ago. So thank you for that. Secondly, I want to say this, let's continue -- and Dr. Roshell, I'll get with you, because I know that this is something that you and I have talked about. Let's continue to partner with other organizations and other providers that would be willing to offer those rides. It is a situation where we can just not necessarily hand off, because it would be a liability issue, but it's nothing to say, okay, well, I see you have exhausted all of your rides this month; however, we know that so-and-so, so-and-so offers this service as well and give them the information -- County Manager, you know, we talked about this a couple years ago. So I do want, Ladisa, for us to revisit that and make that a reality because government can't do it all by itself. I wish it could, but it can't. And so, let's see who we can partner with and see how we can make and streamline it a little better for the organizations that can and will and maybe can stand in the gap. Thank you."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Yes, ma'am, we'll look in to that again."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: All right. Any other comments? All right, the motion on the floor to approve. Let's vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0740**: Request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$7,625,171.58 with Transdev to provide transportation services for Senior Services and Behavioral Health programs."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0741**: Request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$2,725,884.69 to provide congregate home delivered meals, nutrition, education, and counseling for Fulton County residents aged 60 and above."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I just wanted to ask, this is such a vital program, County Manager or maybe Dr. Roshell, are we good? Because we know down the road there's going to be some funding issues in the county, not necessarily what we're dealing with, but I just want us to, like the County Manager always said, be ahead of what could possibly happen. So I just want to make sure because this is a very good program. I know a lot of the people that receive this service, so I just wanted to make sure County Manager, that we're good?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Yes, ma'am, we are good. The element of this program is funded federally, we have no indications that that funding is in jeopardy. We are, of course, monitoring all of our federal funding with the help of our External Affairs department. This fund comes through the state to the Atlanta Regional Commission, and I have not received any indication, just want to check in with the senior services team that we have not received any indicators that there is any disruption."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "That's correct, Dr. Roshell. Atlanta Regional Commission did send a notice before yesterday's deadline just indicating business as usual. They will keep us informed, of course, as these are new developments, but nothing has changed as of today's meeting."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Yes, I guess I have a similar question to the transportation. How often are we serving the seniors about -- or the recipients about these meals and the quality of the meals? Is that done quarterly as well?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "The surveys, yes. We do. Our quality assurance team surveys participants receiving meals through the neighborhood senior center congregate dining program and home-delivered meals as well. So we do have that information."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, if you can share that with me or us, I think that would be helpful. Do you know any of the trends, the general satisfaction, 50 percent satisfaction, 80-90 percent satisfaction? What are we talking about?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Ninety-seven? Ninety percent or better. We have the report; I don't have the number off top -- 90 percent or better for satisfaction levels."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just -- just because I think it would be good for the public to know; can you just go over the kind of numbers of meals served and all of that?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes. Yes, Commissioner. Meals served to date, 68,000 meals, and that's from January to now. The average number of meals served through the comprehensive nutrition program, this is home delivered meals, 489 seniors monthly. We continue to admit seniors, discharge based on no longer needing it, move, whatnot; and, yeah, those are the basics."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And there's no -- like everybody who's wanting to be a part of this is able to be a part of it, or are there people on the waitlist for this?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "There is a waitlist, and that's standard because of the process that all counties under the Atlanta Regional Commission follow, so we vet seniors through the ARC. They are assessed and then based on their level of need, they're placed on either a tier one, highest level of need, or a tier two waitlist, and then once our provider can put them into service, we'll pull them from the tier one waitlist first and then move to tier two. So there's constantly a rolling waitlist because of just the structure of the program."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Do we know about how many people are on that at any given time?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We do. I don't have that number. I can get the number for you. I normally have it."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No worries."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We can get it within five minutes, but, yeah."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. All right. That's all I had. Thank you very much."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Okay. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion is to approve. Let's vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, **25-0742**: Request approval to renew an existing contract in the total amount of \$4,363,792.43 to provide aging services for Fulton County seniors age 60 and above."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Ivory; seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, all. You know my question is always about equity. I'm just curious as to why 4.3 million in North Fulton and 1.7 in South Fulton, if you can explain that for the viewing public."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir, Commissioner. The total contract cost is 4.36 million. Senior services based on their proposal and approved amount from the Commissioner is allocated \$1.8 million. South Fulton is allocated about 1.5 million, and visiting nurse health systems receives 1.1 million out of this contract. So it's based on their response to the proposal that Fulton County issued, and what they shared with the county that they can do at the cost."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. Yeah, that's my fault. I read that wrong. Thank you."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "You're welcome."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're good. All right, let's vote, please. The motion is to adopt."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0743**: Request approval to renew an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$494,975 to provide professional burial services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0744**: Request approval to renew an existing contract for therapeutic pool maintenance services in an amount not to exceed \$228,924."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Ivory; seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Vice Chair Ellis, you have the floor."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "On the performance measures for this contract, I know it wasn't necessarily done in the way we sorted surveyed for it. I was just kind of surprised to look at some of the results given the discussions we've had related to the pools and seniors. I think it would be good to track -- start to track days out of service, you know, because I looked at kind of the satisfaction result and what I think are kind of days out of service. There may be sort of a, you know, divergence on that in a way that our participants may view sort of the quality and how much that relates to the vendor versus other issues. But I think that would be a good measure for us to start to track. Is that a feasible thing we can do?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "It absolutely is, and we're going doing it. We've developed a pool journal log that we've been tracking since the beginning of this year."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Do you have any data to kind of share on that if you could? I mean, you don't have to do it right now, but if you have it I'd be interested in seeing that."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "We will include that."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. And then in terms of -- were there any thoughts on rebidding this contract?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, FC SENIOR SERVICES: "There were. Joe?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. Because this is the last year on this in terms of available renewals, the intent is for DREAM to assume administrative responsibility for this contract moving forward, whereas, we have the expertise or the mechanical expertise to, in our opinion, more effectively manage this, but it is our intention to actually bid this out, and we don't know over time. It's always been United Pools, but we may get another vendor. But I think lending our expertise to the oversight of this will help this problem moving forward."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Thank you, Mr. Davis."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion is to approve. Let's vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "County Manager's Items under Open and Responsible Government, **25-0745**, Finance: Presentation, review, and approval of the October 1st, 2025 Budget Soundings and Resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam CFO."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The item that's before the Board today includes one funding item, it's the transfer of \$1.7 million from nonagency to the Department of Arts and Culture to fund the balance requested for contracts for services for this year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett; seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "25-0746: Registration and Elections: Request approval of an amendment to existing annual maintenance listing software and hardware service contract and approval of \$343,222.68"

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

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I don't know if you have anything you want to speak into it or just here to answer questions?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Good afternoon, I'm just going to answer questions."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. With this licensing amount of \$343,000, do we have to do licensing for all our equipment every year, or can we on off years, save money by maybe only doing the equipment we're using?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Yes. So we've reduced our warranties with the equipment. It's not required on all of them. We've already went through this contract. We changed the dates to make sure it aligned with our Election's budget and reduced the warranties that we have coverage for, for over -- over, for roughly \$500,000. So there is a reduction already in place."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And I just want to point out for the public, even though we get this equipment from the Secretary of State, it's the county's responsibility for this ongoing licensing every single year. And we did not get help from -- it's kind of an unfunded mandate by the legislature."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you so much for being here, Mrs. Williams. From your perspective, does outsourcing to this vendor create any risks or challenges for your staff or for voters?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "We're not permitted to outsource the election's equipment. We have to use what's mandated about the Secretary of State. And any repairs that occur on -- we ship it to them. If they're -- or we'll replace. If it's cheaper to actually replace then repair, and they don't repair -- they don't break often. So we realized we do not need the warranty."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. I'm just saying is this -- does this contract with No -- is this pronounced know ink?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "I'm sorry, are we on 0746? Am I looking at the wrong --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "I am so sorry. I am asking you question about --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "-- one that's coming up. I'll hold on that, thank you."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Okay, thank you."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, **25-0747**, Request approval of a statewide contract in the amount of \$125,000 of to provide printing services."

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

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It was brought up in public comment that this was effective August 1st through December, so I'm just wanting to know if you can explain why it's dated August 1st and not October --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Yeah, so we're -- the dates that we've listed match the statewide contract. So that's why it says August 1st, and we -- and the contract was unavailable until late August. But we started the process August 1st, to get this on -- in Legistar."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion is to adopt, let's vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0748**, Request approval of a statewide contract in the amount not exceed \$480,214.68 for the rental of box trucks, passenger vehicles, and cargo vans."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. There was a comment about this item earlier during public comment. This is an up-to amount, correct?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "We spend that amount of money on rentals. But we have reached out to DREAM, who is drafting as lease agreement with Enterprise, and we're part of that agreement. So going forward in 2026, if that is

approved, we'll be saying -- saving roughly over \$300,000 a year to be on a lease plan compared to a rental plan."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion -- I'm sorry. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Piggyback on that question. It says 126 vehicles? How many -- like, who drives these -- these vehicles? Because we don't have 126 employees to -- is it for temp workers, or?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "I believe the summary is for the amount of usage that we have for the -- because we rent over 20 box trucks, 40 sedans, cargo vans. So there is a list that go -- for every election, we have a slot of how many vehicles we have to rent."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "But we don't have a 126 people driving at one time --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: We have over 40 couriers in our -- in our staff.

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Forty -- 40 couriers and 126 cars?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Plus we have the couriers -- we have the techs that have to go out in vehicles. We have voter education that goes out in vehicles, so there is a good number of temps that drive these cars."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: **"25-0749**, Request approval of a statewide contract in an amount of \$427,836.60 to adhere to Secretary of State-mandated mail or No General Election mail notices."

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

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. Now, I'm on the right one. Okay, and so again, from your perspective, does this create any challenges for your staff or for voters with this contract?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "No. We prefer to -- so the state contracts with KNOWINK to print notices and mail outs. And so it's cheaper to go through their

vendor, because we don't pay for the printing costs, we just pay for the postage, and it's a reduced rate compared to the United States post -- regular rate."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Help me out here. It says state mandated -- to adhere to the Secretary of State-mandated mail for No General Election mail notices."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Right. So when the voters have not participated in two general elections, they are sent a notice automatically to see if they're going to be placed inactive or canceled status. So there's -- we have mail outs that have to go out. If there's a precinct change, we have to mail out a card. If a voter changes their address and they update their information, we have to send them out a card. So there's mandated notices that have to go out throughout the year."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And this is the -- the No General Election notice? So that -- that happens after someone this is two general elections in a row --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Yes. So if you haven't voted in two Presidential Elections, eventually you're going to be on the list to see if you're going to be can -- to removed or placed inactive status."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. And is there a No Primary Election mail notice?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "No, there's -- there's not. There's, like I said, there's various notices that go out, whether it's, you've changed -- you've moved to another county, you moved out of state. All those things get populated to send out notices to voters."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Has KNOWINK always been the provider of sending out the notices?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "No. KNOWINK was -- is poll pad vendor, but they also now are the printing vendor. They have not always been the printing vendor --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Did we use somebody that the state -- have we always used somebody that the state recommended, or is this new, using KNOWINK in this --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "We use statewide contract -- contractors. We use vendors that were -- that are on the county-registered list, but it's cheaper right now through the statewide contract."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote. Motion is to approve."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0750**, Request approval of an intergovernmental agreement to conduct Special Elections."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Let's vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0751**, Request approval to increase spending authority for temporary staffing services in the amount of \$180,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Ivory, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Thorne, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just had a quick question. Are we going to have to increase funding for staffing HD35 race on November 18 as well, or you're going to come back for that?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Yes. So we do need additional funds for the 2025 calendar year. There were four elections. So far, three to date that have been -- well, there's two elections that were called, one already had a runoff. There's another one on November 18th that could possibly have a runoff. So those are four elections that were not part of our Election's budget that we do have the staff and get funding for."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It just seems kind of crazy to have them the beginning of November, in the middle of November. Just, it seems like legislative-wise, they could have just moved this to the General November Election or the Municipal Election. Maybe we can put that on our legislative agenda to limit the number of election dates per year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion is to approve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ivory, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Let's vote."

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

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, FC BRE: "Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, **25-0752**, Information Technology request approval to increase spending authority for Fulton PC Refresh Enterprise Workstation in an amount not to exceed \$850,000."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0753**, Public Works request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing in the amount not to exceed \$249,160 for the purchase and delivery of one Caterpillar Excavator."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0754**, Request approval of a Resolution that will authorize an increase of 5 percent to the water and sewer rate increase for each of the next two years to make the necessary increases to the water and sewer fee schedule to approve modifications to the water connection fees for North Fulton; to provide for an effective date; and for other purposes which are necessary to complete the projects included in 2025 Water Masterplan and Public Works Capital Improvement Program."

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

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "I just wanted to confirm with our County Manager that this is an increase in the water and sewer millage rate."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "It's not a millage rate, but it's the rate of charges to end-users."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's -- it's 12:47. Why don't we recess for lunch and Executive Session here. I'll entertain a motion to do so, lunch and Executive Session, where we may discuss items of real estate, litigation and personnel. Let's vote, please."

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

Recessed for Executive Session at 12:48 p.m.

Resumed Regular Session at 2:00 p.m.

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a motion to approve the request for representation in items 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "There's a motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "No further items from Executive Session."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You seek recognition."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, okay."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: Okay, thank you.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Point of personal privilege."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. I wanted to just take a moment of personal privilege to congratulate my Deputy Chief of Staff, Audrey Maloof, who passed the Georgia Bar Exam just about a week ago. And I'm very proud of her, having been her Professor at Georgia State University School of Law, hiring her into my office, and now being able to participate in swearing her into the Bar of Georgia. So congratulations, Audrey, we are immensely proud of you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Which one?"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Stand up for a second. Yes, yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, okay. Yeah. All right, continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioners' Action Items, on page 10, **25-0722**, Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101, Article II, Division 2, Rules of Order and Procedure of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances; and for other purposes, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that we spoke about this already when it came up at the last meeting. But -- and I know that you likely have your four votes to get this passed right now. But I did want to make some comments about it. So there's a reason -- a reason that a motion to file is not included in Robert's Rules, and that's because, as it is written here, and apparently, as it is often used by other governing bodies, because we are not the only one, it is a way to dispose of an item without debate, which is essentially taking away the right of anyone in the minority or an individual to even put their views on the record. And this is in contradiction to one of Robert's Rules of Order, central principles, which is the right of the minority to be heard, but the right of the majority to decide. So the introduction of Robert's Rules lays out a few principles at the very beginning, and one of them is that all members have equal rights, privileges and obligations. The next is that the minority has rights that must be protected, and then that the majority has the right to decide, and -- and others. In practice, this motion -- and I've used this motion, too, so I'm not -- I'm criticizing myself too when I say this. But in practice, this motion is used though so that Commissioners do not have to be on the record on an issue they would rather not weigh in on. It's disrespectful to the Commissioner who brought the item, and frankly, it's a demeaning tactic and a bullying tactic, and -- or certainly can be used that way. And it's a bit cowardly. If there's something you don't agree with, and again, myself included, something we don't agree with, then we can vote no, or if we don't want to be on the record, we cannot vote. We have both of those options. So I can't support this change the rules, because I actually believe it infringes on our fundamental right as elected members of this Board, and the rights of our citizens and our districts to have our ideas considered by this Body. I also can't support this as written, because I believe it puts an undue burden on the Clerk to the Commission to decide what is the same and how long is long enough before something can be brought back. So if we were going to move forward with this, it's my opinion that we should more clearly define exactly what same means. Because if I change a word or two or three, can it be brought back? That's -- becomes then, up to the Clerk, and that's not really fair to do that to her. And on the -- the addition of the Commissioner who presented the item shall not present the same

item, sort of sets us up for situations where a Commissioner in the minority has their item filed, and then a Commissioner in the majority bring that item back, and it's exactly the same, but they're not forbidden from doing that. In any case, I think there's a lot of holes in the way it's written, and I think we're better off using the Robert's Rules that are already in place that give us effectively the same ability. On the motion to deny part of it, I think my issue here is not that there's anything wrong how it's written, per se, but that it's -- it's a rule being written to solve a problem on another rule that we follow at a precedent does not actually written down, which is the automatic three-bring-back rule. I asked the Clerk to find the original place where that was written down, and apparently it isn't there. It's not in our rules, and it's not a Robert's Rules. So this automated bring back is just something that's been done. It was, you know, passed over to our current Clerk from the previous Clerk, and it's just always been there. But it seems to me that when we vote -- and I was very confused about it when I first got here, because we would vote no on something, which is a denial, and then it would come back. It seems to me, when we vote, when we vote on a motion to approve and it fails, that is a denial. And the audit -- we should just really get rid of the underlying automatic three-bring-back rule, and then we wouldn't need a motion to deny. So I think we'd better off going back, as Commissioner Arrington said, I think at the last meeting to having that overall rules and procedures review and fixing the things that need to be fixed. And I think getting rid of that automatic bring back would be the thing. So -- so I'm not going to support it at this time, but as I said, I'm assuming you have your votes, and it's going to be what it is."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah. Seems like I remember at the last meeting that Commissioner Ivory and I volunteered to lead up a committee to look at the overall procedures. And I would hope that we would have enough patience to allow that process to occur. It seems counterintuitive and counterproductive to make one small change while we're discussing potentially bigger, broader changes. I guess, obviously, I mean, it could be done, but if -- but then, if it comes back later and we vote to change it later, or you know. It just seems that while we're gathering information or possibly looking at alternatives and doing the review of our rules of order and procedure that we be more comprehensive and all inclusive. And so I would rather see us do that, and maybe if we wanted to set a deadline or something, so that it's not held up indefinitely. But I don't really see the necessity or urgency to move this forward without the comprehensive review of the overall rules of procedure. And so I really would rather make a motion to hold. But, you know, if -- I don't know what the will of the Board is, but I would rather hold this for the comprehensive procedure, comprehensive review of our rules of order procedure."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, is that a substitute motion to hold?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a second? Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'll second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's dispose of the motion to -- you want to be heard now, you want to wait? All right. Let's dispose of the motion to hold. Motion, substitute motion on the floor is to hold."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to hold. And the motion fails; three yeas, three nays, one abstention."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, back to the main motion to approve. Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, thanks, Mr. Chair. I think this practice, this particular practice that we're codifying, as has been noted, was in -- has been in place, we've traced it back to, what, the 90s, 80s? And I think it's been well understood by the members here. And we go back and look at the record, and you know, everybody's voted, voted on it, used it, et cetera that sits up here on this Body. And you know, I've had my own, my own actions that have been, you know, that this, this particular measures been used on, I've accepted that. And you know, because that was the will of the Board, and it felt like there had been enough debate on this subject. And I think that is what the mechanism is for. We've got a lot of stuff that we have to take on as a Body. We are all allowed to bring measures forward, share those, debate those, but at what point in time that we decide collectively as a Board that we've debated enough on it, then that's when this, this particular, you know, vehicle, has been used. And I do think it's been used fairly and properly, and it's been understood. So the fact that we're having to do this to further codify it, in and of itself, is frustrating, and that we've wasted this much time on it when everybody understood it. Furthermore, I'm not in support of any sort of overhaul of our rules. And partly because we've had discussions related to specific components of rules and we've debated those, adopted measures, and then we've had Commissioners who are actually advocating for a full look and overhaul of the rules, choose to ignore them, or choose to flaunt them, or choose to sue the Board over them. So -- so no, I'm not in any -- I have no interest in doing a full look at an overhaul of our rules when we have that kind of behavior that's been exhibited by certain Commissioners in the past. So I think we should go ahead and codify this thing, move forward, and get back to our normal course of business."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I really listened, and thank you, Commissioner Ellis for your response, accepting the will of the Board and all of those great things that you just said. I wonder would they be applicable to our vote on the nominees from the Republican Party. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Let's vote. You want to be heard, Vice Chair?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That comment is gratuitous and irrelevant to this particular measure."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion is to adopt."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes; four yeas, three nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0755**, Request approval of a Resolution to increase the compensation paid to each member of the Fulton County Board of Equalization from \$100 per day to \$150 per day."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Colleagues, I brought this matter forward after hearing from one of the Board of Equalization members at the last meeting. I spoke with the Clerk of Superior Court. Originally, I think it was drafted for \$200 a day, but the Clerk said she supported \$150 a day. So I'm hopeful that you all will support this. I don't think you will have -- it will, in fact, it will not have a huge impact on our budget or any of the -- this year going forward. So -- and so I would urge you all to support this resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. You know, I looked at this and I agree with it. However, County Manager, let me ask you this, this -- if we do this now, would this -- this would be considered -- would this be considered enhancement?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Sharon, unless I'm wrong, I guess it was an enhancement in the budget, it wasn't approved. So at this point in the year, would that be the technically correct term?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "If they're seeking funding for it for this year, yes. And it is an enhancement that they've submitted for their '26 budget."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Given that we just passed legislation that I stood firm on, no more enhancements for 2025, I do want to offer a substitute motion. And the substitute motion is that we prioritize this enhancement at \$160 for the 20 and -- the 2026, budget. Are we able to prioritize? I don't want to -- enhancements, we are, County Manager? I don't want to step in your lane."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "No, ma'am, I think the Board can give us direction, and we'll certainly include something that's --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "-- we've been directed to do so."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. I'm sorry, I misspoke. I meant 150, a hundred -- I want this to be prioritized for the 2026 budget at \$150. That's my substitute motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a second for the substitute motion?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll second that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Probably moved and seconded. All right. Commissioner Barrett, do you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I think I'm just not 100 percent sure, was the intent for this year, Commissioner Arrington? Or was the -- I thought the intent was for next year and beyond."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "My -- no, my intent was for it to be immediate. But I'm happy -- well, my intent was for it to be immediate. I do have some questions about the prioritizing, because I'd rather just make it -- I rather just make it recurring funding going forward from 2026, and maybe that's a -- but I'll let you go ahead, this is your turn. On my turn, I'll ask for a friendly amendment."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. I was going to suggest, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, that maybe yours is just an amendment to Commissioner Arrington's, because the rest of the language I think would still hold. And the -- there is language in the current piece of legislation that does have it to be recurring, ongoing, and also to increase with cost of living at the same time that County employees increased, so that way, it would continue to move with time instead of the way it's been now, where it was

at 100 for a really long time. And then the flip side it, I think and I don't know, Madam CFO, if you could answer this. But I think isn't it -- is it true that if it was for next year and this piece of legislation were to pass today that it would then be part of the rules, because it would be mandatory, it would be base budget and part of the rules, and it would not be enhancement for the proposed budget since we haven't -- we don't have a proposed budget yet?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "If it passes today, because the Board has approved it, it would be an item that we would include in the budget recommendations. They have already submitted their budget requests. It is an enhancement request for 2026. But it would be one that we would look to find a way to fund within whatever envelope we have available."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Since I made the substitute motion, may I speak now, Chairman? I would disagree would you, Commissioner Barrett, that in my reading of the resolution, my substitute motion, prioritize it as an enhancement for the 2026 budget, as opposed to it starting immediately and being recurring. And so I would -- I would say that my substitute motion is proper and in order."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sorry. Can I still -- clarify? I -- I'm not saying it wasn't. I was just saying if we -- if you just amended Arrington's to not be for now and only to be for next year. That's what I was saying. But I hear what you're saying."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So I think you misunderstood me."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, thank you."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Go ahead."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I was just going to ask Commissioner Abdur-Rahman if making it recurring money with annual cost-of-living increases would be -- would -- she would accept that as a friendly amendment to her amendment."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Arrington, I don't have a problem with that. But I would be uncomfortable in doing that right here at this time. I think I would do that for the budget for next year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Madam CFO, you said that this has already been submitted as an enhancement for this department in the budget, and in the budget for 2026; is that correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "And is it for \$150 -- from 100 to \$150?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It is for \$150, an increase of \$150 per day, yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So if there is no -- you just previously said that if we don't adopt it as recurring, and we just adopt it as an enhancement, which is what the amended motion is for, is there no -- what is the difference between it being an enhancement that has been submitted by the department versus it being an enhancement that we do as a substitute motion? Does it change anything?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Well, if the Board doesn't act on the resolution to approve the increase in the rate per day, then we would not have, to Commissioner Barrett's point, the Board action to require us to provide the funding, and then it would be included in the review of all other enhancements. And it would be, I think they presented it as a program expansion. So it would be considered in that regard, which means we would be looking to fund something that was a cost to maintain services before we funded program expansion with any resources we might have available."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. But again, I'm -- I want to get really clear on this question. It's been submitted as an enhancement by the department for the upcoming budget, the amended motion is an enhancement as well. If we vote on the amend -- the amended motion, which has the same language as enhancement, it's guaranteeing it to go from 100 to 150 just as if it was a rule-base change; is that what you're saying?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That's my interpretation of --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- what the intent would be, yes."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So then it's not necessarily an enhancement even in the amended motion. It's going to become a rules-based change that will happen within the budget."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "If the Board adopts the resolution, yes."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So then we're definitely changing it from one to 150 with a yes vote for 2026?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "For 2026."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Vice Chair. Let me remind everybody, we've -- we weeks away from discussion on the 2026 budget, and all of these things you're talking about now increases. You got an 8.87 millage rate. We voted unanimously to adopt that. So anything you do now impacts that. Remember this date and the vote from the last meeting. Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, thank you Mr. Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I concur with your comments and what we passed at the last meeting should stand and that, you know, we should get into our budgetary discussion. And if this is -- if we approve a budget which has this in here, I think we're maybe confusing a little bit of the enhancement versus nonrecurring. If we approved a budget and this is in here, as is Mr. Manager, right, it -- then it is permanent, right, unless it's revoked? This is not just a one-time thing?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. I think if the Board passes this and directs us to --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "No, no, no. I'm talking about if we adopt a budget, this is part of in -- this is part -- this is asked for, right, and --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "As an enhancement."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- as enhancement --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "But if as a project expansion, if a budget is adopted and it includes this new rate of 150, that's regarded as something that's permanent not a nonrecurring item --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- right? So it will go on once that is adopted at that point in time --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- whether, you know, it -- whether it was something that was adopted a day or whether it was something that was adopted in the context of the budget. And you know, I would -- I'd personally want to stack up all the -- all the things that we're looking at and make values-based decision, looking at the entirety of a

budget versus individual items one at a time. I think that's serves us best, you know, from a just of pure standpoint and really evaluating all our needs, and you know, best, you know, putting our allocations where we feel like are giving us the best use for the things that we even are going to be obligated to do."

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hear what everybody's saying. I think there's still a little bit of confusion. Generally speaking, and this is just maybe me that is confused. So if the enhancement request that's currently out there already from the Clerk, correct? The Clerk of Superior Court that puts that in?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "If that enhancement is approved by the Board to go into the final budget, normally, are those things recurring, or they -- do they have to come back the following year and ask again?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The nature of the expense because it's a change in the rate of pay would make it a recurring expense."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. And I think the significant difference between Commissioner Arrington's resolution and what Commissioner Abdur-Rahman is proposing is that there -- Commissioner Arrington's resolution had a built-in increase with cost-of-living that Commissioner Abdur-Rahman's does not. So every time we did a -- it's written, I believe, so that every time a COLA occurs for employees, that the same thing would apply to -- to the hourly rate or, yeah, to the daily rate, rather for the Board of Equalization. So that -- that seems to materially be the difference, I guess. So I'm really -- if we don't want to do that at this time, so be it. But I also think it's important to point out, since you made the comment, Mr. Chairman, that we approved an 8.87 millage rate for the current year of 2025, that we do not set the millage for 2026 until next summer. So it is not accurate to say that we are locked into an 8.87 millage rate. We did not approve that. We approved the 2025 millage rate per -- in the same way that we do every year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ivory, would you like me to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "So I just want one more piece of clarity for Madam CFO. If we approve Commissioner Rahman's substitute motion, we will be giving the increase from 100 to \$150 in next year's budget, recurring?"

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

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, this is getting a little bit out of hand, y'all. I'm just going to say that as sitting Commissioner here. We're talking about money, and County Attorney, I don't mean pull you into the fray, I'm trying not to. But this is not going to break our budget for 2026, nor will it cause the millage rate to rise, this particular action. Okay, let me -- let me put that out there for the listening public. I just made a statement two weeks ago that there will be no enhancements. We have to understand how the budget process works here, and how for it to work successfully, there's a process to it. And I'm going to stand on that whether somebody likes it or not. However, I do realize the fact that people have reached out to my office, I do realize the fact that they do need it. So my substitute motion was to one, allay their concerns about it, because they have been talking about it for quite a while, and two, to prioritize it, and give direction to the county staff. And so that is the purpose of my substitute motion. We can go back and forth all day long and try to dissect it and make this, you know, a reality show if that's what y'all want to do. But at the end of the day, the purpose of my substitute motion is to prioritize the enhancement because that's what it is for the county staff, and to give them direction that this is to be added in, even if it's already been asked for, which you said, County Manager, Ms. Whitmore, it's already been asked for. But we are prioritizing and letting you know today that we want this done as a Body now. That's my last conversation on it."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. If I may, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. They're two separate issues here. One of them is the setting of the rate, which is an action that must be taken by the Board. And the other one would be, how would that be funded? It just so happens that the Clerk of the Superior Court has asked for it to be funded as an increased rate for 2026. Even if that were granted in the normal budgetary process, this Board would still have to come back and set the rate at the \$150 per day rate. So another option might be for you to set the rate today to be effective January 1st of 2026. At that point, it would be of budgetary mandate for the County Manager's team to find as a recurring funding source in the budget going forward."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Soo Jo, thank you. You took the words out of my mouth. Yes, that's what I wanted to do."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Would you repeat your motion, Commissioner? We're making -- this is --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Chairman, come -- okay. I make a substitute motion that we prioritize the rate from 100 to 150. We give direction to the county staff that it be put into the budget for 2026, and everything else that the County Attorney just said in reference to it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, all right. Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. And what I've -- I may misunderstood what -- I interpreted your -- when you -- when you made it, what I interpret you to say was that you're just giving direction in terms of when you're formulating the budget, prioritize this and see if you can get it there, right?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Same thing."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That this rises to the level of top, not that we're -- just giving a direction if we make a motion for anything. But that's the way I interpreted your comments, not that we're going in and we're presetting at this -- at anything today, that we're just giving direction that this is what we'd like to see this as a priority of the Board to get done in the 2026 budget. If that's not what you intended to say, then I'm not -- you know, if this -- we're trying to set it today, then I'm not in support of that. If we're just trying to say, hey, we're just giving you some general direction, and we're voting on that, sharing that as a priority, those are two different things."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I -- I understand what you're saying, Vice Chair. However, we are in a political environment, and I think we've spent way more time on this than we should have. And so I'm going to yield to the consensus of what needs to be done with this. I'm going to take the advice of the County Attorney, and I want to put it forward the way I stated it and the way she suggested today as a Board action. And I understand if you don't want to support it, because I do understand we really, really spending absolutely too much time on this. And what I don't want to do, which has been the activity of some of my colleagues, I want to stay in my lane. We got a competent County Manager. We got a competent CFO. And -- and this is my personal opinion, they make a good amount of money on their check. And I want to allow them to earn that money. And so I want to stay my lane. But I understand the climate we have here today on this Board. And so with that said, with all due respect, Vice Chair and Chairman, I want to move forward with what I stated."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Ms. Barrett, Council -- Commissioner Barrett, you want to be heard again?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is probably a moot point at -- anyway right now. But just out Commissioner Arrington, or perhaps you can answer this, Madam CFO, do we know if -- in terms of the ability to give them the increase right now, which is not on the table at the second, but do we know if the Clerk of Court has the budget to do it, or does it have to be an enhancement? Because if we were to set the rate and she has money in her budget currently to pay for it, then it would not be an enhancement; is that accurate?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I don't know if I -- if I know the answer to that question. But what I will say is, you know, my intent was to have it adopted immediately, right? We got \$70 million left over in this year's budget, and there's no way or no reason that it shouldn't be adopted immediately. However, I'm willing to

adopt it going forward. But I would prefer it if we adopted it today for this year's budget. And so, you know, \$70 million left over. And for me, that's more than enough to finance this and a whole bunch of other stuff."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I agree with you. Madam CFO, do you know if the Clerk of Court has the money to cover the rest of the year at the higher rate in her budget?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "She is one of departments that we will need to send money over to cover her pay for performance. So she would not have any funds available in her budget currently, is my answer today. I'd have to do a little more -- look at that. But she is one of the agencies that we already know we have to send money to to cover the pay-for-performance. So that kind of leads me to say there would be no other resources available."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Gotcha. And theoretically though, again, this is really just a moot point, I realize. But theoretically, if we were to set the rate effective today, it would be a budget sounding to fulfill any additional funds she needed for that, correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes. If she could not absorb it within her existing budget, we would have to sound resources."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, all right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll be brief. I just want to thank you, Commissioner Arrington for calling me and having discussion over your proposed resolution before it was put on the agenda. But I did have -- I do struggle with the per diem rate for Board of Equalization members shall increase in alignment with all countywide cost-of-living increases for Fulton County employees. Because I feel like if we did that across all our boards, then we're looking at a whole 'nother enhancements all across them, because a lot of our boards do get paid a per-diem rate. And I don't look at Board of Equalization members being in line with Fulton County employees. This is not their full-time job, being on this, serving on this board. So I'm hoping they have outside employment that they rely on. And I would -- I would -- I'm just not in agreement with this one section of the resolution because I think we're going to open it up to a bunch of boards saying, well, we need a cost-of-living increase. We have the Board of Registration Elections, you know, they get \$300 a meeting, you know, the Chair gets \$500 a meeting, you know? What are the other boards that have it? So I feel like it's best to not do that unless they are Fulton County employees."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. I hate to further complicate this any further. But I believe Commissioner Abdur-Rahman's proposed substitution or

amendment directly conflicts with what Soo Jo said. And I believe her last recitation of her motion was what she said, plus what Soo Jo said. And I think either it's prioritized or it's set. And I think what we heard our CFO say was that if we prioritize it, we are virtually setting it. But I don't, you know, I guess we can vote on it, but I'm just telling you, it's confusing, and that's the reason why you have, ideally, you have stuff in writing so everybody can see it, and everybody can agree on it. And I understand that every time, it's not going to be in writing, and they're going to be amendments and substitutions made verbally. But you know, I -- you know, I guess really, my comment, Mr. Chair, is a point of order. The motion is incongruent."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Madam County Attorney, would you repeat what you said one more time. Because I -- we just spending too much time on this, and -- go ahead."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So if the intent is to not create an inconsistency by creating an enhancement for 2025, and you want it to take effect in 2026, I would say it could be stated as a motion to set the per-diem rate for the Board of Equalization at \$150 per day to be effective January 1st of 2026."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I think you can end there, because it would then have to be funded because the Board would have set the rate at that level."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now, I think that's -- I don't support that, but I think that's crystal clear because we're getting ahead of the budget process, is all I'm saying. Is every -- is any -- everybody clear on what's before us?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I understand clearly what's before us, you know. I -- I want that in there. That was the intent of what I said. I don't know why we got to go all round 285 to get off at 20. So yes, ma'am, yes, sir, yes, everybody, that's what I meant."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "My point of order remains, Mr. Chair. The motion and -- the motion, which incorporates the amendment or the substitution and also includes the language from the County Attorney, is incongruent. Either it is prioritized or we are setting it. I don't -- I don't know that we can prioritize it and set it. I guess, I guess, maybe we could prioritize it and set it. But it would be -- it's redundant if we -- if we're setting it, we're setting it. There's no reason to prioritize it. And so that is why I say the two, as a point of order, the two are incongruent. But I guess it's possible to prioritize it and set it at the same time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, what is your intent?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "What is my intent? I've stated my intent. I need to state again?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "For the purpose of what? Why am I stating it again?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "To clarify it for --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "What am I clarifying? See, I want -- I want -- see, this is the thing, Chairman, with all due respect. If I say up, somebody else going to come and say, well, it's down. If I say it's blue, they going to say it's red. So how many times I have to state the intent of this? Because now we have made this political. We have -- we have unnecessarily made this political. And so what is it that needs to be stated? Because the County Attorney just told me, just said what I said. And Commissioner Arrington needs clarification on what's prioritized and what's set. And so does -- do you want me to say it's prioritized? Do you want me to say set? What's going to make this debate stop other than call the question?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, I'm clear on it, so --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'm clear on it, too."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And I'm going to stand in it, because I'm getting a little offended that something that's crystal clear is trying to be politicized. There's a need, the need was asked for. If we do right now, it's considered an enhancement. We just passed something 11 days ago that said that we're not doing anymore enhancements for the year 2025. And so I have stated my intention. I have even given into something that I may disagree with, but for the good of the Body to get this conversation along. And so Chairman, with due respect, what else do I need to say?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Nothing. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "I am delighted when a Commissioner can modify something that they have done in the past and move forward to do something that is good for the people that are serving our county. So whether we call it prioritizing or setting, I am 100 percent willing to support a move away from not giving any more money and saying that we can go ahead and set this like the County Attorney said at \$150 to give this to our Board of Equalization members in 2026, and it will become a part of the budget. I'm delighted to however it wants to be said, confusingly or whatever, I will support, as I always have, giving the money that we have to the people that are serving this county. So I'm actually completely delighted at the switch here. And I 100 percent support you, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Like what I have to say, but I -- I'd offer a substitute motion to hold, get what you want to do, codify it, put it down on paper, and allow us to be clear, come back and vote on it."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I withdraw my substitute motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Who was the seconder on it? Will you withdraw your second? All right. Second, Commissioner Thorne is withdrawing her second. The maker of the motion has withdrawn the motion. And the original motion was to approve, I believe."

CLERK GRIER: "That is correct."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now -- and then Vice Chair Ellis, your motion is to hold?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Correct."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. And there was a second on the motion to hold by Commissioner Thorne. All right, let's vote on the motion to hold. And we know why we're holding it; we'll include it in this motion."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Oh, it's clear why it's being held."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

CLERK GRIER: "The vote is open on the motion to hold. And the motion to hold fails; three yeas, three nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll vote yes."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion to hold passes --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Point of order. Point of order. You do not get to vote after it fails. Like, we all get to vote at the same time. You do not get to look at the outcome of the vote and then determine how you want to vote."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That is improper."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I vote yes, thank you. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0756**, Request approval of a Resolution to direct the County Management to develop a Comprehensive Project Care Public health Strategic Plan that addresses the healthcare disparities in Fulton County as outlined in the 2023

Project Care Study, and builds on efforts already underway to include related costs in the fiscal year 2026 budget as needed, to ensure that the -- that the Project Care Plan includes goals, key performance indicators, and regular reporting to the Board of Commissioners; and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Barrett."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Have a motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Barrett, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are facing a healthcare crisis in this country that is unlike anything we have seen before. And what is, I think especially heartbreaking and terrifying about this is that it's a crisis of our own making. The federal government is abandoning us. They're cutting funding that is going to make it worse for so many Georgians. So many people in the state and is County cannot afford health insurance already, or doctor's visits. This is going to get worse. They don't have hospitals nearby. They cannot afford their medications. And now, even more people are going to find themselves in that situation. We're talking about people in this county who have worked hard, paid their taxes and played by the rules. According to the AJC, the end of the Biden-era ACA subsidies will likely see over 460,000 Georgians dropping their health insurance coverage because they can no longer afford it. It's also estimated that Georgia's health sector will lose \$3.7 billion in revenue, and 1.6 billion of that will be lost by our hospitals. That means hospitals will close and ERs, which are already overwhelmed, will be even more crowded. That's in addition to the changes in Medicaid -- to Medicaid that we know are coming. And that's on top of the existing healthcare crisis right here in Fulton County, declared by this Board with six votes at the end of 2022 when the two Wellstar hospitals closed in our county. And of course, that was all on top of the existing healthcare disparities and some of the worst healthcare outcomes in the country that have persisted for decades. I feel like it is really incumbent upon us as local elected officials to fight back, to demand better from the other levels of government and to do everything in our power to protect the health of our citizens here in Fulton County. And -- and the reality is, we're already doing a lot of that. We're doing this work. The County Manager and his team are doing a lot of projects that have to do with healthcare. This Board and previous iterations of this Board have approved a lot of great work. This resolution simply asks county management to put together a comprehensive plan to continue to address that healthcare emergency declared in 2022, using the findings from the study done. The Morehouse School of Medicine study done by a EY that was called Project Care. It asked that we report on all of the work we're already doing, along with any new programs in one comprehensive reporting package, similar to what we experienced with the Project ORCA reporting and that we now get in the Justice System Update, so we would get essentially a healthcare update at minimum quarterly. Certainly if there's additional information in between that great, but at minimum quarterly. That is the bulk of what this is about, just so that we can communicate clearly to the public the efforts that we are making to protect the health of our citizens. It also asks that county

management determine the right data and KPIs to measure our progress. Oh, and by the way, I do want to mention as I talk about the reporting portion of it that when I spoke to Commissioner Thorne about this, she mentioned the work already being done by the Board of Health. And I think all of those things can be incorporated as county management sees fit in terms of reporting and data collection as well. So it's the reporting piece, it's the measurement piece. If we don't measure our progress, we don't know if we're making progress. And I had a conversation with both Dr. Roshell and the County Manager about what kinds of KPIs might be helpful and what might not be helpful or doable. And I think that is why this resolution really leaves it up to them to come back to us and say these are the measures we think are relevant here and can be reported against. And then lastly, it asks them to include in the proposed budget for this coming year and future years as -- as needed, any new programs that they determine will have the most impact on addressing this, these healthcare disparities and healthcare outcomes that we are working to repair. And I do want to point out that the majority of the healthcare disparities that are mentioned in the Morehouse School of Medicine study are in South Fulton County. And so we really do need to focus our efforts there, and this resolution asks for that. The reason that I included the language about the budget in this resolution is because of the rules-based budgeting, which we just discussed on the previous item and the idea some of these things may be what we would call new programs. And what I wanted to do is sort of codify county management's ability, which they technically already have, but really codify that if there is a new program that they want to introduce under this umbrella as it relates to this healthcare emergency that they could do that. And it would not sort of negate the whole rules-based budgeting in terms of fairness for every other department. So that's the only reason that's included in that piece. As I mentioned, I did speak to both Dr. Roshell and the County Manager on this. I did speak with some of my colleagues here, although not all. And I want to be really clear that this resolution is really just a first step, voting yes today really just tells the county that we're continuing to prioritize healthcare, and that we trust them to create a plan that's going to work best for the county. So I would appreciate your favorable vote."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you, Chairman. Yes, thank you for reaching out to me and enjoyed having a discussion with you on Monday. And you mentioned that you had talked to Dr. Roshell and the County Manager. And I'd asked, have you talked to the Fulton County Health Department? And you said you hadn't, and -- but yet you talked to them to come down here for -- to do a proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness. So I gave them a call yesterday. I met with Dr. Rustin when he first came on board, just to see what his goals were with our Public Health Department and what they're doing. And tomorrow they're going to be hopefully hiring the new permanent Director of our County Health Board, if that goes through. And that he has a very impressive resume. But he told me that they currently are updating their community

health assessment. It hasn't been done since 2020. They are reaching out to Georgia State Health Policy Center, these are experts that do this all across the state, in assisting them with developing the health assessment of the entire county. They're doing this so they can get voluntary accreditation. There's only a handful of counties in the whole state of Georgia that have accreditation. With this assessment plan, they hope to identify areas of quality improvement, efficiencies, metrics, and improving overall services to address the health needs of Fulton County. This accreditation, although it's voluntary, it makes you more likely to get grants in the future and public funding, outside funding to administer those programs. From the quality -- our community health assessment, then they'll develop a Community Health Improvement Plan, which will develop and prioritize service-based options that were identified in the community health assessment. So with that being said, I feel like there's work being done. I feel like as Commissioners, we need to have dialogue. I've been on several trips to South Fulton County to see the clinics, the hospitals. Wellstar wasn't the only hospital to close in South Fulton. It just happened to be the last one closed. So there definitely are issues in that area. And I -- and I talked to Dr. Rustin, even though he will no longer be the Director. Hopefully after tomorrow, he's staying on til the end of the year. And I asked him would he come down and give us updates on what they see, what their findings are. And he's like, absolutely, we just need to call him down and a quarterly basis. So for me, I don't think we need to start another program with the County Manager and Dr. Roshell, when we have -- they can continue to work with Grady and -- and the needs that we have with Grady and our relationship and our contracts with them. But let's use the Health Department, that's what they're here for, to identify and assess the overall needs and the administering of the programs."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thanks, Mr. Chair. I'll stop short at just saying that, I felt like there was a lot of -- almost felt like I listened to a campaign speech, the start this. But you know, Fulton County is -- has historically been the leader in the state of Georgia in providing funding for healthcare, utilizing county funds. I mean, collectively, we do more than Gwinnett, Cobb and DeKalb combined, and have for a number of years. And since I've been on this Body, that has been a bipartisan effort that has taken place. And a lot of people have led and participated in those initiatives. And we are light years better than where we were ten years ago. And we've had clear planning that's been out there and pathways to do stuff that we know are in front of us. Chairman Pitts has taken a significant leadership on the hospital issue. And we're really close with our partner, and that's all in the work, it's all planned out. So to be suggestive of somehow we were being deficient, we didn't have planning, we weren't planning, we weren't thinking about results, I mean, I don't know. I mean, I just -- this is -- this is not necessary. I feel like it's -- anyway. I'm going to motion to file."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. There's a motion -- substitute motion to file. Is there a second? Is there a second? All right, properly moved and seconded to file. Commissioner Arrington, you want to be heard on the motion to file?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I want to be heard."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You have the floor. Motion on the floor is to file."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So as the Commissioner that brought forth the resolution for the declaration of a healthcare emergency in Fulton County, in particular in South Fulton County, I was happy to see this resolution, and hopeful that it would -- would lead to just more frequent updates on the current status of healthcare. The disparity study, Healthcare Disparity Study that was done by Dr. Roshell showed a lot of deficiencies in -- well, it showed the state of healthcare throughout the county, right? And there were some deficiencies in Atlanta, and even more deficiencies in South Fulton. And so for me, this is a matter of just getting more frequent updates on the healthcare status in the county. And so I was -- I was and I still am supportive of getting those additional updates. And you know, it can either be through the resolution or it could be through me calling Dr. Roshell, asking her for them or emailing her asking her for them, or asking our County Manager to include it. I think, you know, given what is going on in this, in our county, in our state right now, that receiving quarterly updates on the state of healthcare should also be a bipartisan effort, just as Commissioner Ellis stated, the most of our other healthcare items are, right? I mean, healthcare doesn't have a party, it doesn't have a race, it doesn't have a sex. We all need healthcare. And so again, to me, getting updates on the status of our healthcare after declaring the emergency is the prudent thing to do. And I'm unaware, Commissioner Thorne, of any other hospitals that even exist in South Fulton or that existed. The last other hospital that I know that closed in South Fulton was actually in Southwest Atlanta. Prior to Wellstar, was the Southwest Hospital, which closed numerous times between the 90s and 2009. So I don't, you know, I would love to hear about what other hospital there was that existed and where it was located that also closed in South Fulton other than the Wellstar."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I feel like there's a couple things I need to respond to. First of all, the Board of Health does great work. In no way is what this resolution about in -- in opposition of that or overstepping that. In fact, they would be, in my view, included as part of the reporting. They might be one of the partners that comes to present to us if that's what the county management thinks makes sense. The whole idea of this is to have a -- a collaborative framework in which we report on all of our efforts around health. That's it. It doesn't -- in no way, have I disparaged the great work this county is already doing. In fact, I'm very proud of the great work we do. I'm very proud to be partnered on the new freestanding emergency

room that's going up in South Fulton in the future potential hospital. I thought the Morehouse study that you worked on, Mr. Chairman, with Ernst Young was great. I thought it was really good information. And I was proud to be a part of the Buggy works Clinic. I think we're doing amazing work. It's not all just about programs through the Board of Health, though. We are working on Behavioral Health Centers, our Crisis Centers. We have all the work we do under Health and Human Services. The goal here is not to shame anybody or say that great work isn't being done, in fact, just the opposite. The goal here is to say, we're doing a lot of work. Let's showcase that so the public knows it. And let's get regular updates so we can continue to engage on those things, and learn and make sure we know all those things that county management is doing on those things. That's literally all this is. So the idea that I'm somehow saying Fulton County is not doing its job as it relates to healthcare is just not true. What I'm saying is, funding is going away, people are going to be struggling, and we need to be doing everything we can, and that we need to be reporting on the things we are already doing. That's it. But the majority block on this Board has decided that they don't want to support anything I put up. So here we are."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other matters that come before us today?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Point of order, Mr. Chairman. In looking at Robert's Rules, which I did because of your motion, it says in, I guess it's Chapter 16, Section 7 or Section 16, paragraph 7, that's what it is. Section 16, paragraph 7, that any motion that seeks to close debate, requires a second and a two-thirds vote. That would be five votes. That would mean a motion to file, which is a debate-ending vote, should have a two-thirds vote in order to pass."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is it --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm asking --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, you don't have to ask the County Attorney. We've talked about this before. If you were -- would listen and learn, you would know that we have our own rules, which the County Attorney has opined that we, as a small body like this, we can make our own rules. I stated one more time, a motion to file has been before us for 20 or 30 years, and it's still a motion. The reason we codified it, because you said that you didn't understand it. And I don't know what to do, but give you a private lesson on what the rules are for this Body. That was a proper motion, the motion has passed today. That, your legislation is filed. Any other matters to come before us today?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further matters."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We are adjourned. Thank you."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.