

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

April 16, 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: May 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts

10:00 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 Clifton Dawkins, Jr., County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA**25-0275 Board of Commissioners**

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended by revising item #25-0283 as requested by Commissioner Thorne. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Pitts

25-0276 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Captain Jakai Braithwaite Appreciation Day." **(Thorne)**
April 5, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Association of Black Foundation Executives."
(Arrington)
April 7, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Nethra Vani Pai Appreciation Day." **(Thorne)**
April 10, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Harlee Butler, Sr. Remembrance Day." **(Pitts)**
April 12, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Senior Airman Roger Negale Fortson Remembrance Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**
April 15, 2025

Commissioners' District Board Appointments**25-0277****Board of Commissioners****RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES FOR THE ELDERLY AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Seven (7) directors appointed by the Board of Commissioners for initial terms of 2, 4, and 6 years, and thereafter for staggered terms of six (6) years. In the event of vacancies (RCM January 18, 1989, item #29) the Board of Commissioners shall appoint a person to serve.

Term = 6 years

Term below expired: 12/3/2024

Vacant (**Thorne**)

Commissioner Thorne nominated Kaaryn Walker for a District appointment to a term ending December 3, 2030.

25-0278**Board of Commissioners****COMMISSION ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

The Commission on Disability Affairs shall consist of a total of sixteen (16) members to serve staggered two (2) year terms and appointed as follows:

Each member of the Board of Commissioners shall appoint two (2) members; one of them said appointees shall have an initial term, of one (1) year; No term of any member shall extend beyond the term of the District Commissioner who appointed the member to serve on the Commission for Disability Affairs; The Commission on Disability Affairs shall appoint two (2) members, who receive the consent of the majority of the members of the Commission on Disability Affairs and one (1) of the appointees shall have an initial term of one (1) year.

The Commission on Disability Affairs appointees shall be made for the purpose of maintaining diversity.

Term = Staggered two (2) year terms

Term below expired: 12/31/2023

Vacant (**Ivory**)

Commissioner Ivory nominated Michael Hopkins for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2025.

25-0279 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

One (1) representative will be nominated by each of the Commission Districts for a total of seven (7) members; this includes one representative from District 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. Each representative will serve a two-year term and could be re-appointed to serve additional terms. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no term of any member nominated by a District Commissioner shall extend beyond the term of the District Commissioner who nominates that member.

Term = 2 Years

Term below expired: 12/31/2024

Vacant (**Ivory**)

Commissioner Ivory nominated Michael Cortes for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2026.

25-0280 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY VETERANS' EMPOWERMENT COMMISSION, INC. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

The Veterans Commission shall have the following members: Each Commissioner shall appoint two (2) members. Such appointees shall be residents of, or work in Fulton County and shall have military experience or expertise in the areas affecting military veterans. Veterans Commission shall serve three (3) year terms, with such term subject to the discretion of the appointing Commissioner, who can remove a member for cause, otherwise such member may continue to serve beyond his/her term until a successor is appointed.

Term = 3 Years

Term below expired: 12/31/2024

Vacant (**Ivory**)

Commissioner Ivory nominated Falatta James for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2027.

25-0281 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY CITIZENS COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

The Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment shall consist of citizens from throughout Fulton County to be appointed by the Members of the Board of Commissioners. There shall be fourteen (14) members to serve on the Commission. In making such appointments, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners shall ensure that the terms of appointment are staggered. Each District Commissioner shall appoint one Commission member to a four (4) year term. Each District Commissioner shall also appoint one Commission member to a two (2) year term to ensure staggered terms. After the expiration of each appointee's initial term, the regular term of office for such an appointee shall be four (4) years. No term of any member shall extend beyond the term of the District Commissioner who appointed the member to serve on the Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment; however, each member may continue to serve beyond his/her term until replaced. The Appointing member of the Fulton County BOC may remove his/her appointee(s) to this Commission at any time and within the sole discretion of that individual of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

Term = 4 Years, staggered

Term below expired: 12/31/2021

Vacant (Ivory)

Commissioner Ivory nominated Jordan Madden for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2025.

Open & Responsible Government

25-0282 Finance
Ratification of March 2025 Grants Activity Report. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0283 Registration & Elections
Request approval to alter the boundaries, **specific to the June and July 2025 elections only**, of voting precincts to streamline election processes. To enhance the efficiency of the election process, boundary lines for precincts with no assigned voters or those with similar districts are recommended for adjustment to consolidate related precincts. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0284 Real Estate and Asset Management
Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 2,588 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from 1034 Hammond Drive LLC for the purpose of constructing the 1034 Hammond Drive Project at 1034 Hammond Drive, Sandy Springs, Georgia 30328. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0285 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication of 300 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from SUSO 4 Abbotts LP, owner, for the purpose of constructing the Dunkin Donuts - Johns Creek Project at 11605 Jones Bridge Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30022. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0286 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication of 491.5 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Sergei V. Prokopov and Karina O. Bogdasarova, owner, for the purpose of constructing the Wonderland Pediatric Dentistry Project at 1001 Roswell Manor Circle, Roswell, Georgia 30076. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0287 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 7,748 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc., individuals, for the purpose of constructing the Harmony Manor Ph I Project at 7255 Hall Road, South Fulton, Georgia 30213. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0288 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of an Indemnification, Maintenance, and Land Use Agreement for Private Improvement (Indemnification Agreement) between Fulton County, Georgia, and Bridges Alpharetta, LLC for the purpose of granting conditional approval to allow stormwater infrastructure to remain within a portion of Fulton County's existing sanitary sewer easement at 4430 Webb Bridge Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30005. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Health and Human Services**25-0289 Public Works**

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the transfer of approximately 14,033 linear feet of Fulton County-owned sanitary sewer pipe and associated appurtenances located within the Deerhaven Subdivision in Union City, Georgia to Union City, Georgia. This transfer will place the ownership and maintenance responsibilities of the sanitary sewer facilities within the Deerhaven Subdivision under the jurisdiction of Union City, Georgia. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0290 Community Development

Request approval of the transfer of ownership of the Delowe Village Apartment property, an affordable 64-unit apartment complex located at 2330-2380 Delowe Drive, East Point, Georgia, from the current owners, Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc. (ANDP) to Delowe Village Partners, LLC, and consenting to the assumption and subordination of a HOME Investment Partnership, Inc. program loan agreement between Fulton County, Georgia and ANDP; to authorize the Chairman or his designee to execute any such assumption and subordination agreements and related documents; to authorize the County Attorney to approve any such assumption and subordination documents as to form and to make any modifications there to prior to execution; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Infrastructure and Economic Development**25-0291 Select Fulton**

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Select Fulton - Workforce Development Divisions, 22RFP0121B-PS, Adult and Dislocated Services for Select Fulton in the amount of \$2,060,944.61 with Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (Equus) (Louisville, KY) to provide adult and dislocated career center services. This action exercises the third of three renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. This contract is 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0292 Select Fulton

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Select Fulton - Workforce Development Divisions 22RFP0120B-PS, Youth Services in the amount of \$600,000.00 with Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (Equus) (Louisville, KY) to provide youth career center services. This action exercises the third of three renewal options. No renewal option remains. Effective dates: July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. This contract is 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0293 Select Fulton

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Select Fulton - Workforce Development Division, 22RFP0119B-PS, One Stop Operator in the amount of \$112,500.00 with Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (Equus) (Louisville, KY) to provide the coordination and facilitation of a "One-Stop Operator" service. This action exercises the third of three renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. This contract is 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Justice and Safety**25-0294 Police**

Request approval of the 2025 Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification with the U.S. Department of Justice for the Fulton County Police Department, establishing the requirements for participation in the Federal Equitable Sharing Program and the restrictions upon the use of federally forfeited cash, property, or proceeds. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

SECOND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**25-0295 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

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

Absent: Arrington

25-0296 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Second Regular Meeting Minutes, March 19, 2025

First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 2, 2025

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

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

Absent: Arrington

25-0297 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Holy Innocents Varsity Boys Basketball Championship Appreciation Day." **(Pitts/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing "Holy Innocents Varsity Girls Basketball Championship Appreciation Day." **(Pitts/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing "Law Day." **(Ivory/BOC)**

PUBLIC HEARINGS**25-0298 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

(CONDUCTED)

5 Speakers: L.A. Pink (Justice/Sheriff's Office); J. Wesley Day (Justice/Keith Gammage); Walter Reeves (Social Security); David Yoakli Mitchell (Revitalization/143 W. Alabama Street); Maria Gaudio (Registration & Elections)

3 Zoom Speakers: Kevin Muldowney (Registration & Elections); Matt Rowenczak (Registration & Elections); Imara Canady (Hammond's House/Arts Funding)

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****25-0299 County Manager**

Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report. **(PRESENTED)**

25-0300 Finance

Presentation, review, and approval of April 16, 2025, Budget Soundings and Resolution. **(PRESENTED/APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0301 Information Technology

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Information Technology (FCIT), 25RFP1351128B-RT, Countywide Audio-Visual Services and Systems in a total amount not to exceed \$1,606,890.48 with (A) AVI Systems, Inc. (Atlanta, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$803,445.24; and (B) Summit Solutionz, Inc. (Norcross, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$803,445.24, to provide Countywide audio-visual systems, equipment, support, and services. Effective upon BOC approval with three renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0302 Registration & Elections

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder - Department of Registration & Elections, 25ITB1337833C-MH, Ballot Printing Services in an amount not to exceed \$251,440.00 with Fort Orange Press, Inc. (Albany, NY), to provide ballot printing services for the election cycles. Effective upon execution of contract through December 31, 2025, with two renewal options. **(REJECTED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne to hold.

Commissioner Thorne withdrew her motion.

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Ivory, to reject all bids and rebid. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

25-0303 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidders - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 25ITB1336430C-JH, On-Site Door Repair Preventive and Predictive Maintenance Countywide in the total amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 with (A) Overhead Door Company of Atlanta, dba D.H. Pace Company, Inc., (Peachtree Corners, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$195,000.00 and (B) Piedmont Door Automation, LLC (Dawsonville, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$105,000.00, to provide standby on-site door repair and preventive and predictive maintenance services on an "as needed" basis for all Fulton County facilities. Effective upon execution of contracts through December 31, 2025, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Arts and Libraries**25-0304 Arts and Culture**

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County and the Chattahoochee Nature Center, Inc. for the purpose of providing funding in the total amount of \$200,000.00 recurring for environmental education programming. The term of the contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0305 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a Contract between Fulton County and the Bear Creek Nature Center, Inc. for the purpose of providing funding in the total amount of \$200,000.00 recurring for environmental education programming. The term of the Contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0306 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County and Hammonds House, Inc. for the purpose of providing funding in the total amount of \$200,000.00 recurring for environmental education programming. The term of the contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0307 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County, Georgia and The Arts Center, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation, for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000.00 for the operation and management of the current arts and culture programs based at 6290 Abbotts Bridge Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097 as well as to provide a Multicultural Performing Arts Center feasibility study and expanded operational programming. The term of the contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2025. **(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, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

25-0308 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County, Georgia and The National Black Arts Festival, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation, for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000.00 to provide expanded operational resources as well as educational and arts-related services to the citizens of Fulton County. The term of the contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2025. **(HELD)**

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

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

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

Nay: Barrett, and Arrington

Health and Human Services**25-0309 Public Works**

Request approval to extend an existing contract - Public Works Department, 22ITB136410K-BKJ, Pine Valley Phase 2A Interceptor Sewer Replacement, for "time only" with Wade Coots Company, Inc., (Austell, GA) to provide all labor, material and equipment to remove and replace approximately 4,062 feet of 30" to 48" RCP gravity sewer pipe with 54" HOBAS fiberglass pipe and epoxy coated precast concrete manholes at no additional cost. Effective upon BOC approval through June 30, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

25-0310 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, 22RFP038A-CJC (C), Fulton County Behavioral Health Network with The Summit Counseling Center, Inc. (Johns Creek, GA) in an amount not to exceed \$433,928.00, to provide School Based Mental Health Services to 28 Fulton County Schools. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Infrastructure and Economic Development**25-0311 Public Works**

Request approval of a Non-Federal Reimbursable Agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Fulton County to allow the FAA to conduct a siting study and design review of the Runway 08/26 Localizer and MALSR systems in the amount of \$87,181.92. Effective upon execution of the Agreement by both the FAA and Board of Commissioners, via the Chairman. The County Attorney is authorized to approve this Agreement as to form and to make changes thereto prior to execution by the Chairman. **(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

Justice and Safety**25-0312 Sheriff**

Request approval of the 2025 Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification with the U.S. Department of Justice for the Fulton County Sheriff Office, establishing the requirements for participation in the Federal Equitable Sharing Program and the restrictions upon the use of federally forfeited cash, property, or proceeds.

(APPROVED)

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**25-0216 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution consenting to and ratifying the use of existing Fulton County Ad Valorem Property Tax Increment for three (3) projects located in Westside Tax Allocation District 1 - Atlanta/Westside. The 3 projects include (1) an allocation not to exceed \$260,000.00 to aid in the redevelopment of a multifamily building in the English Avenue neighborhood located at 471 English Avenue, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30318; (2) an allocation not to exceed \$3,500,000.00 to aid in the stabilization, historic preservation and conversion of vacant property located at 143 Alabama Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30330; and (3) an allocation not to exceed \$400,000.00 to provide three new construction and one redeveloped single-family homes within the English Avenue and Vine City communities by the Westside Future Fund. **(Barrett) (HELD ON 3/19/25 AND 4/2/25) (APPROVED)**

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

Yea: Pitts, Barrett, Ivory, and Arrington

Nay: Ellis

Abstain: Thorne, and Abdur-Rahman

25-0269 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution approving an Agreement between Fulton County Georgia, the Fulton County Tax Commissioner, and the City of Atlanta, Georgia to provide Judicial in Rem Tax Foreclosure Services concerning Municipal Code Enforcement Liens; authorizing the Chairman to execute the Agreement; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the Agreement as to form and to make modifications thereto prior to execution by the Chairman; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (HELD ON 4/2/25) (HELD)**

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

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

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

Nay: Arrington

25-0313 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to repeal and replace the Code of Resolutions, Subpart B, Article II, Employee Organizations, Sections 154-36 through 154-44 of the Fulton County Code of Laws, to streamline recognition of employee organizations; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Ellis

25-0314 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the implementation of a pilot program for the reimbursement of child care expenses. **(Pitts) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

a. A motion was made by Chairman Pitts and seconded by Commissioner Ivory, to approve as amended with a friendly amendment by Commissioner Arrington to include in the Resolution an up to funding amount of \$300,000.00 and revise the radius to 5 to 10 miles from the Government Center and employees' residences. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to hold.

Commissioner Barrett removed her second. The motion failed for a lack of a second.

25-0315 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution expanding the Adult Day Health Program provided by Fulton County's Department of Senior Services to be accessible to employees; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Thorne

COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****25-0316 External Affairs**

Presentation: 2025 State Legislative Session Update. **(PRESENTED)**

COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**25-0317 Board of Commissioners**

Discussion and approval of Payroll Deductions for Employee Organizations **(Pitts) (DISCUSSED/APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Thorne

Did Not Vote: Ellis

25-0318 Board of Commissioners

Discussion: Tax Assessment and Billing Update **(Ellis) (DISCUSSED IN ITEM #25-0299)**

25-0319 Board of Commissioners

Discussion: Library Parking **(Ellis) (DISCUSSED)**

25-0320 Board of Commissioners

Discussion: Clerk of Court Passport Fees: Disclosure and Reporting **(Ellis) (DISCUSSED)**

EXECUTIVE SESSION**25-0321 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 Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Ivory, 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 Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to approve the requests for representation in items #1, #2, and #5 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
SECOND REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 16, 2025
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC
"A Court Reporting Firm"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Good morning, everyone. And welcome to the second regular meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is August 16th, 2025. It is 10:00 o'clock a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll for purposes of a quorum."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "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."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman, you have a quorum."

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

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **25-0275**, adoption of the Consent Agenda. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission, and be will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take

place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Second Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any items? All right, Commissioners, any items on the Consent? Commissioner Bridget Thorne?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. There's just a minor clarification for 25-0283."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Which page? Which page?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Page 5."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Which item?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "25-0283."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. What's was the correction?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "We just need to put the specific to the June and July 2025 election only."

CLERK GRIER: "June and July? So noted."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to adopt. Is there a motion, I'll entertain a motion. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7 --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Five yeas, Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Five yeas with Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Where is Commissioner?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "On Zoom, Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "She's on Zoom?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, continue."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, second regular meeting, agenda, **25-0295**, Adoption of the second regular meeting agenda."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Anything from Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "I don't have anything."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioners, nothing? All right. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "25-029 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So now, just minute. Is Commissioner Abdur-Rahman voting?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Can we hear her? She's -- that's a, yes vote?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We need to work on the volume on this Zoom stuff, which I don't -- all right, continue."

CLERK GRIER: "So that's six yeas with Commissioner Abdur-Rahman on 25-0295."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0296**, Ratification of Minutes. Second Regular Meeting Minutes, March 19th; First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 2nd, 2025."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any additions or corrections? None? Motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Ivory. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0297**, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. First Proclamation is recognizing Holy Innocent Varsity Boys Basketball Championship Appreciation Day sponsored by Chairman Pitts with Full-Board support."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Again, we appreciate your participation. This is another banner year for our high school sports team. I had the pleasure of seeing both the boys and girls play several games, including the championship games. I'd encourage you to do so next year. But we're very proud of them, and want to recognize them today. You're going to be reading the girls, and you read the boys."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Wow. Holy Innocents, this is your first title, correct? State title, but this is the third time that you've been to the championship game in the last five years; is that correct? Is that what I read? Well done, Coach. I mean, I know how hard it is to build a team, to get there, to rebuild the team, to get there, and now to finally get that state title. Well done, and congratulations. So we're proud to give this proclamation: WHEREAS, The Holy Innocents Episcopal School 2025 Boys Basketball lineup of champions include: Jordan Mays, Grant Heerin, Kingston Whitty, Devin Hutcherson, Clark Thurman, Greg Ellison, Khalid Worthy, Jaden McCullough, Cole Hatfield, Caleb Wilson, Coy Terry, Xavier Wilson, and Colt Witzigreuter, sorry if I butchered your name. And WHEREAS, on March 5th, 2025 at the Macon Coliseum, the Holy Innocents Boys Varsity Basketball team defeated North Cobb Christian to win the Georgia High School Association Class A-AAA Private School Boys Basketball State Championship; and WHEREAS, the Holy Innocent Bears dominated the game, building a 42 to 18 lead at halftime, led by 5-star prospect Caleb Wilson, who finished the game with 33 points and 13 rebounds; and WHEREAS, the Bears' top scorers were Devin Hutcherson with 17 points, Khalid Worthy with 11 points and eight rebounds, and Kingston Whitty with 10 points and eight rebounds. The final score was 84 to 45 score over the North Cobb Christian boys; and WHEREAS, under the leadership of their fearless head coach, Mario Mays, the Bears' championship win was the first -- was the pinnacle of a memorable season, and the boys first ever state championship trophy. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners congratulates the Varsity Boys Team at Holy Innocents Episcopal School for their outstanding season and teamwork that propelled them to the Georgia Class-A State Championship title; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, April 16th, 2025, as Holy Innocents Episcopal School Boys Varsity Basketball Championship Appreciation Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Coach, would like to say a few words?"

MARIO MAYS, RECIPIENT: "First, I just want to give honor to God for giving me an opportunity to lead these young men. And I definitely want to tell them in front of everybody how much I appreciate their effort. And just wanted to say thank you to our leadership at Holy Innocents, Tony Watkins, our athletic director. Also, just everybody that supported us throughout the year. Thank you all for having us."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing Holy Innocent Varsity Girls Basketball Championship Appreciation Day sponsored by Chairman Pitts with Full-Board support."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Yes. Go on both sides, ladies. Go on both sides. I mean, a school with two state championships right here. I mean, come on, right? And one of - one of the boys just told me that they get to design their own rings. So, I mean, that's like, really a lot of fun to be a winner. I love that. And so we're up to the ladies, and this makes me so excited. The Holy Innocents Episcopal School 2025 Girls Basketball lineup of champions includes: Blair Clayton, Hailee Swain, Peyton Gluesing, Sasha Thompson, Olivia Sharper, Elana McMasters, Makayla Weaver, Makenzie Weaver, Emily Gainor, Lauren Helmer, Nina Rose Smith, Nakhai Worthy, Aaniyah Branch and Lorie Murray; and WHEREAS, on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025, at the Macon Coliseum in Macon, Georgia, the Holy Innocents Girls Varsity Basketball Team defeated Hebron Christian to win the Georgia High School Association A-AAA Private School Girls Basketball State Championship. Yes. And WHEREAS, the Holy Innocents Bears dominated the game, led by senior guard Hailee Swain with 30 points, she scored 19 of her points in the second half of the game; and WHEREAS, the Bears other top scorer was Makayla Weaver with seven points; the final score was 57 to 39 over North Cobb Christian to win the championship; and WHEREAS, under the leadership of their fearless head coach, Nichole Dixon, the Bears' championship win was the pinnacle of a memorable season and the girls second state championship trophy. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners congratulates the varsity girls' team at Holy Innocents Episcopal School for their outstanding season and teamwork that propelled them to the Georgia State Championship title, and do hereby proclaim Wednesday, April 16th, 2025, as Holy Innocents Episcopal School Girls Basketball Championship Appreciation Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Is the coach, Coach Nichole, do you want to come? Yes."

NICHOLE DIXON, RECIPIENT: "First of all, thank you so much for having us here today. Thank you God for allowing us to just do what we did this year. Very, very proud of each and every young lady. Proper preparation prevents poor performance. And they -- they exceeded all expectations this year. Very proud of their, their effort, their attitude, and just proud to be their coach. Want to really thank Holy Innocents, Paul Barton, our head of school, and our amazing athletic director, Tony Watkins, for all the support that they give our young ladies and give our coaching staff. And want to give a shout out to our assistants that are not here today. They did a fantastic job the entire year preparing our girls, and we're grateful to the city of Atlanta as well. Thank you so much for all that you've done for us."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing Law Day sponsored by Commissioner Ivory, with Full-Board support."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Oh, yay, all my friends. Welcome. I'm happy to be presenting this one with the law being one of my favorite things. I don't know if a lot of people say that, but WHEREAS, on February 3rd, 1958, President Dwight Eisenhower issued a proclamation establishing Law Day in the United States as a day celebrating and commemorating the United States Legal System and its contribution to preservation of justice and human rights; and WHEREAS, in 1961, the United States Congress designated May 1st of each year as the official date for celebrating Law Day by passing a joint resolution; and WHEREAS, Law Day provides an opportunity for citizens of Fulton County to appreciate the liberties provided to them, especially with regard to equality and justice; and WHEREAS, Law Day further provides an opportunity to learn and cultivate respect for the law, which is vital to the democratic way of life. I feel like I need to say that twice in this climate. WHEREAS, the theme for Law Day 2025, is Out of Many, One, which urges us to take pride in a constitution that bridges our differences, to bring us together as a united nation, and reminds us that our civic lives tie us together as one; and WHEREAS, Fulton County urges everyone to observe this day by promoting law and education and fulfilling our shared civic responsibilities and commitment to the values of liberty, equality, and justice that makes us Out of Many One, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commemorates the importance of the observance of Law Day, and does hereby proclaim Thursday, May 1st, 2025 as Law Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Thank you so much. I also want to recognize my colleague, my Commissioner, Marvin Arrington, who is also a lawyer. Thank you."

HON. URAL GLANVILLE, RECIPIENT: "On behalf of my colleagues here on the Fulton County Superior Court, representing not only Superior Court, State Court, Magistrate Court and Probate Court and other -- and the other justice partners, our District Attorney, our Solicitor and our Public Defender and Conflict Defender. The rule of law is very, very important to each of us. We come to the people's house every, every day to administer and see over the due process that the law provides all of us. So May 1st is a very special day for us as lawyers and as litigants and litigators, to just pause and recognize how important the law is to us as a -- as a group. So we thank the Board of Commissioners for their recognition of this very, very important day, and we look forward to on May 1st, formally Celebrating Law Day. So thank you for the proclamation."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, Public Hearings, **25-0298**, Public Comment. Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person, or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom video conferencing, or by submitting their comments in writing, 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 will start with speakers here in Assembly Hall. We have received seven speakers' cards. Will the speakers please come forward: LA Pink, J. Wesley Day, Walter Reeves, Alan Lee, Raynard Burrell, David Mitchell, and Maria Gaudio."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. You guys know the rules, 15 seconds remaining, I'll say, 15 seconds. All right, first speaker."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "All right. Plague, at the plague, at the plague; ain't that what Rambo said? We have so many different things that's going on right now in Fulton County. Of course, you know, I'm going to continue to speak on the Sheriff. We have the consent decree that the community is still asking, why hasn't he brought forth any call to action to the community to know what is going on with the sent decree. Nobody has heard or seen anything. Then we have the problem that's going on at the, you know, at the jail, with all of the bus and all the different things that's going on. We got -- we had the state reps walk out for five inmates and have not walked out for all this dozen of inmates that's going on over here that's is being murdered and killed at Fulton County Jail. So we have some big issues that's going on. My problem, personally, is, is that we have a Federal Judge, a State Judge, a DA, your County Attorney. We got your County Clerk, got some Board of Commissioners that all are standing some in defense of the Sheriff, of the narcissist and the malfeasance, the incompetent of things that he is doing. My concern is, is if all this stuff is being covered up for him, if something was to happen to me, what would you cover up? What would be covered up? Because if he can get away with all of the things that he is getting away with, stealing money. And I say stealing money, because when you buy a van that cost 200 and something thousand, and we still haven't discussed where that have went, that is --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

LA PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- mismanagement of money. When you talk about \$5,000 going to a turkey giveaway to Helen Willis in full -- in South Fulton for -- and yes, we keep going back to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you."

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. As you know, my name is J. Wesley Day. And I want to clarify that I have no pending charges on me. At this particular time, two charges were dismissed. I plead no-lo to another. However, with that, with -- which was trespassing, however, it still prevents me from getting a professional job. I've been in gifted programs my entire life. I skipped seventh grade. I was junior class president. I was senior class president. I was homecoming king at Northern Illinois University. I have two bachelors, two masters, I'm all but dissertation."

And I would have completed the doctoral program had Keith Gammage not escalated these charges preventing me from getting funding. I want to talk about Fulton County Judges signing off on paperwork that took money, thousands of dollars, from my mom's account. Like that's, I mean, that truly hurts me. I was a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church, and they had a social justice forum. I had no clue Keith Gammage was there. I raised my hand. I was the first person to get the microphone, and I spoke about the injustice of me being charged when I was the victim. Days later, they started the process to garnish funds. Now let's be clear, I owned my restaurant from 2010 to 2012, something like that. I got a \$4,000 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- loan from Invest Atlanta. You don't find it interesting that they would wait over ten years, days after I speak to go after that \$4,000 and take it from my mom's account. It's retaliation --"

WALTER REEVES, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Walter Reeves, workers' representative, Atlanta mayoral candidate. First of all, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to appear before this august body. Two issues, first, the Social Security Administration emergency. President Joseph Biden recently addressed this issue. He was introduced by Mr. Martin O'Malley. It is a serious issue. It will affect thousands of families here in this -- in Atlanta and Fulton County. And we are grateful for y'all and please work with the Food Bank to quadruple the amount of food in there. Second issue is, if you could, please excuse me, type in bond market into a search engine, Google, and then hit news, and you will read about the emergency with the Treasury. A bond market is unfortunately breaking. If it does, then the entire municipal bond market would break. All of municipal pensions would then become unfortunately insolvent. And I have working there with city, Atlanta officials with the Reeves Pension Security Municipal Bill. And you have the copy here. And if you could please also, for Mr. Avery in Human Resources about this, and stay in touch with City of Atlanta Police Department. I will start negotiating with him in their favor. And if you could please follow that, you certainly remember the rancor with what happened with the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

WALTER REEVES, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- Eastern Airlines pension when Eastern Airlines it was then taken over by the federal government. And thank you very much, though, for your attention to these matters. God bless y'all."

DAVID MITCHELL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. Good morning, thank you so much for being here. Thank you for entertain. My name is David Yoakli Mitchell. I'm the Executive Director of the Atlanta Preservation Center. I would like to beseech you to please support, I'll make sure I say correctly, the Westside TAD project. The agenda is 25-0216, my hyper focus is obviously on 143 Alabama Street, which is the former Youth Constitution Building where Ralph McGill wrote many editorials which changed the direction of the city. That building significance, its place next to Riches and

so forth, is a hyper focus of the city as we have more and more attention being brought next year, obviously with the World Cup and other things. But the reality of this is proximity behind the MARTA station, the idea of what it does to anchor in the downtown community. These resources being invested is something that benefits all of Atlanta. And this is money that will be utilized, that'll benefit this city for generations to come. That building is a big deal. It's a massive, significant piece of downtown anchorage, and it just does so much to really tell the story of the city. And so often we look at the investment of all these things being something they can have this long-term sustainability. That building's activation signifies that Atlanta does matter. It speaks volumes of why Atlanta is significant. And it's very important for us to recognize that we have an architectural heritage that is unparalleled, that is unique, that is special. And so often, the resources that we allocate towards these things are geared more towards this aspect of transactional, but Atlanta is unique, Atlanta is special, Atlanta does matter, Atlanta is significant. And these resources being utilized that way really does something to signify that and tells the global community that when they come here next year, they're seeing Atlanta. They're not just seeing some conglomerate or something that was fabricated for one-time event. It's a special, special building, and I beseech you to support this with everything that you have. Thank you very much. And there's an old saying: Be seen, be heard, and be gone. Thank you."

MARIA GAUDIO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: Good morning. Maria Gaudio, Fulton County. First, I'd like to offer praise to the BRE. They are trying to consolidate some of our precincts and voting locations. There are way too many precincts and voting locations, and they are making an effort to try to consolidate, which I totally support. However, in looking at the numbers, it looks like they're doing a wise thing by putting some of the smaller precincts together, but also some of the larger precincts are being put together. And I thought there was a 5,000-voter limit. So I think that needs to be looked at carefully. Also, it could interfere with some of the City Council lines for City Council districts. So I just want to make sure that that's been taken into consideration before any of this gets approved. The next thing is, the absentee ballot printing contract was awarded to someone in Albany, New York, when we have somebody here in Georgia, the Tattnell Company. We know that there was a ballot problem in New York of absentee ballots between New York and Pennsylvania. And I really don't think that that was adequately corrected. And they're still working that out. I just don't understand why when we -- we need to have the lowest responsible bidder. Also, in the bid, it doesn't indicate postage or if there -- if in the event of a typographical error, how that will be resolved, when we have somebody in Georgia who would, I'm sure, gladly drive it over to Fulton County rather than have it FedExed from New York, Albany, New York."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MARIA GAUDIO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you very much."

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

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

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. There's two election-related items on the agenda that I would also like to address. The first, 25-0283, precinct consolidation. I applaud the concept wholeheartedly, as it seems, early voting is here to stay for at least the foreseeable future. Our precinct model is still based on an Election Day only voting scenario. However, the supporting documents for this consolidation seems they're trying to consolidate some large precincts of three of 5,000 active voters, as well as consolidation of many smaller precincts --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a moment. Excuse me, can we turn the volume up? We can't, it's difficult to hear."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I don't think I can. You got it?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Not really."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hang on a second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hold on one second."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Okay. Is that -- is that better?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's --"

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Am I blowing you guys away? My speaker is all the way down."

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

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Is that better?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, much better, except for the echo. Okay, let's -- let's try again."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Is that better?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes. Go ahead, go ahead."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello, hello."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Can they -- can you hear me? We can hear you now, continue."

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "How's that? Can you guys hear me now? Okay, all right. Hey, morning, Commissioners. Two -- two things I wanted to

speaking about 25-083, precinct consolidation. It seems like, it seems like kind of a mixed thing. You're -- they're trying to consolidate some really large precincts and some really small things. I think further investigation is needed. I'm probably kind of running out of time. The other agenda item is the printing of ballots. The last three bidders were all close with a nine grand. You chose somebody in Albany, New York. This could add to potential chain of custody issues. I can imagine that the route these ballots would be taken and the stops along the way. It's something I think we need to look into further. Tattnell could very well be a better alternative. They are local. And finally, please remember in your thoughts and prayers, Paul Hershey, who passed away unexpectedly. I know Robb Pitts, Chair Pitts, he met, I think he met with you a couple of times. He was a real good guy, and he passed away unexpectedly. So that's it, guys. Thank you."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Matt Rowenczak."

MATT ROWENCZAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. Just a few things this morning. First of all, to the proclamation about Law Day, I think Fulton Superior Court needs to take that own advice to heart. I think we know Fulton Court is not known to be the most ethical and court of integrity. I'll give you one example. There is a case that has been sitting for four and a half years. Does that sound like speedy justice to you? I don't think so. We also have an attorney who Ms. Perkins-Hooker and the current one Ms. Allen, the Chair of the BRE, who decide to subvert the law and follow their own protocols. We've seen it multiple times. So I think the county needs to take its own advice. Two other things, as far as precinct consolidation goes, if this is only for the June and July elections, it needs to be looked at for all elections. We have a real issue in this county with precincts that have little to no voters. It is a waste of money, and it is, in the cases where you only have a handful of voters, it's a voter privacy issue, which is illegal. And lastly, for us using a vendor for absentee ballots that, again, is about 1000 miles away that means more touch points, right, more shipping facilities it has to go through. Why not use someone in state when we have that option? That is a very competitive bid, and I would argue, a much more responsible choice. Thank you."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Imara Canady."

IMARA CANADY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. It is good to be with you, and my apologies for now physically being there. Unfortunately, I had a little accident and have a small break in my right foot. But I wanted to just take some time this morning to once again, just continue to thank you for the hard decisions that you have to make. But in those hard decisions, continuing to find ways to support art and culture throughout Fulton County, and to really ensuring that from every corner of the county that we continue to remain culturally vibrant, culturally relevant and culturally connected to all communities. So first of all, thank you, because I know that there are many hard decisions before you, and you continue to be creative in your ways to ensure that that commitment to art and culture sustains. I come to you this morning specifically as the Board Chair for Hammonds House Museum, to thank you for the support that

you have given as a legacy institution to Hammonds House and to other legacy institutions. I often think about our relationship with Fulton County, as we were birth from Fulton County, as Fulton County being our parents. And the support that you have given these institutions and specifically Hammonds House has really allowed us to really do the work that we were all created to do in the communities that we serve. And go even beyond, and to build collaborations, not only with other cultural institutions, but with other nonprofit organizations, to really curtail some of the issues that we're having all across the county. So I just really wanted to take a moment to say thank you and to ensure that we are always doing our due diligence and letting you know that the investment that you all make in art and cultures, specifically these legacy institutions, is a strong ROI in terms of so many things that are confronting you each and every day. And so just simply say --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

IMARA CANADY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you. And we look forward to having you at Hammonds House and at the many other cultural institutions that you support. Thank you for it and have a blessed day."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Chandra Stephens-Albright."

CHANDRA STEPHENS-ALBRIGHT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I yield my time."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Jewel Jugal Jain. Jugal Jain? And next person to speak is Deondre Allen. Deondre Allen? The next person to speak is Waduda Muhammad. Waduda Muhammad? And with that said, that concludes the Zoom public comments."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 8, County Manager's items under Open and Responsible Government, **25-0299**, Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. This morning, we will provide the monthly update on the justice system and jail facilities. Our focus areas today will include Community Development, Customer Service, and Tax Digest, HB92, and we'll round out the report in the Finance and Purchasing section."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Okay. I'll go ahead get started if we can pull up the justice presentation. And good morning, Commissioners, Steve Nawrocki, Strategy Office. Can we pull up the operational report? I'm happy to get started, Commissioners, if you'd like me to or if we want to wait for the screen to show."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's wait."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Okay, yes, sir. Can we go the justice system update? Thank you. We go the next slide. Starting with our Justice System Scorecard, the average length of stay had a small increase up to 47 days. I know we had a question last month in the Board meeting about how this was calculated, so we did add a note at the bottom explaining that the calculation for the average length of stay includes those that have been booked out of the jail. We have a new slide later in the presentation showing the currently incarcerated, average time in jail, which we'll get to shortly. Next for our unindicted population, we've been able to resume automating our counts, and so we're now able to report again. For reference, we're at 16 percent of the population in December of 2024 when we last reported, and are now up to 18 percent for March. The clearance rate for felony criminal cases saw a 23 percent improvement up to 76 percent for the month of March. And felony cases disposed within 180 days and 365 days both saw improvements up to 25 percent and 54 percent, respectively. Go to the next slide, and the next one. We'll move to our jail population update. Looking at the average monthly jail population, March saw an uptick in the average population to 2,590 -- or excuse me, 2,539. And we had a one-day snapshot of 2599 around the midpoint of April. Next slide. Here's just the chart representation, we can move to the next. And as I just mentioned, we have a new slide we're showing this month, and can continue to do so, showing the length of stay for currently incarcerated individuals. And this is as of April 11th. For this one-day snapshot of 2,632 inmates, about 55 percent have been in jail for 90 days or less and about 17 percent on the opposite end, have been incarcerated for over a year. The average duration as of April 11th was 220 days, which is much more line with the 279 days reported in the DOJ investigation. And for reference that 279 days was calculated back in March of 2024. Next slide. Here we have our facility utilization for the jail population. As of April 10th, 1,707 beds were in use at Rice Street, with 575 beds offline for either the Jail Blitz Program or for ongoing maintenance. And Mr. Joe Davis will give a further breakdown of the 575 beds in his facilities update. We move to the next. We've also been able to, now that we're able to resume reporting of our unindicted population, we can also resume reporting the aging of the unindicted population. About 82 percent of the unindicted individuals, the 483, about 82 percent of them, or 394 individuals, have been unindicted for 90 days or less. And as a comparison to when we last reported this data in December, the 90 days or less was at 81 percent, so holding fairly steady. Next slide. Here we have an update on our county-funded ankle monitoring program. 805 participants are on monitors as of March 31st; 556 or 69 percent of the participants have been in a -- have been on a monitor for a year or less. And we have seen a month-over-month improvement since January of more individuals shifting to a year or under. In January, this number or this percent was about 60 percent. In February, we moved up to 65 percent, and again, now in for the March numbers, we're up to 69 percent, so all moving in the right direction. Next slide. And here we have -- and we can go to the next slide. Here we have our monthly update of the Jail Capital Improvement Program. Looking at the top, moving left to right, we have completed our initial major activities with the on-site assessments of Rice Street, the Marietta and South Annexes, and then the Atlanta City Detention Center. Our program management

team is now developing their draft findings report and the accompanying baseline cost estimates to go along with those findings. Looking now at the upcoming activities, we look to have our starting out, our scenario concept workshops in May, which will inform what scope options we may have before us, as well as more detailed cost estimates. We expect the final report out from our PMT in July, and we'll come to the Board in August with formal recommendations. Overall, we have been tracking on schedule and continue good forward progress here. Next slide. And finally, we have our priorities. We do continue to refine and report jail system metrics and performance. As mentioned, we've been able to automate our unindicted counts now, and now shift focus to resume reporting the full jail population analysis, which you'll recall that it had been previously represented in that pie chart. And so we're looking to now fill out the rest of that, and hope to have that -- resume reporting in the next month or so. And last, we're working with our courts to develop the new case reporting and case management strategies. And they're targeting midpoint of this year to begin reporting on this measures. And with that, I can take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any questions? Any questions? Commissioner -- Vice Chair, Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you for the report, Mr. Nawrocki. Just one quick thing, on slide -- the number on it -- the electronic monitoring update slide."

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So just the, I think, one in the presentation of that one maybe going forward, it wouldn't be bad idea maybe have, like a double bar that would show where we were at the start of the year in those categories, and then, like a total, because I never just that's one of the things we're trying to track, so --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Do some trend analysis there for you?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right, right. So I mean, if I didn't have the -- I couldn't have -- I couldn't find the February report, but the last number I saw was like in January 27 we were at 846, total participants. Obviously, we're turning down, you know. But it just be good to sort of see that. And remind me too, we had funded this at a max of --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "It is --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "1400?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Fifteen, yeah, cap it around 1500."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, 1500, okay. And I think the slide on the length of stay for the currently is a good one too. So you're saying that we, in that DOJ report, which

would have been measured at -- what's it 27 -- 279 or 222, but the measurement date on that 279 was roughly --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "It was March 2024, so about a year ago."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "March 2024."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "According to their report."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Got it, okay. All right, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah, I just wanted to thank you for clarifying that that answer a lot of questions and --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- the data, it's good to see. If we could see it on a repeated basis, that would be great."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Appreciate it, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the unindicted jail population chart, you have that there are three that are greater than one year."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "What -- is there some conversation? Or is there a way that you're identifying who that three is, and then you can and with the justice partners to figure out why this is greater than one year? That category seems like it shouldn't even exist on this."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am. There's always like, just a one off. And the fact that there's only three, there might be three explanations individually why there are only three at a year over. I think most of them, historically have been competency issues, where they can't be indicted because of -- because they can't stand trial. And so they're probably, you know, they may be in Grady or some other health facility receiving treatment. And until that point, they remain unindicted. But we do -- we are in communication with the DA's office. We have historically passed

this information onto her for her use. So those three individuals, or whatever number that is, over a year, they are known."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just had a quick question, because on the -- on the monitoring, the electronic monitoring, it's great that the, you know, we're getting down, and most of them are under a year, which is great. But we did get an update from the Sheriff's Office this week, as we usually do, leading into a Board meeting. And he did talk about, or it wasn't him, but his office mentioned that there are -- Rice Street is particularly crowded right now. And in fact, there are, I forget the number, I know Commissioner Ivory here -- Commissioner Thorne was there as well. But that there are a lot of people that are sort of waiting in the intake area and not able to move into beds because there aren't beds available for them. And so I guess my question is, do we know if the Judges are using the monitoring program as much as they could be? In other words, are there people in the jail that could be looked at for monitors at this point? Or, you know, I just don't -- do we have any way to determine that?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "I've been playing strictly a reporting function. I have not actively sought, I suppose, updates on what their process or approach is to assign ankle monitors. I know, feeding into this, I believe the Public Defender's Office and DA's Office do hold -- and I don't know, there's a regular cadence. I forget if it's monthly, twice a month, but it's a consent bond meeting that they hold where they'll go through lists. And I think Superior Court actually has a role in that as well, and I may be mistaken there. But they have a dedicated team to go through every individual that could -- the top -- could possibly or potentially be on an ankle monitor, and then recommend them. So I know that process is happening, but I don't know the details or the methodology. And then it's up to each individual Judge to decide whether they are going to assign a monitor. And so that's where we have to historically stopped short of. We don't try to influence that part."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, of course. I'm wondering maybe if we could -- and I don't know how this would work, Mr. Chairman, but if we could maybe ask for them to come, sort of give us some information or report or update on how that's working for them --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Absolutely."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I think that would be super helpful."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "I can coordinate --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: And they may say, you know, we're doing the best -- we really got everybody in there on a monitor that can be.""

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Right."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But it would be good to know that."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "I'd be happy to coordinate that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I just have. a sort of a general statement, I mean, you're reporting. These other folks are elected officials. There's nothing -- there's nothing that precludes them from picking up the phone and talking to each other if they've got issues in there. These are operational issues. They should be managed at that level, and the communication should -- should funnel direct, not in a triangulated fashion. So that's just my personal statement on that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So just a general question."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "On page 7, it looks like the bookings are increasing on a monthly basis; is that accurate?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "They have, sir, they've been trending up. You saw a low, a low point in January with the 2400, and month over month now, there has been a general increase."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Do we know -- do we know -- we should know, if we don't know, are we tracking how many are booked that could have been diverted? And the reason I asked that question is, as you know, money is tight here. We spent \$400,000 on that PAD program and 2 million-plus on the diversion program, so?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Similar to the ankle monitors, I do know representatives from Superior Court and the Public Defender's Office also requested to city of Atlanta, because they are the largest contributor of individuals into our jail system, specific data on any individual that is not -- not sent to the Diversion Center, but they would -- would appear to be eligible to be sent to the Diversion Center. A reason as to why they were not sent to the diversion center, that's something that APD had

committed to track. If an individual is not sent to the Diversion Center, there's like a drop-down list of every reason why they would not divert them. And I know, again, Superior Court and the Public Defender staff are trying to get their hands on that data, and so they can kind of further that initiative. Because understood, Chairman, the population has been ticking up month over month."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So your last statement is my next question. Do the officers -- do the officers have to provide him any information on why they took them to jail instead of diverting them?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "We are told there's a monthly or quarterly -- excuse me, Justice Policy Board meeting and Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, I believe, is one of the Cochairs of that board. We are told by APD in those meetings that their officers are required to fill out a reason why an individual would not be diverted."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is that done?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "That's -- we're trying to -- we are trying to get our hands on that data -- I say we, again, reps from Superior Court and Public Defender's Office are trying to get their hands on that data --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Why would it be necessary to try, and not be able to access the information if we're partners?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "I can't answer that, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, I think that's a missing link in your operational report. So would you let them know that we're going to be looking for that. Because again, there's \$400,000 on the PAD program and 2 million-plus the --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Diversion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- Diversion program."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Either we're going to use it, or we're not going to use it."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah. One more point, Mr. Chair. On that specific thing, Mr. Nawrocki, you may want to reach out and maybe speak with -- I don't know whether it be maybe, Judge McBurney or someone in his staff. I believe there is some form of a

report that they have generated that will have some level of detail on who is -- people that have been diverted and sort of some characteristics and that sort of stuff. And I don't know the cadence in which they're doing it, whether it's monthly or not, but perhaps if it is, and we could encompass that, or at least, sort of the key points of that report, and then the year, and then get a better understanding if there are resource needs for them to be able to compile this stuff and or do a better, better job of really driving, you know, use of it, you know, you know, what those needs are. So, because I had had a conversation with Judge McBurney about that, because my understanding, they do have some level of reporting they're doing."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Yes. I think the composition kind of basic measurement or measures are reported, and it's either on a monthly or quarterly in advance of their board meetings. However, there's still that gap of for individuals that aren't being --

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: Right.

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: -- diverted there, the why. But certainly, we can add -- what we -- what information we do have, because I know Grady puts that report out. Happy to have the key takeaways."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right. And then if there's like, a resource that could be applied to say, okay, to try to do some analysis around who's not being diverted --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Right."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- you know, like, what that might be a good and best from us to kind of help assist with that. And we -- you know, we'd also talked with the Accountability Courts in the restructure and all that --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Right."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- some sort of reporting around that. So potentially, those two things could be synced up and at least be included on, you know, quarterly basis at a minimum, right? But I agree with the Chair, we need -- we need to get some data of whether this stuff is actually working or not."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And then again, related to that, this point system that I'm hearing about now, where officers receive points for the number of people that they -- are you familiar with that?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "I cannot comment on that, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You can't comment or you won't --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "I don't know about it, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. We need to look into that. I hear that there's a point system where you get, like, brownie points for the number of people that you send -- book into the jail versus send to diversion. Is that -- you don't know --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: I never heard about that, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Could you ask about that?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "I can ask about that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Because that seems to be rewarding people for booking them in versus utilizing PAD and the Diversion Center."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, that's what I hear. Okay, anything else?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY OFFICER: "Thank you."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Good morning, Commissioners. Joseph Davis, Real Estate and Asset Management. This portion of the operational report addresses the Jail Blitz Plan, as well as overall jail maintenance. As of today, we are 64 percent --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Could you speak --"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Sorry, is that better? Perfect. So as of this morning, we're 64 percent complete with the Blitz. However, we are scheduling our close-out walk through this afternoon of housing unit 7-North. The update from this morning is that the touchup painting will be completed here in the next couple of hours. So we'll be turning that unit back over to the Sheriff's Office, releasing additional beds. We are beginning the Blitz of area 3-North. This is an area where residents have physical and/or behavioral health needs. In addition to the Blitz, we've begun clinical level cleaning of 3-North in advance of the Blitz. This will be in conjunction with the same cleaning for the medical observation unit as well as 3-South. We have determined that there is significantly less damage in this unit than what we have experienced throughout the Blitz program. We are projecting a completion of May 16th, with overall Blitz completion between the months of July and August of this year. Next slide, please. You heard Mr. Nawrocki reference beds under repair. This is a breakdown of where those beds are currently located. We have 204 beds on both 1-North and 3-North, 1-North due to frequent flooding that presents a operational challenge for the Sheriff's Office to move inmates on a timely basis in order to address those without operational discomfort. 3-North is vacant, as that is the current Blitz unit."

We have, and have been reporting two zones on 6-South, zones 200 and 500 that are offline due to the need for major repairs. Same scenario applies to zones 400 and 600 on 7-South, where there's a mixed significant damage requiring the removal of the inmates from the floor in order to complete the work. There's one final zone on 7-North, zone 500, where there is an extensive plumbing repair being completed. We had a pipe chase, well, actually, two pipe chases that inmates had accessed that were so badly damaged, it rendered those housing -- that housing unit unusable. We are projecting to complete that next week. Next slide, please. This is a jail maintenance performance overview. For the month of March 2025, we've completed approximately 800 -- 84 percent of all work orders issued during the month. There were 1175 total issued, with 84 percent of those being completed in the month of March. Ninety-three additional March work orders were completed thus far as of April the 10th, for a total completion percentage of all work orders submitted in March to 92 percent. The total combined amount of work orders that were completed during the month of March, this includes work orders issued in the month and any outstanding work orders that are in the backlog, which we will discuss a little bit later. But they completed almost 1800 work orders from March 1st through April the 10th. On the preventive maintenance side, we had 390 preventive maintenance work orders scheduled where three -- 328 were completed, for also a completion percentage of 84 percent. Our current work order backlog as of April the 10th is 1272 work orders. This is a 15 percent reduction from our last report, where we reported 1,501 work orders. Upcoming Blitz areas represent 701 of the open work orders. You'll see the chart at the bottom of the page is a three-month overview that compares for the months of January, February and March, the work orders that have been issued, those that were issued and completed within the month, as well as the work that was completed outside of the work orders that were issued in the month of March. Next slide, please. We currently have -- this is a overview of the backlog work orders, to give a sense of how long they've been outstanding. We have 29 percent of our total number of open work orders are less than 30 days old. 33 percent are between, or 417 are between 30 and 90 days. And 38 percent or 486 work orders are greater than 90 days. To your bottom right, you have a graphical depiction of the information just shared. Next slide, please. This is an update on our immediate repairs. The fire alarm upgrade, you see here that it was initially slated to begin on May 19th. However, we have received some good news from our vendor, Siemens, that was selected. They are putting together a new schedule as the materials have come in earlier than expected. We expect this project to kick off in the next week or so. But we'll provide more updates as that situation evolves. The padded cell work at the Jail South Annex was completed back in January. We have kitchen equipment that was a part of a Board action item. That equipment has been ordered. We were originally anticipating April the 21 -- first as a receipt date. However, we've just received an update that May 9th is the date. We may receive certain aspects of the order prior to May 9th, but we do know that the last piece of equipment will arrive on May 9th, and subsequently be installed. As reported previously, the laundry equipment replacement is on hold. Our current equipment is fully operational. We've received information from two different vendors that tariffs are significantly impacted their cost models, and those are changing almost every day. The elevator modernization, we were targeting May 1st for the solicit -- advertisement of the solicitation. We had an additional meeting with the

Sheriff's Office to determine the scope for security moving forward. We will be changing the way the facility, the elevators are operated, providing the Sheriff's Office with centralized control, or override control from their central security control office, so that they can either control the elevators by a rider using an elevator, or if that person's not on duty, they can switch the control back to the localized at the elevator itself. We anticipate having those list -- those specs over to Purchasing sometime early next week. Next slide. And that will be all of the report as it maintenance and Blitz. And I'll take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, any questions?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No questions, thank you."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "We'll now move forward with our focus area highlights. Today, we will highlight Community Development, which will provide information on our recent work, how we accomplish that work through our partnerships with cities and nonprofits to meet diverse needs here in the county. That will be followed by a customer service report from Bridget Bailey, our Customer Service Director. And she will highlight how we work in her department to be responsive to constituents. So Stan, I'll turn it over to you."

STAN WILSON, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: "Good morning. Stan Wilson, Community Development Director. First, I'd like to begin with one of our flagship programs, the Community Services Program. Here we see the list of service areas where we provide funding to nonprofit groups, and those are our six primary areas. Our 2025 community services funding recommendations will be coming to you on May 21st. And also there in 2024, over 53,000 constituents received assistance through the program, and we funded 145 agencies. Another key area where we were involved in is helping youth, and we have youth programs, the Youth Commission. In February, we actually inducted 31 new Youth Commission members, and that group actually works out in terms of advocating for youth. They also get involved in local government and legislative items as well. Another exciting area that we've been involved with since COVID is Connected Youth Leadership Program, that's primarily an online-based program that really focuses on leadership, also helping with educational guidance and helping develop youth career pathways as well. Excitingly, in last year, 238 students participated in the program. We also had 36 high schools engaged. And also too, we were able to provide 11 students with a paid summer internship as well. My Brother's Keeper mentorship initiative, we work with nonprofit groups, and we're also doing mentor, mentoring and training for youth, and those are young boys and men, 12 to 24. Next slide, please. Our municipal partners, we work with cities to provide funding, it's federal community development block grant dollars. And with that funding, it's used for infrastructure and other public approved improvements, and also to park

and facility improvements. We've got seven projects right now that we're currently working with cities on. And those projects are funding over 100 -- over \$850,000, and that's federal CDBG dollars. We have a home repair program primarily focusing on seniors. And last year, we were able to repair 39 homes. We're using federal dollars as well as general fund dollars. This year, we've got over 800,000 between the two, majority of that general fund. So we're able to go out and repair homes and really repair homes for seniors, to help them to age in place. HOP is our home ownership program, down payment assistance. We work to provide first-time homebuyers with down payment assistance and closing cost assistance. We've been able last year to help 24 first-time homebuyers. And we spend approximately \$330,000 in federal home dollars. Next slide, please. Fulton County is the lead agency for the Continuum of Care. Now, you can think of the Continuum of Care as an organization with individuals and groups that are focused on ending and preventing homelessness. One of the key things that we -- that we have in place, is working with Gateway to provide a homeless assessment centers. And that's primarily our coordinated intake. So that's where people actually enter the system, those experiencing homelessness. And an intake is done at the Aptitude Centers, one in North Fulton, one in South Fulton. Some of the services that are provided, outreach and engagement, case management, also housing assistance and referrals. And those referrals are for housing, but also any other service needs as well. And we got five agencies that are funded with COC dollars, and those agencies provide permanent supportive housing. So that's getting person housed, but also providing those wraparound services as well. This year, we received \$3 million from HUD for the program. That's up 218,000 from the previous years. And I just want to mention a few other things that we're working on in the area of homelessness. One is, we're partnering with the city of Atlanta, we're on their task force addressing homelessness. So we're a part of that group. Another area for the summer and winter shelter, when the extreme heat or extreme cold, we provide transportation services to help people get to and from the shelter. And that's a partnership here, again, working with the city of Atlanta. Also our CSP program, I mentioned the categories. Last year, almost a million dollars went toward homelessness assistance through the CSP program, funding 25 agencies. Next slide, please. This is just an example of some of our key performance indicators from last year. The team get a great job in meeting all of our targets. But one of the critical targets I want to make mention of is our HUD CDBG timeliness. We met timeliness for the third year in a row, and that's based on spending the adequate amount of dollars per the raise to make sure that we keep the program moving. Each November, they look at how much we spent, and we only could have about 1.5, one and a half times our current grant. So we've always exceeded that the last three years, so that's continued to work well. Next slide, please. Some of the new programs that we've got in development, our Youth Homeless Systems Improvement Grant, that's a \$2 million grant we received from HUD. The focus of those dollars is to improve our system for engaging and assisting youth dealing with homelessness, so it'll improve our intake system, data system, also expand our partners, and also too that, that's a partnership we're working with the city of Atlanta with as well. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance is a program that we're going to launch this year, and that's going to provide two years, up to two years, of rental assistance, and then to our supportive services homeless prevention. That's Hallmark dollars. All

of these programs are funded with HUD dollars, but that's going to provide case management, housing search assistance, also to assisting with financial assistance, rent, utility, as well as security deposit assistance. Next slide. And I'll certainly take any questions that you have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, are there questions, Commissioners? Any questions? Go ahead."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just have a quick question. On your first-time homebuyer eligibility, what are those requirement? Or if you could give me --"

STAN WILSON, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: "Sure. The First-time Homebuyer Program is funded with federal dollars. So the first eligibility requirement is income. So it serves 80 percent or less of median income. With the federal dollars, we work with the cities that are in a cooperative agreement with us. So that's the other -- that's the other criteria. Then we look for first-time homebuyers, and then the property that they have. HUD has a maximum purchase price, so homes have to be below, at or below 330,000."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And what are the cities that are in the Co-Op Program? Do you know them off hand?"

STAN WILSON, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: "Sure. City of Alpharetta, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Palmetto, and Union City. You're welcome."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other questions? Just one general one. Have you and others calculated or made an attempt to calculate the impact on our general fund if the federal cuts take place?"

STAN WILSON, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: "We've looked at -- we've looked at the programs that would be impacted. I'm not prepared to give that now, but that's something that we're tracking and we're looking at as we move forward. So that's something that we can certainly put together and get to you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So right now, but no one is really following that? It's pretty simple to do. You know how much we get from the federal government --"

STAN WILSON, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: "Well, we --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- so you back that out, and that will, we'll have to take it up out of the general fund, or say no to."

STAN WILSON, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: "The annual -- the annual CDBG dollars is 1.2 million and 575,000 is what we get from -- from HOME. So between those two, you're looking at an impact of about 1.7 million."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Mr. Chairman, we actually have a slide later in the deck --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- that talks about our -- our grants, just to give you a general idea of what our --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It has to be a lot more than that --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- total grant --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 1.8 million."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- exposure is. Yes, sir, it is. So we'll -- I'll actually cover that slide with the Board later."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Anything else?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Thank you, sir.

STAN WILSON, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next."

BRIGITTE BAILEY, DIRECTOR, CUSTOMER SERVICE: "Good morning, Commissioners. Brigitte Bailey, Director of Customer Experience. I'm going to talk to you a little bit today about Customer Service and some of the things that we've been doing in the department. So if I could get that first slide, please. Thank you. Commissioners, as you are aware, Fulton County Customer Service Division is a division within the County Manager's Office. And we work with the departments on service delivery efforts within them for programmatic efforts and actually following the customer service policy. Most of you all are familiar with us as being the primary telephone and in-person contact, kind of that voice of Fulton, the first face that people see. But we actually do a lot more than that. So I'm going to highlight some of those things that we do. One of the things in our department that we do is a lot of complaint resolution and monitoring. We have complaints that funnel through, not that many, thank goodness, but we do have some that funnel through. And so we work with the departments and customers to resolve any sort of complaints that come through so that customers don't get the run around. And we want to take a handle of that and actually take ownership and make sure we walk customers through, through those complaints and get those resolved for them. We work closely with our Strategy and Performance Management Department on developing customer service metrics and also customer satisfaction surveys to gage how we're doing service delivery within the county. We

also do something that a lot of people aren't familiar with, but some departments have taken advantage of, and we actually provide some what we call our consulting services. Basically, we offer pain-point surveys, where we will go into a department if stakeholders are having a problem with actually doing business, we'll take a look and say, what are your pain points, and how do we get rid of them? And we'll work with the stakeholders and with the department to resolve that and maybe put some measures in place and make some allowances so that stakeholders can better do business with the county. We do also service delivery reviews. We will look at a department to identify, what are your gaps in service, where are some things that you could do, what are some other services that you can offer? What resources do you need to offer those services? And we will work with them to develop a plan to work into that. We provide one-on-one coaching. There may be departments who need some more personalized customer service coaching for their staff or an individual person, and we'll go in and work with them, sit with that department, or sit with that employee within that department, and help them to walk through getting that sort of more personalized training that they may need to make sure we're delivering service. We are often asked to present at department retreats on customer service in government. We've also been asked to present at external agencies, which we will go do as well. We've presented at the CPM conference. We've presented at some state of Georgia functions as well, when called upon. So we offer that as well. We work closely with DCRC in providing translation services to our citizens as well as those services for the hearing impaired. So people who may need assistance there, we have the ability to make sure that we're able to service them. That's in partnership with DCRC. We manage the County's Employee Recognition Program, the Customer Service Legend Program. Since inception, we've had about 650 legends that we have recognized from that time of 2018 and of last year, we did 114. We also do what we call our Customer Service Pop Ups, and that's where we go to departments really, to say -- a means of saying, thank you for the great work that we -- that they do. We will often get compliments for those departments that have gone above and beyond the call of duty. And it may not be one person in particular. So we like to recognize them and we try to do that on a quarterly basis. We manage the customer satisfaction kiosk process. And we operate that in conjunction with IT. We call it a kiosk, but it's really an iPad on the stand. But it's our way to actually get some immediate feedback from customers who do business with us, and they are able to give us that feedback. Reports are sent to that department every night, and that way, if there's negative feedback, we can address it within 24 hours. And so that's something that we've been doing. Excuse me, Commissioners. We have currently 11 departments participating. Those are in our more forward-facing departments with 114 satisfaction kiosks across the county. So those are some of the other things that we do outside of what people are kind of more familiar with us. Going to talk a little bit about our past accomplishments. When I came in this position in 2017, one of the things that we wanted to address was the county did not have a formalized customer service policy. So one of the things that we did and this Board approved was to develop the customer service policy and procedures, which is what we operate by today. And that has been successful in having that so that our employees are aware of what the expectations are. You can't manage somebody and expect them to deliver service if you don't define what those are. So we've been able to do that. We work

closely with External Affairs and IT in partnership through the website and internet redesign, which is -- it's gone very well and still underway. We work closely with DREAM on the signage and way-finding project. As you all know, we opened the Information Center in the government, where we usually see about 14, 15,000 people there per year. So it has been very successful in helping customers. We worked with our HR Training Division some years ago to develop the internal customer service training program, which we've had about 3,000 more employees go through. It is a mandated training program, and that's where we actually teach the policy to our employees so they know the expectations. And in 2019, we also won two national awards from NACO, the achievement awards, and also the All-Star Customer Service Award in our division. Fast forward to 2024, as you know, we won the Organization of the Year Award last year from the National Customer Service Association as well. We also, of course, you know, we experienced some challenges with the cyber security incident, but we were successfully able to work with IT to restore all call centers and phones within the county. One of the things I'm really happy about, and I'm sure everybody could be happy about, when the County Manager came, one of his big initiatives was customer service. And that first year, we rolled out customer satisfaction, the bonus program. There was an 83 percent satisfaction rate that we set for the bonus to kick in. Well, I'm proud to say we did meet that then. But right now, if we look at all Fulton County departments, we're averaging over 94 percent for Fulton County customer satisfaction. And that succeeds all industry standards, both in the public and private sector. So customer service is a priority, and we're doing it right here in Fulton County. So that's a good thing. And just a little personal plug, one of the things I'm really proud of, our entire Fulton County Customer Service team is fully certified, and so that's a great thing. And we also have three CPMs with another one on the way. Next slide, please. Couple of things that we measure in terms of our key performance measures, Customer Service Division is ranking about 99 percent in terms of customer satisfaction. We, of course, as I mentioned the complaints, we are escalating those as need be within our time frame. We're also resolving those within our time frame at 100 percent. We are going to make sure as soon as we get it, we're on it, we don't let it sit. We're going to follow back up. And so we're meeting that goal. Average time in the queue, when you think about call center, industry standard is less than 20 seconds. We are at 12. So we are certainly doing pretty good in that area as well. Next slide, please. Here's where we get into -- here's where we get a little bit into some of our other metrics in terms of the number of calls received. This 36,305 is a little bit of an anomaly. During, of course, first quarter of last year, you know, we had the cyber attack. So we were not able to fully calculate the number of calls that we get. So this number reflected here is lower than what normally is. We average about 55 to 60,000 a year through that 4000 line that we operate. I will say, there again, another industry standard we're exceeding, normal call centers run anywhere between 17 and 18,000 calls. And as you can see where we are, we are certainly far exceeding that. Our information desk, as I mentioned, we have a little of 14,000. We typically see that every year on an annual basis. Our customer service emails, that was a little bit high. And we had a couple of anomalies there as well. We average about 15, 16,000 a year. This was higher, there again, due to the cyber security attack, because that was a way that we could communicate for that time period that we were down. So that was our main mode.

We're looking at almost 3,000 calls that we get at night calls, night and weekends calls, those all have to be addressed and handled as well. Same thing for our emails that come through. So we're addressing those. And our customer satisfaction surveys, we're doing very good there in terms of that, and we have a good percentage with the 5,128 that we did for last year. So Commissioners, I hope that gives you just an idea of some of the things that we do, some of our targets, what we're doing, where we're meeting, and how the county is performing overall as a whole. And I'm open for any questions should you have any."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, questions?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No questions. Thank you."

BRIGITTE BAILEY, DIRECTOR, CUSTOMER SERVICE: "Thank you, Commissioners."

MIKE ROWICKI, DIRECTOR, STRATEGY MGMT: "Okay. Commissioners, Mike Rowicki, Strategy and Performance Management office. Today, we're here to give you an update related to some of the questions from the last Board meeting to House Bill 92, which is an update cleanup to the House Bill 581, that was previously adopted last session. With that, today in the audience, we do actually have our Tax Assessor staff and our Tax Commissioner staff here to assist with any questions, along with the IT Director with any of the slides or information that you guys may have questions on. So what we want to actually do is actually highlight a few things for you with this. Again, House Bill passed both the House and the Senate, was signed by the Governor on April 1st of 2025. The Bill is actually effective for the 2025 year. And this actually took into account the consolidation with House Bill 370. With this Bill, what it actually incorporated into it was again, the 5-acre cap that was there for the floating homestead exemptions. It limited the homestead exemptions to just the primary residence, added the language back that provided clarification about the spouses that are there surviving a deceased, that they do not need to reapply for the homestead exemption, and also gave some clarification to that rollback rate that was part of House Bill 581, for again, defining it as for general maintenance and operational cost is what the funding can be used for, and that that rollback rate does not need to be set until 15 days prior to the postmark of the annual notice of assessments. Originally, we scheduled that for the beginning of March of this year for getting all those set. But into the future, that will actually will have to be 15 days before the notices go out. Next slide, please. Okay. Part of what we want to provide to you is some updates on the programming that was related to some of the questions. So we just want to assure you that the team's IT, Tax Assessor, Tax Commissioner, and Tyler are all working diligently to put into place everything that is needed to implement House Bill 92 across the board for the county, to make sure that our tax digest and billing process goes out correctly. With that, from the IT standpoint, again, the Department of Revenue has confirmed that all of the approval of all forms that are required for us to program into the system, Tyler is currently working

through their process and implementing those forms into our formats. There was actually a data refresh of our test environment that has been completed that is taking all the new data from our development system, putting that into the test. So therefore, as we're testing the forms, everything can be checked to make sure that it is working properly. Testing for staff is currently underway, and as they are going through that process, Tax Assessors, Tax Commissioners are asking Tyler and IT clarification questions, noting if there are any errors, any changes that need to be addressed as they're going through that, and that is a work in progress. Staff is working with a vendor on actually processing and speeding up how our data is actually being transferred currently. So therefore, again, things will happen more efficiently and more in real time. Also currently, there is an FTP site that exists for the cities to download all their data once it is finalized for estimates. And that FTP site is being updated with the additional fields that will be required to implement House Bill 92. Next slide. From the Tax Assessor's Office point of view, again, they have gotten the guidance from the Department of Revenue. They have reformatted the tax assessment notices as received, and are working through that process. Staff has provided direction to our computer-assisted mass appraisal system, CAMA, a vendor for programming and testing. Currently, that is underway. The team is working with External Affairs and updating any educational or materials, handouts, those types of items for public outreach and communications, and we plan to bring that back to the Board at a future meeting in May, once we've kind of finalized that format, and give you guys a briefing on that. Changes were reviewed with the Board of Assessors for any system, programs, procedural modifications according to the bills to make sure that they were aware of that. Specifically, that was main -- mainly due to the homestead exemption now, where people can actually apply for that homestead exemption during the 45-day appeal period. Next slide. From the Tax Commissioner's input, the big thing is the tax bills. We'd like to note that the tax bills have been redesigned for the new look that will be required in 2025. That design has been presented to Tyler for the development, they're currently working through that process, and going back and forth with the Tax Commissioner's office on options and any items questions that they have. The return date for the proofing should be around mid, middle of May for that approval process. Once that redesign is proof accepted by Tyler and the Tax Commissioner, the new tax bill paper and envelopes will have to be ordered to fit the size that is specified based off of the changes. The Tax Commissioner has actually worked with all of the vendors for the paper and the envelopes, talked to them, and the vendors estimate that that turnaround time will be about 10 to 12 weeks once that order has to be placed. And if we put that into that middle of May, going for the proofing and approval, looking at our proposed work plan schedule that does fit into our time frames for what we propose bills to go out. Next slide. Previously, you guys may have seen a slide deck where we had put a little bit more detailed work plan in there. We actually changed that out, because that work plan is actually something that is -- changes every meeting after we've kind of talked through issues. So we wanted to kind of highlight some of the big items and dates and times that we'll be looking at. So for our work plan, we actually estimate that the assessment notices will be sent out for the middle of June. The millage rate is scheduled to be adopted by the BOC at the beginning of August. Submission of the tax digest to the state is proposed for the middle of -- I should say, the end of August. And

then tax bills are tentatively proposed to be sent out at the end of August as well. Again, the schedule that we work with, we meet every two weeks with the group as a whole. We talk through any issues, and then we adjust accordingly. If something can be has to take a little couple extra days or something, we can talk about moving back and forth in order to fit into our proposed schedules for work plan. Next slide, please. And with that, we will open it up for any questions you guys have related to House Bill 92 or the tax digest."

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Rowicki. I guess my first question is, why are you doing this presentation? And I don't mean that sarcastically, but you know --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I had the same question."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- this, the responsibility of this work rests with the people behind you. And part of what, you know, reason why I asked for this to be here was, you know, and I appreciate the detail in terms of the sausage making on all this, but recognize it probably generally, mechanically, most of us kind of, eyes start to glaze over from some of this. But what we really want to hear is, we're going to be able to get all this stuff done. It's going to come through clean. We understand what our citizens are going to be getting when they get an assessment notice, and it is clear to them what they're looking at, and that we're going to get assessments out on time. We're going to be, you know, be able to consider and adopt a millage rate on an adequate time, and bills are going to be out on time. That's what we want to know, right? And you know, and I'm -- and was looking to hear from the folks that are responsible for it. So, you know, that would be my first question, not from -- not for, not for you, but for your counterparts. Or, you know, are we going to be ready? I mean, this is what we're looking for -- looking for some assurance, and what are you concerned about? Or what are the contingencies that could delay us?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I had the same question, so thank you for asking."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Not you. Not you. Step back and looking for responses from the three parties."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, DIRECTOR, IT: "Well, good morning, Commissioner Ellis, thank you for your question. I think, you know, as Mr. Rowicki has said, we meet every two weeks as a team. And so we are in lockstep between what has to happen with the legislation, the work that has to be done by these business units, whether the Tax Assessor or the Commissioner's office. And then, of course, from the IT perspective, we are meeting with Tyler multiple times a week. I mean, my team was on last night working through changes that are coming through to make sure that they're accurate. And so this is a top priority for our office to make sure that the technology is meeting the needs of those requirements that are coming through the legislative process. And we've done this with Tyler year over year to make legislative changes. And we continue to hit

those dates to get those -- those assessments out, to get our bills out in a timely manner. And we're always trying to move that date up as much as we can to increase our collection rate. So I think if we see a red flag, we're going to -- we're going to speak to it, we're going to bring it to the attention here, to the attention of the leadership behind me as well to make sure that we stay on task."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Again, I'm glad you answered that question. But I'm really looking for, ultimately, the two people that are responsible for one, getting the assessments out, what they're going to say, what's going to be on them, and then ultimately, the bills out."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Good morning, Commissioners. Roderick Conley, Board of Assessors Office. I will highlight a couple of things. First, let me start with the notices. We are traditionally used to maybe a singular notice for taxpayers. But due to House Bill 92, there will be three different formats of notices. It'll be contingent upon those taxing jurisdictions that have provided those estimated rollbacks. The second point that I will highlight is the 45-day appeal period that was previously mentioned. Taxpayers will have the ability to file for homestead, whether it's for appeal or if they just choose, maybe forgotten, they have the ability to file for homestead at that point. Now, there's either going to be some programming or some procedural things that we're going to have to take a look at. Because I'm I would imagine there will be some who truly have the intent to file for 2026, meaning the next year. But then there will be some who will meet all the qualifications, mainly owning as of January 1st, that will have the intent of filing for 2025. So we're currently, talking to leadership and trying to work through those processes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Again, I'm not -- what you're telling me, I'm not -- I'm not -- I don't know that I have confidence that, you know -- so right now, we're saying that traditionally, we've had notices go out, it pretty much the end of May, right?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Mid June, mid-to-late June."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well, I mean, it bounced around, but you know, many times they've gone out around Memorial Day weekend. I mean, I -- I got to know this as a marker, because it's when I'm starting to get phone calls, right? I mean, I know it's bounced around a couple of weeks. But so our target now is the middle of June."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. And so it is going to be -- so do we have the format in which they were going to -- is that wired down? Are we still messing around with what is going to be the words on the page?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "So we received the formats from the state mid last week. We then forwarded those formats to our CAMA provider for the

programming. Once that programming has been completed, they're provided back to us for review and testing."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So you have the format, and you pass in on to somebody to program it?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. And then no more changes to the format? It's --"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "We're hopeful. We're hopeful."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. And this, the last time we did a reformatting of the tax assessment notice was long time ago?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "It's been a while."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right, okay. What's going to be in the assessment notice that goes out besides the assessment notice itself?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "So there will be three different notices this year. The first notice is going to be the rollback notice. So all those for a singular parcel that receives a notice, if all of the taxing jurisdictions have provided the estimated rollback, they'll receive the rollback notice, and it will reflect the estimated rollback rate. If they do not, they will receive the estimated tax notice, and at the bottom, it'll reflect something that we are traditionally familiar with, is the estimated taxes. But then there will be a third, it will be the hybrid notice. And so you may have a notice or a parcel that some have provided the estimated rollback and others have not. And that's when they will receive the hybrid, and it will reflect both the estimated rollback and estimated taxes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay, all right. That's the state-required document that you've handed over to be programmed?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Correct.""

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Are we going to put anything in these in additional that's our supplementary communication to help people understand this is what this is, in layman's terms, you know, et cetera? Here are your rights, et cetera."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Yes. We've been in conversation with Ms. Corbitt in External Affairs, and she may be able to elaborate. But we are looking at a potential insert to maybe create, like a diagram, so folks can understand what each field means on one side, and then a more of a one pager, just to kind of highlight those key points that may have changed from the legislation on the other side as an insert with the notice. Of course, we'll update our website giving a diagram of all the notices

and the new notice formats and some other key talking points that that they may want to be familiar with."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "When is that communication going to be ready? I mean, we're two months out. I guess that's got to be programmed in and hand over somebody, too."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you, Mr. Vice Chair. So we have previously worked with the Tax Assessor's office on developing kind of a mockup explainer of assessment notices. When he received those from the Department of Revenue last week, he provided them to our staff so that we can also begin preparing those mockups, so that is in process. We have also been, as part of our tax team meeting last week, our communication plan really focuses on what people see differently, so what pieces of the notice look different this year, as well as any rights and responsibilities that have changed. So looking to one additional sheet as an insert in the assessment notice resources, you know, that printing and stuffing and all of that, that that's underway now. We're developing that to be prepared to be released along with that. It is our plan, as I think Mr. Rowicki said, to have those pieces prepared in the month of May so we're building them out now, and should be on track to have those ready in early May."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Early May, okay. And you were going to distribute those to -
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JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Those would be distributed as part of the -- of the notice, but also to all elected officials of the taxing authorities who may get questions about it. When one part of the law that is different is really highlighting taxing jurisdictions that chose to opt out of the floating homestead exemption. There's some specific language really pointing to those taxing jurisdictions, so we feel like they should have this information as well if they start getting questions from constituents."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So Mr. Conley, just another question for you. So this change also created this additional opportunity to file homestead?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Just walk through what that -- what that means. So normally, I have to file my homestead by April 1st, right?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Correct. The deadline is for filing for homestead for that current tax year is April the 1st."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "So starting April 2nd, until the day we mail out the notice, if you file for homestead, it'll be for tax year 2026."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "So once we send out the notice that 45-day appeal period that is associated with the notice, you will have another opportunity for those who may have missed to file for homestead. You do not have to file an appeal. You can simply file for homestead for the 2025 tax year that current year."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "For 20 -- okay. So if I file for my homestead on April 2nd, and you got it, it's only going to apply to 2026?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Well, by law. And so we've also had communications about how to -- we can notify the taxpayers. So we would attempt to run a query and send out some kind of leaflet/pamphlet to those taxpayers who may have been affected. And so we can run a query on our system and identify those taxpayers that may have been affected, and kind of give them some form of notice."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I mean, do we have a -- I mean, it sounds good on paper, but that's a whole another process to be able to do, activate, make sure we get everybody, et cetera."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Well, I don't think, as soon as that appeal period hit, I don't think it'll be a difficult task to run that query, and we already have --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The by the time you get it out to them, right, you know, you run it, you whatever, then they're -- they're, you're already eating into their 45 days."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "That's fair."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: So you're -- in the notices, in the communication that's going to go out, is it going to speak to this, you know, homestead thing?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes. I think that's one of the most important rights that has changed, property owner or homeowner rights that has changed as part of this legislation is that additional window for homestead exemptions. Another thing that we have not yet done, but will do with working with Mr. Conley, is prepare some signage for his offices so that -- and for the website, so that people who apply, either online or in person will also have that additional information that, you know, just explaining that. Again, we're -- we're getting a lot of information quickly, of course, so we're -- we're building this communication plan as we're flying the plane, so to speak. So there are some -- it's some things that are continuing --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So like operational, right, I filed my thing on April 20th, and just think about, and I call up the Tax Assessor's office and say, oh, you know, I want this

to apply to -- does -- do I need to do something? And they say, you say, yeah. And they're like, okay, can you just use my thing I already submitted? Is that it, or I got to file a whole another application?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Well there's some things that we have to run by our Attorney's office just to get some advice and make sure that we are legal, permissible. But that is kind of some of the ideas that we've kind of been thinking about."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Well, I think we need to nail them down, and not be just thinking about them. The -- and within this homestead filing period, is it just for the base homestead, or let's say I've got, you know, I have a base homestead, then now I've figured out, oh, I'm actually eligible for two or three other special exemptions. Do I have the opportunity to apply for that during this 45 day period? Or is that open to interpretation?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "No. Yes, sir, it'll be for any and all."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Any and all?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: Okay. The -- all right, now I got -- thank you, I got a question now for Dr. Ferdinand."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So as I understand it, in terms of, once the notices go out and all that, that helps you, then start to formulate the data and all that sort of stuff that's got to go to digest preparation."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That's correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And part of that the factors in, is exemptions?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yes, okay. So with this 45-day extension, we don't know what the actual exemptions are until the end of that 45-day period."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That's correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Plus we don't know -- I mean, we always don't know appeal. But you can kind of estimate around that."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Usually with the appeals."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Do you feel like you can estimate around this exemption thing too enough so that your time frame for a digest preparation does not get extended for 45 days? That's basically -- you understand my question?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I understand your question. Usually during the process, we are always at the whim of the Tax Assessors and the completion of their jobs. So this is no different. So we will have to wait until they get their parts finished before we could finalize our part. But we'll work at in the meantime. But as soon as they finish, it'll probably about a week before we're able to complete our part to send to the Revenue Commissioner. But it's -- this is a normal process for us. So we basically every year have to do some cleanup work in terms of trying to fit in things very, very quickly after the Assessors are finished."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So you don't feel as if this 45-day additional period for filing exemptions will elongate your digest prep cycle that you've normally had?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "It would probably elongate it, but no different than every year."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Wait, wait, wait --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "The same thing --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- you said different --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I mean, for example, last year the Board did not approve their digest -- their value, the millage rate until very late. And I had to come in very quickly behind it and try to do things very quickly. Previous before that, you know, the Board probably took away the -- the values from the Board of Assessors. You remember those years? And very quickly, I had come behind and --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, but this --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "So I'm always adjusting based on what's happening in front of me."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I understand that, and I'm not trying to hold you necessarily to a specific date, but what I really just --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- the confidence of this 45-day appeal period is it more or less likely to elongate the cycle such that if, let's say, the assessments don't get out until the third week of June?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "It certainly will. It certainly will and --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So there is some concern about the potential this cycle could get potentially elongated."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "It could."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And -- it could, right? So we don't know -- we don't know affirmatively that, you know, the end of August for submission, there's some variables in here that could throw that off."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "There are some variables, and they are many with the Board of Assessors. But to me, that's normal business."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay, all right. I don't have any other questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just had a quick question on the 45-day additional. So we still -- I, in a perfect world, people -- you still want people to get their homestead exemptions in by the 1st so that you have most of the data; is that true?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So that's still technically the deadline."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But then there's this extra 45-day period that, like, if you missed it, you can still do it?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So like, logistically, would it matter if everybody waited the -- and did it within that, that window with the extra 45 days? Like, I mean, I'm just asking for clarity sake, as a citizen, wouldn't it just be easier to say that deadline is whatever that date is, June 15 or whatever? And you know what I'm saying? So that there's -- because this idea that get it in by here, but then you can still also get it in here, feels confusing. So I -- is there an advantage to having it in chunks like that, like having it by the end of April or by April 1st and then the second batch that might come for the people who missed it?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Well, I would definitely imagine there would be, definitely be some benefits for those who may have forgotten, right?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sure."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "And this being a new requirement, we were still putting out -- well, preparing to share our ideas with the County Attorney's office so that we can then flesh out and finalize our plans to make sure we're addressing in all concerns."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I mean, I think -- I think a little bit to capture some of what Vice Chair Ellis was saying, I do think it's already a fairly confusing process for people between getting the assessment notice, what's on it, which jurisdiction -- which jurisdictions are charging what, and then you don't pay this, it's just the assessment, then you get the tax bill. I do think it's a pretty confusing process, so, and it does seem like these changes may make it even more confusing. So I think, from my perspective, I'm just looking for us to do the best we can, to simplify it as much as possible, and then explain it the best we can, so that people who see something different than they're used to know what to do. I think some of it's positive. I mean, as somebody who has missed that April deadline in the past that, you know, I think it's good that you have a little bit of a -- an opportunity. So I'm sure we'll get another update from you all as this -- I guess this is sort of a question. Will we get another update from you all as it gets finalized?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "I have no problem with that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. And while you're here, I just want to say, I really do appreciate how responsive your department has been. I know my department has had a lot of questions from our constituents. And I really do appreciate the quick response and the -- and the thorough response from your team. And I also want to take this up point of personal privilege and say thank you to Mr. Rowicki for coordinating all of this. I know it is a multiagency thing here. And so, you know, I do appreciate the effort that went into understanding the legislation at the state level, and then making sure that everybody stayed on task to get this done. So thank you for that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. I guess, following the same line of questioning, what is the percentage of appeals, you know, out of all the properties, what is that percentage? Because that seems like that's probably a small number, and I imagine that that same percentage might track through to this additional 45 days."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Well, to include appeals for value, it ranged between six and 8 percent I would say, over the last three to four years."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So we're talking about six to 8 percent of the properties or the property owners appealing?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Throughout the whole county, yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And so Vice Chair Ellis, I don't imagine that if the appeal rate is only six to 8 percent, if that -- if that same rate tracks through to the 45 days, then it probably won't be necessarily a lot of work for the Tax Commissioner and everyone to get through. Because, you know, I guess if it shoots up to 30, 40 percent, it may be a different -- it may be a different story, right? But if that same appeals rate, if it's six to eight over the last 5, 10 years, it's probably not a lot of reason - what is the percentage, out of the appeals, how many of them are filed online? What is the percentage of on -- of appeals that are filed online?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "I do not have that specific number with me, but I can estimate it's at least half."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "At least half?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And so would that mean that we have those the email addresses of those half?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "I'm not sure we track email addresses at this point."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Wow. Mr. CIO, someone can submit an appeal without submitting their email address?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Let, let me rephrase. Not in our CAMA system. We do not track email addresses in our CAMA system."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Mr. CIO, we need help. I need help. If we have 50 percent of the appeals and they're filed online, yet, somebody needs to talk to Tyler and make sure that we're capturing the email address, because if we have something we want to communicate to them, and they filed it online through their email address. Ms. Corbitt can email them the information about the appeals, right? So I don't understand why we would not be tracking the email address of anyone that files an exemption online. Further, you know, I brought this up before. I want us tracking, anyone that's coming through the website should be tracked so we can follow them and respond to them in an appropriate and timely manner."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, DIRECTOR, IT: "Yes, sir. We can definitely take a look at that. I don't know why we wouldn't be capturing email addresses for any submissions coming into the county for service. So we can, we can look at what we're capturing today."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, because that's going to make it a lot easier if Vice Chair Ellis is worrying about the time of having to get a mailing list together, get it mailed out. 50 percent of the appeals are coming in online. We ought to -- we ought to at least have the email addresses of those appeals that are coming in

online. And Madam County Attorney, there ought to be some kind of process where, if you submit it online, then now that authorizes us to correspond with you online, right? I mean, every, every, every website in the world does that. I don't know why ours wouldn't."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, DIRECTOR, IT: "Yeah, there's no restriction that would allow that functionality, so we can make sure that's taken care of."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, I know it's not, because every other website in the world does that."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "So I guess one point of clarity, the CAMA system is a shared system between the Board of Assessors, the Tax Commissioner, and the Board of Equalization. From the Board of Assessors side, we do not track email addresses. I cannot speak for the Board of Equalization. But I would imagine they may have the opportunity if they do not already."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm just saying, for someone to submit -- typically, when anyone submits anything online, they do it through their email address. And they -- and that email address gets a copy of what they submitted. Is that what happens? When I submit something online for a open records request or for anything, they ask, the first thing they ask me is my email address. And then when I hit submit, it emails me a copy of what I've submitted, so that I have a copy of it, right? I mean, this is just a normal flow of what happens in technology. I hope this is making sense. I hope I'm not speaking Chinese. So I don't understand why we would not have that same capability."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, DIRECTOR, IT: "No, you're absolutely right, sir. We definitely have that capability. We'll make sure it's enabled."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you, Mr. Vice Chair. I just wanted as a point of personal privilege to say thank you to the Tax Commissioner and to the Chief Appraiser for attending my very first event, which was a virtual town hall meeting for my constituents. And the response was overwhelming. They thanked you both for coming and providing an immense amount of information that they have been long waiting for. So I thank you very much for that. I think we'll have to do it again, because this 45-days thing is crazy and hard to understand, and we would need, I hope, Jessica, that if you I'm sorry, what, I'm supposed to call you Madam Corbitt -- that you could think about writing it in a way that is so fundamentally easy to understand as if you were writing it for, you know, a civics class. So that we then, as Commissioners, could take that and introduce it to our constituents, and it won't follow up with the need for a town hall to explain it further. So I just ask that as you begin to think about writing up that language,

because the information given by the Tax Commissioner and the Chief Appraiser was so helpful to my constituents that they asked again if we could do it in that simplified format. So they thank you for that."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Commissioner Ivory. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. Thank you, Vice Chair. Yes, I thank you when you came to my town hall last April, it was helpful. I have a town hall on Tuesday, so if we could get some kind of sheet to give what we know and what we can explain, that would be very helpful. We won't have you come discuss it, but if we had a handout, we will be having a legislative update during that and that would be helpful if I could start the process."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And I'm just wondering, a couple other questions. So for Tyler, how many -- do we know how many counties Tyler does this for in the state? We have any information on that?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, DIRECTOR, IT: "Sir, we don't have that, I don't have that answer, but we can find it out. But, I mean, it's definitely -- they're, Tyler is the big fish when it comes to tax assessments solutions."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, DIRECTOR, IT: "So I'm assuming it's going to be a large number of counties."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I'm just curious in terms of our counterpart counties and so forth, are they -- because -- it because a lot -- I mean, we, many times we're sort of a little bit later in getting assessments out than some of our neighboring counties. But so they, are many of them pushing back their normal schedules?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "In some of the discussions that I have with some of my colleagues, they are definitely considering pushing back some of their management."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So it could be, I mean, given a lot of -- a lot of them are working -- do you know if, like in the metro counties, who might be using Tyler? Are there's some of the bigger ones that you know for sure."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "I know Cobb and DeKalb for sure are using --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "-- using Tyler for the major counties."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Okay. So we're all probably, you know, in a similar spot. We should all be in a similar spot on this particular -- this particular year, given the issues that are self-created by the state everybody's dealing with them."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "Yeah, for the most part, and I would imagine the impact of receiving the estimated rollback will also be a --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER: "-- key component of that."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right, okay. All right. All right, well, thank you all for delving into this complex topic that none of us probably want to talk about, but a very important one that we got to get ourselves through. So thank you all for that. Next item."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Mr. Vice Chair, if I may --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Oh, yeah, sorry about that."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- before we move to the next item."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right, yeah."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. I just really wanted, if we could go to slide 45, please. Thank you. I just really wanted to share this slide with you today. In light of the situation with federal cutbacks that we're seeing and the impact that it's having on staffing and potentially on grants. We just wanted to share with the Board a summary of our current grant footprint and exposure. In a very high level, we have federal grants totaling 92.8 million. And we have 70 employees that are associated with those grants. We broke it down below into two categories where we we're awarded the grants directly, or where they are pass-through grants. On the direct grant awards that total is actually 71,481,357. And we've identified the largest most significant grants, HIV Elimination, which has 19 employees and a \$36.8 million budget. The District Attorney's Office has a number of grants, 17 employees, 11.5 million in grant funding. Behavioral Health, five grant-funded employees, 12.4 million. Community Development, three employees, 4.5 million in resources. The Sheriff's Office has two employees, 3.4 million. And then a variety of other departments with smaller awards that total 2.5 million and six employees. We also have pass-through awards, meaning they come to us through another agency that is receiving them directly from the federal government. And in that area -- and we have the Economic Development Department with 7.8 million in grant resources and 10 employees. Senior Services, receiving 11.4 million and having four employees. And then several other departments with a little over \$2 million worth of grant proceeds and four employees. One of the things -- next slide, please. One of the things that we've done in order to mitigate any potential impact should there be a sudden cut off of

reimbursements or a claw back of any existing grants, as we've tried to ensure that for all of our grants, but our larger grants in particular, that we are staying on top of our reimbursement requests, whereas we might have been doing them quarterly previously, we've advanced it to doing monthly reimbursement. So we just wanted to share that and note that for the month of March, we requested \$3.7 million in reimbursement. And also just wanted to note that External Affairs, Jessica and her team are staying engaged with our federal lobbyists, continuing to evaluate what's happening at the federal level in and particular, what the impact of potential changes on the grants that we do have. And I believe she's trying to schedule another update with them in the -- in the near future. So we just wanted to highlight this for you so you would have an idea of what our full exposure. Mr. Chairman asked the question during an early portion of the presentation when Mr. Wilson was at the podium, about what the total funding is for his particular program. But overall, our exposure is that \$92.8 million if we were to assume that the county would try to step in and continue to provide whatever programs and resources are being provided to county residents through these current federally funded grant programs. So I just -- that's just for information purposes today."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That 92 million would translate, that'll be about a mil and a half or so?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Something in that neighborhood, yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That'll mean an increase."

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

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Just two quick questions. I think, I think there might be a typo on the -- on the sheet here, go back one slide. In the grant awards, is that supposed to be -- I think you said 71 in that first, where it says --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I did. I corrected that, where it says grant awards totaling. That's the --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That's supposed to be -- okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Those are the direct awards that should be --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "71 million?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It should be 71,481,357."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Originally, we discovered we left out the Behavioral Health grants from this slide. And we corrected it in the total at the top, but we didn't correct it in the subtotal or the grant awards total."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "And then so the -- well, the grants, this is the total grant award amount?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So many of these are multiyear grants?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "Yes, sir. It depends, some are awarded multiyear with different amounts. But the drawdown is on an annual basis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. But the 92.8 million in total is the amount of the total award --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah, total current awards --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So it's --"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "For this year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Well, wait a minute.

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're not answering."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "This was like, if -- if we took all the grants that have been awarded to us that we know today in the amounts outstanding on those, it's 92.8 for -- but it could be amounts that could -- there could be drawn down on over multiple year periods of time?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Some of the grants are -- have a longer run period than a 12-month cycle. So yes, you are correct in that. The Ryan White program, I believe that is a -- Ryan White in particular, is an annual allocation."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I mean, I think maybe this -- I don't know, without you having to kind of guess at these, and maybe that -- I mean, this is a great thing to kind of -- you -- for you to have captured. And I think that's great and we start to inventory it, and it's great that we've got a process in place where we're doing the monthly reimbursement. That's -- that's really good, that's a really good practice. But I think maybe a sort of a follow on, just so, which of these are multiyear things versus which of these are annual? And then, you know, as I'm sure, we're cut -- we're doing and you're not necessarily getting into in terms of this overlay. It's like, which of these are

potentially more at risk or less at risk or just not likely to recur. Because some of these are things, I guess, that would have been awarded that may not be, you know, ever come back kind of thing. Or some of these are going to be things that are historically been pretty permanent stuff, right, like the, I guess, a lot of the items under Economic Development and Senior Services right? And then many of those things have been multiple year things."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "So Commissioner Ellis, the way I would explain it, is the expectation for award is annual, like Ryan White. But we don't get the award letter in multiple years. We get one award letter for that year, but we're expecting, as we have in the past, to be awarded every year. So this is a demonstration of 2025 and what we expect in grant dollars to draw down for 2025. Other grants are one time, and we may not receive them, but most of these demonstrate awards that we receive every year."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So the 92.8 is a 2025, number?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. All right, thank you. That was really what I was looking to clarify. Great."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No. Vice Chair Ellis addressed my point that the numbers, the math wasn't mathing. But Sharon got it mathing for us."

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

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And then the only other -- I mean, I was just simply going to say that we've included in the report the normal update that we have for our ARPA spend, as well as the monthly financial report for our general fund expenditure analysis, where we're at. And unless you all have any specific questions about that, I was not necessarily planning to make a presentation."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Sharon, maybe you could comment on that trend line on 51, which has an anomaly in it."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Oh, right. Thank you, Mr. Anderson. On slide 51, please. If you -- if you look at the orange line in the month of March, it seems to indicate that expenses are up significantly in the month of March as compared to previous years. The anomaly that the County Manager is referring to is that the way the first pay date actually for the month of April fell, that payroll ended up getting loaded into the financial system earlier than it was supposed to have been

loaded. And so March actually reflects three payrolls rather than the two that it should for this year. So that's the one thing that we wanted to point out on this slide. So April will look a little lower than perhaps it looked in previous years."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What happened?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "A miscommunication is the cleanest answer, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What does that mean? What does that mean?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It means that the individual who communicated from Finance to IT to -- when to load the payroll file, did not make it clear enough in their communication that they needed to hold the load until the first of April, and then we could post it. And it got loaded on March 31st, and we had to process it in -- in the month of March to include it. So it's a communication issue."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I won't ask my follow-up question, then."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, anything else? Thank you. Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Mr. Chairman, I was just going to add to the last agenda item and the overall financials. As you know, we are not -- we have not taken an extraordinary actions in terms of cost reductions or constraints. I have reached out to the CEO -- or the COO at DeKalb, had a discussion with him back and forth. They are taking, you know, some basic steps. They're a little bit more dependent on grants than us. Our thought right now, absent different direction from the Board, is move toward a midyear review and closer to June than August, when we sometimes have done this, and give us the best perspective on emerging expenses from the consent decree, as well as perhaps from these federal government grants, and then seek your direction then. But right now, it's business as usual."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything, Commissioners?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, continue."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Oh, I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. The last part of the operational report is just the -- the monthly update on any emergency purchase orders and contracts signed by the County Manager that are under the \$100,000 threshold. There were two or three items that were included. I'm not sure if the Board has any questions on those."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The most significant of which was medical grade cleaning at the jail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, Mr. Chair. The only comment I have is I'd like to see us following the steps of Harvard University, and find a way to win without the federal government and its \$92 million, and not let them dictate to us what we do. Take steps to cut our arts and all this other stuff y'all are falling in line with."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Anything else?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That's it, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page, 8, **25-0300**, Finance, presentation, review and approval of the April 16th, 2025, Budget Soundings and Resolution."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Document that's before you today includes a couple of updates to the annual hardware and software maintenance list. There were a couple of items that were inadvertently left off of the list during the budget development process. Those are being added for the Board's approval today. And then the second item that's included in the soundings document is the movement of resources to complete the Accountability Court consolidation that was reviewed with the Board at the last Board meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any questions or comments or a motion to approve? Motion to adopt by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0301**, Information Technology request approval or a recommended proposal in a total amount not to exceed \$1,606,890.48 to provide countywide audiovisual systems, equipment, support and services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Ivory, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I do -- and I don't know if this is related to this, but audiovisual needs, I know the South Fulton Annex, the -- I guess the cable is out in the TV that's up in there. And I don't know if that would be part of this contract or not for audiovisual services. But if we can have, maybe Joe, if you could have somebody check on."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, sir, we'll do."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, DIRECTOR, IT: "And Commissioner Arrington, there is a project on here for the South Fulton Annex for an AV refresh as well. But we'll address the immediate needs."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays. On page 9 --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I was a, yea on that. Did you record that, Madam Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes, ma'am. Seven --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now, where -- what happened to Commissioner Abdur-Rahman's picture here?"

CLERK GRIER: "That's unanimous with --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, what's the answer to my --"

CLERK GRIER: "I'm not sure, Mr. Chairman. That's it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "There she is. Thank you. All right."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, **25-0302**, Registration Elections, request approval of the lowest responsible bidder in an amount not to exceed \$251,440 to provide ballot printing services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, ma'am. Ms. Williams."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Yes. I was asked to reply about that public comment regarding this item. So we do have chronic public commenters, and usually they are off base. But this is the one time we actually agree with them regarding this agenda item. And by no means, this is -- is this an insult to Fort Orange Press. They have done an outstanding job of our absentee by mail. But for this particular agenda item, if you all would agree to change it, to change it to the other bidder, that is a local bidder, experienced bidder that has done this work before. And the reason we're saying that is because if there's emergencies, they are local, and we can -- they can assist us, then somebody out of state."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, wait a minute. Now, just a minute, just a minute, just a minute. We just can't, not arbitrarily. But Ms. Strong-Whitaker."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Good afternoon, Felicia Strong-Whitaker, Chief Purchasing Agent. Yes. We did put this solicitation out. We received five proposals on this solicitation. This is a low bid. The requirements that were put out did not require you to be a local firm. Fort Orange Press, we asked several questions of all of the bidders: Do you have experience printing ballots for Georgia? How many years' experience printing ballots for Georgia elections? They had this each year. Fort Orange Press currently is providing it for Gwinnett County, Cobb County, and others. I understand the department's desire for them to be local based on that. But our specifications and the solicitation that was advertised did not require a local office. And so therefore, based on that, we -- it is -- has to be awarded to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And if we were to -- if we were not to follow the recommendation, we'd have to explain why on the public record; is that correct?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "At the next meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "At the next meeting. Commissioner Thorne, followed by Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. Is it -- is it time sensitive? Can it wait until the next meeting? Or can we put this on hold? Or what are your thoughts?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "We could possibly wait to the next meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We can possibly? We can?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "I'm trying to think. We could -- where, we're in April? Yes, we can wait until the next meeting, yes."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I make a motion that we hold it for the next meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And then why would be holding it? I'm just curious. What are we holding it for?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "To look at the ramifications of using an out-of-state, New York printer. I know in the past, we used Arizona. They couldn't get us stuff within short time frame, short crunches. The local printer, Tattnell, can, like, literally, drive a truck up here and get it to us quickly. I don't know what the expenses are of mailing versus delivery and all of that. But I'd feel more comfortable if our Elections Department was working with who they were comfortable working with."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It's going to be a slippery slope here."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "And Ms. Whitaker -- the local language in the bid. If we have to work with Orange Press, we will. But I was just asked to make a comment about the public comment. But if legally, if you all want to work with the local bidder, we can do that and make sure we check all -- we have all checks and balances."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "And good afternoon. I'm going to make sure understand the lower parent bidder does -- would have the right to protest that decision as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I understand that there was not a requirement for to be -- have a local office. But was there any consideration given or, I mean, seem like, you know, having -- requiring a local office is one thing, but giving someone extra points or extra consideration for having a local office is something separate, right?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "This was a bid, Commissioner. It was not a request for a proposal. It was a bid. And as you know, in the state of Georgia, a bid is based on the lowest responsive and responsible bidder based on the solicitation document that was advertised to them all."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So I would need to see the solicitation document."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Sure."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What -- was postage included as part of the solicitation?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "I'll have to go back and look at their bid. They all bid on the -- all lines, as required by the bid and it's requested by the department."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: Okay. So we don't know if postage was included or not?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "I'll look back and see if postage was included on the line item. Give me one second, and I'll look at that and let you know. The bid tab in the document, when it prints out on here is too tiny to see."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No problem. My eyes don't work like the used to either. Were you expecting to have to pay postage on top of this, or were you expecting postage to be included in this? Or is this just for the actual balance and postage is separate? What was your understanding?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "This is for the actual ballots, is my understanding."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So it would not have included postage based on your understanding?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Not that -- it's my understanding, it would not include postage."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And do you have an idea of what the amount of postage would be for \$251,000 worth of ballots?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "I do not. I'm sorry, I do not have that off the top of my head."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: You know, we can always reject all bids and rebid. But there may be a timing problem with that, I mean to put to, you know, to --"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "There was -- I'm sorry. There was a lump sum for delivery of ballots. There was not specifically an item for postage. But there is a line item for delivery of ballots, and the quantity was four. So that was included in the overall price."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, I'm sorry. Delivery of ballots?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Delivery of ballots."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Ballots?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Ballots."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So the bidder would be responsible for delivering the ballots to us as a part of this --"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Yes, and that, that cost was calculated in the overall cost."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, can you hear me?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, Chairman. Can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, ma'am, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. While I do not want to disparage this vendor, I imagine they do quite a bit of work. I understand that they do work in Gwinnett County and other counties. I think it is our best interest, if it is all possible to use a local bidder for this based on its rare times that we are in unison with what Election does in with reference to this particular process. I think this is a first. I appreciate it. I appreciate Commissioner Thorne as well as the public stating, because I did receive calls about this as well. I want to be crystal clear to not disparage that vendor, but I also want to say we have an obligation to the citizens here in Fulton County to make sure that we do what is in the best interest of the county. And so if it is not an issue, and the County Attorney can -- can actually chime in on this, if she would like. If we're able to either rebid it or we're able to find a way to make sure the language that needs to be in there is legal and not discriminatory, I think it's in the best interest in this particular case that we use someone local."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Is it your preference that we go ahead and hold this and use a local printer?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Yes, and again, Orange Press has done an outstanding --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "But it's not that simple --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. But -- and then do you -- I'm sorry. And then do you believe that there will be some irreparable harm to the relationship with Fort Orange if this happens?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "I don't believe so. They've done an outstanding job. They still do our absentee by mail. But they just don't do the local printing when we have to have it for Election Day locations, but they've done outstanding job with the absentee by mail, and we'll continue to work with them in that regard."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Commissioner."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I guess I need to know -- so I heard someone say something about the June elections. Are these ballots for an election in June?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Yes. But the June elections is quite - is going to be low voter turnout. We still do need the 10 percent printed because it's required is for SB202. But it is for June, if that -- to answer your question."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Because the agenda item says for the election cycles. So that leads me --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Right. I'm sorry."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- to believe there's more than --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "So yes, that would be for all of 2025."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Option to renew."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So then I guess my next question is, so if there's an election in June, and I guess this is really more a question for Ms. Strong-Whitaker, is there enough time to rebid between now and June?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "There is enough time to rebid. There is enough time to rebid it, and we did offer that as an option, an option initially, if they wanted to re-solicit it. So there is enough time to rebid. But to get it back to the Board, it will have to be expedited to get it back before June. That is going to be a tough one for us to get back before, because there's only two meetings in May."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So let me ask you a question again, because seem like you got to the answer at the end after you answered it at the beginning. Is there enough time to get this done and to coordinate with Elections before the June election?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "There's enough time for us to get it bided out, and get back in to -- to get the bids back in. To get it to the Board, it would have to be in -- it will have to be expedited and coordinated with the department to get it on the agenda, yes. So we can work to get it back on for the May, the second meeting in May if it at all -- that would be the one that I would say we could get it on."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So, but in order to accomplish that, if you hold this today, then the clock doesn't start until after we've taken some action. So the -- I would recommend that we reject all bids today and direct you to rebid. That's the cleanest way, although it has to be done quickly."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Correct."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You withdrawing your motion. Is there a motion to reject all -- Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What was the amount of the -- of the other bid?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "The other --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Or the other bids?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "The other bids were -- sorry. Ford Orange was the lowest bidder at 251,440. Tattnell was the second. I'm sorry, second low bidder at 260,460. The third low bidder was Runbeck Elections at 263,680. And the fourth bidder was Printelect \$455,080."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll entertain a motion to reject all bids."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman to reject all bids, seconded by Commissioner Ivory. Commissioner Arrington, you want to be heard? All right. Let's vote, please."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open to reject."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. And Madam Strong-Whitaker."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Yes, Commissioner."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Instructions down, okay, thank you."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0303**, Real Estate and Asset Management request approval of the lowest responsible bidders in the total amount not to exceed \$300,000 to provide standby on-site door repair maintenance services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a motion? Motion to adopt by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Just point of order, real quick, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Did we -- there was an election item, since we have Ms. Williams still here, there was another election items that was on the Consent Agenda. Was it pulled, or did that get addressed?"

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Thorne wanted us to add that for the June, July elections?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Correct. So we amended it, but --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Is that -- but is it to be heard, or is -- did it to get addressed in terms of --"

CLERK GRIER: Commissioner, did you want --

COMMISSIONER THORNE: I just --

CHAIRMAN PITTS: It was a -- you made -- you made a administrative -- actually suggested an administrative exchange, which was accepted, it was approved as a part of the Consent Agenda."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So it's addressed?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The item is addressed?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "But it's -- if it wasn't addressed --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "But she sent me an email after that, after we had made that motion. And there seems to be, some things are temporary and some things are permanent. So -- but we had already approved it at that point. So my thought was, we'll probably have to come back and do the permanent ones that weren't temporary."

NADINE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR, ELECTIONS: "Yes. So for clarity, though, what we put before the Board is precinct boundary changes. Those are permanent changes. Any location changes which was put before our Board, and some of those are temporary. But what we put in front of this Board was permanent changes to boundary lines."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So there's just some --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So we have another item --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- the resolution --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- coming back before us or, no? Okay. I was just -- my main question was, did it get pulled off the Consent Agenda, and we were about to hear it again. Let's address it while you were here, that's -- that was really my question, so --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- I guess, it's already been addressed."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. Under Arts and Libraries, **25-0304**, Arts and Culture request approval of a contract between Fulton County and the Chattahoochee Nature Center and a total amount of \$200,000, reoccurring for environmental education programming."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have a motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Ivory. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0305**, Request approval of a contract between Fulton County and Bear Creek Nature Center in a total amount of \$200,000, reoccurring for environmental education programming."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Ivory. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0306**, Request approval of a contract with Hammonds House in the total amount of \$200,000, reoccurring for environmental education programming."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0307**, Request approval of a contract between Fulton County and the Arts Center in the amount of \$200,000 for the operation and management of the current Arts and Culture programs."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to adopt by Commissioner Ivory, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 10, **25-0308**, Request approval of a contract between Fulton County and the National Black Arts Festival in an amount of \$200,000 to provide X -- provide expanded operational resources as well as educational and arts-related services."

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

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "So I would like to just make the other Commissioners aware that there have been some significant change -- well, you know, structural changes inside of the National Black Arts Festival, in that Stephanie Young, the Executive Director, will be leaving after many years of working in NBAF as well as the Program Director, Oronike Odeleye. There was an article in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution that was not very favorable to the National Black Arts Festival. And this is one of my favorite organizations, and having sat on their Advisory Board previously in my career as a media personality and as an attorney, and I would like to hold this item in order to have the National Black Arts Festival come and present to us and let us know about what the future of the National Black Arts Festival is going to be in terms of both their leadership and their board, so that we can dispel any sort of myths that happened in that AJC article, which I have not yet been able to speak to any of the -- there was a meeting on my calendar with Stephanie Young to talk about this very subject, and then she had to, unfortunately, reschedule. And I had hoped to have this conversation prior to when this would come up, but it did not happen. So I also did have a chance to speak with David Manuel about this. He is also aware of the shifts that are happening, and said he that thought that the present -- he's here, actually, and also thought that the opportunity to speak with them and have some time with them and have them present to us what the future is moving forward. This is an organization I love, is a legacy organization for us. I just want to make sure that we are supporting the original mission for which we began this organization, and that we feel confident moving forward. So I'm going to introduce a motion to hold this item, have them come present, and then we can move forward from there."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to adopt. You have a substitute motion by Commissioner Ivory, is there a second? All right, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. All right, discussion on the motion to hold. Ms. Barrett, you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Is this time sensitive?"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "No."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, all righty."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Ms. Barrett, Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Can -- I have -- is it time sensitive? I mean --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "No, it can -- well, where's David?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, yeah, David, can you speak --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "I believe that we can have them come --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manuel, they're calling you. It's not a social club. Thank you."

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS & CULTURE: "It's not time sensitive. So it can be moved to the next agenda, which will give me time to meet with them and let them know they will be giving a presentation."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion on the floor is to hold. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "While you're here, Mr. Manuel, do you have any information on where they are, you know, what they're doing in terms of the next leadership and board members and that type of thing, the questions Commissioner Ivory was asking?"

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS & CULTURE: "To my understanding, the current Director, her last day is April 30th, Stephanie Owens. And to my understanding, they have identified a new Director that I think they will be announcing at their April 30th event."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Oh, great, okay. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm not going to be able to support holding this. We already didn't approve an additional \$1.8 million in arts funding. Now, we want to approve 200 for the Chattahoochee Nature Center, 200 for Bear Creek Nature Center, 200 for the Art Center in Sandy Springs, and we won't to hold up the National Black Arts Festival's \$200,000? I will not be a part of that, absolutely not. No way in the world that I will be a part of that. I don't know what's going on with any of those other organizations, or what transition they've had, or what Executive Director they have. But my commitment and my vote from Fulton County is not based upon the individuals that are in place at those institutions. My support is based on the institutions itself. The Chattahoochee Nature Center, I don't know who their Executive Director is, nor their board members, or when there was a change. Bear Creek, I don't know who their Executive Director is, nor their board members, nor when or if there was a change

there. The Art Center, I don't know if their Executive Director -- who their Executive Director is, nor their board members. I don't care about that. I care about supporting these institutions. These are our forward -- the Hammonds House, right? We're -- I'm not holding up anymore arts funding. I'm not voting to hold up anymore arts funding in Fulton County, especially not what's going on in this country. We should be setting the example and leading the way. We should not be falling in line with the national politics and cutting money and doing it only for the National Black Arts Festival. I will not be a part of that, not today, not tomorrow, not ever."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you, thank you so much for that. That is inaccurate, completely. I am not holding anything up for any political reasons. And I do take my time to actually figure out who's running the organizations that we fund. While I think it's hugely important as a Commissioner to know who the Executive Director is of an organization, who is running the organization on a regular basis. And that is why I did go to -- was invited by Hammonds House, which happens to be in my district, which is another arts organization that I love, and spend time there, understanding and learning and speaking to both the board members as well as the Executive Directors. Because I actually think it is important as a Commissioner to know who's running the organizations that we fund. And so I did take the time to do that. Unfortunately, I would not be asking for a hold if I hadn't been able to take the time to talk with Stephanie, and I want to say that I mispronounced her name in the beginning and said Stephanie Young, it's Stephanie Owens. But she canceled that meeting. So this is not at all what is being framed as an attack on NBAF. I love NBAF. I intend to give a positive vote on giving them their money as we have always done as a legacy organization. But I would like to first understand the information, as it is my duty as an elected official to understand fully who the people are that we have given these funds to. And so I look forward to meeting with them, learning about what they are moving forward with coming April -- you said her last day is April 30th? So May 1st, we'll have some new folks in, running the organization. I'm excited to hear about who those folks will be and what the vision is of the Board Chair and the new Executive Director. And so I'm simply asking for them to come, share that with everybody, so that we can feel so confident in that. Because again, it is our -- our -- it is our duty when our constituents elect us to make sure that we are researching properly and understanding who is running our organizations. And these legacy organizations that we give the money to, all five of them that we mentioned here, if there was an article that came out publicly in any newspaper or magazine or periodical saying that they were having concerns, I would want to ask about each and every single one of them, as it would be our duty to do that. So I'm going to be always very thorough, and I'm going to make sure that I do the work that I'm supposed to do. So thank you for coming and explaining that to us about the change."

DAVID MANUEL, DIRECTOR, ARTS & CULTURE: "You're welcome."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion on the floor is to hold. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "You addressed that very well, Commissioner Ivory. I do respect your opinions, being a former board member. This is not time sensitive. We are not voting down the \$200,000 right now. There was an article. It is our duty to look into that, and dispel if anything in that article was incorrect, so that we can confidently say to our taxpayers, we spent your money well. We believe in this organization. So I fully respect holding this, I fully respect your opinion. And no, we are not, not going to give them the \$200,000. We just need some clarification and a little bit more time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Just for clarity sake, the article that came out was several months ago. So I mean, my sense is that we had the time. If there was interest in finding it out, there was two months to find it out. I have full faith and confidence that NBAF is a great organization and will continue to be so. And while I respect certainly, your interest and desire to learn more about their future and what they're proposing, I don't particularly see a need to hold up our funding for that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to hold. Let's vote."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Chairman, I'm in the queue to speak."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I won't belabor the point. But the point I will make is, I ask as well as other Commissioners if this was time sensitive. I am a big supporter of the National Black Arts Festival, have been for years. However, I don't think asking for those that are in leadership or soon to be in leadership, is not appropriate. I think you can ask for accountability. I'm a big fan of Stephanie. I don't -- I'm not sure what happened, or if anything happened. She's been there, maybe she moved on to greener pastures. I don't know. I did not even know that there was a change in leadership. And I believe, as the Commissioner of District 6, I have a right to ask these questions and receive an answer before I vote on something that, by the way, I do intend on voting positively. But these are questions that need to be answered. In life, there is change. In organizations, especially with leadership, there are changes. They don't necessarily mean there are bad, good or indifferent. But we have a right to question what happened, and more importantly, to know who the new leadership is. And I think it would be a disservice to the taxpaying citizens of Fulton County, to feel like we can't do that because it's going to be conceived as short treatment, different treatment, as opposed to other organizations. I think that is ludicrous to put that out there. So yes, I will support holding this today. Hopefully by the next meeting, the individuals that we are asking as a Body to reach out to all of us, whether we need them to meet with us or not, to answer the questions that are put forth, and then we can move on. It's not time sensitive. There are questions that need to be answered. And we have two weeks to the next meeting. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Let's vote on the motion to -- strike that -- to hold."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "The motion to hold passes; five yeas, two nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Health and Human Services, **25-0309**, Public Works request approval to extend an existing contract for Pine Valley Phase 2 Interceptor Sewer Replacement."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please vote. Strike, no that was a previous one."

CLERK GRIER: "We're on 309. Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "0309, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. It should be on your screen."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: ""All right. Is there a motion? Motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Ivory. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0310**, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities request approval to amend an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$433,928 to provide School-Based Mental Health Services to 28 Fulton County Schools."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Infrastructure and Economic Development, **25-0311**, Public Works request approval of a Non-Federal Reimbursable Agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration and Fulton County to allow the FAA to conduct a siting study and design review in the amount of \$87,181.92."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, second -- Vice Chair Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Justice and Safety, **25-0312**, Sheriff request approval of the 2025 Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification with the U.S. Department of Justice for the Fulton County Sheriff's Office."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. It's almost 1:00 o'clock. I'll entertain a motion to recess for lunch, followed by Executive Session. We may consider issues of real estate, litigation and personnel. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

Recessed for Executive Session at 12:54 p.m.

Resumed Regular Session at 2:47 p.m.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We'll resume the regular order of business. Madam County Attorney. Madam County Attorney, items from Executive Session."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Is there a motion to approve the requests for representation in items 1, 2, and 5 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I have a motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 11, Commissioners' Action Items, **25-0216**, Request approval of a resolution consenting to and ratifying the use of existing Fulton County Ad Valorem Property Tax Increment for three projects located in West Side TAD Allocation District 1."

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Colleagues, this is the same item we've had, this will be the third meeting, now. It was held twice. And you know, I won't reiterate too much about it, because I think we all know what this is about. But I do want to say that, you know, affordable housing right now is a crisis across the country, and in particular in the Metro Atlanta area, average monthly rents are up 41 percent from 2019 to 2023. Medium home sale prices are up 58 percent from 2018 to 2023, this is in the Metro Atlanta area. Atlanta, the metro area lost more than 230,000 low to moderately priced housing units between 2018 and 2023. So it's a real, real, serious issue in our metro area, which includes our county. And the three projects that this resolution is asking for our approval on, and again, it's really just to ratify the use of the existing Fulton County increment that's sitting in the West Side TAD currently. All three of these projects bring affordable housing to some areas that desperately need

that and also need the -- the upgrades and the changes that will be happening to these buildings and homes as a part of this. So one of the buildings is right here in downtown, in District 4. It's the building that we heard about in public comment this morning, right at 143 Alabama. It's an incredible project. That building has been vacant for quite a long time, I believe at least over a decade, maybe two. And this will be a significant improvement. This is Phase 1 of that project. I believe it has 46 affordable housing units in it, and it will be cleaned up and looking wonderful in time for World Cup. If we do not approve this, that project will not go forward. And that's true for these smaller projects as well. The other two projects are in District 6. One is a really interesting opportunity for people to build generational wealth through being able to purchase affordable homes. And the other, of course, is that fourplex that we've talked about several times that we'll be turning into a five plex and made affordable by the owner on the building, who will continue to live there. So I do want to say I appreciate that people needed to hold this item for -- to get their questions answered. And Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with Invest Atlanta and get that information. And I, you know, I'm sure that, you know, you're as excited as I am about some of the opportunities that this will bring to your district. And certainly, I appreciate anybody's request to hold to get more information. But we are, at this point, holding these projects up from moving forward. And if we are not able to pass these at this point, these projects will be held up even longer, or not go forward at all. And just also, so everybody knows, the folks from Invest Atlanta are here to answer any questions. So, you know, I think these are great projects. I think that -- I want to be very clear that that's all that's in this resolution, it's just about these three projects within the commitment we already have to be members of this TAD. So I welcome everybody's discussion, and I ask for your favorable vote."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. You know, I think the -- as we look at this, one of the things I think we need to do is really reflect and look at sort of like the history of this particular TAD and sort of TADs in general, and then note why certain provisions were put in place at different points in time, and then how things have sort of changed with -- with us as an organization over those long periods of time. So, you know, I did have a chance to review, folks at Invest Atlanta reached out to me, and they got the information that I had requested. So I appreciate that. And I think some of the information is -- was good to review. And I think, you know, trying to frame this as a decision that's around, oh, you're either for affordable housing or not affordable housing is probably the wrong lens to look through, because there are multiple multitudes of needs that we have as an organization that are placed upon us, that are crises that we're not able to fund and we're not able to respond to. And our principal responsibility is to be a fiduciary of Fulton County taxpayer funds. This particular TAD is over 30, 30, years old. It was set up in 1998, originally as the Techwood Park Urban Redevelopment Area. And I'm reading straight from the 2020 -- 6/30/2024 financials of the Westside TAD. It was set up in 1998, some parcels were added in -- or 1992, some parcels were added in 1998, you know, making this thing a little bit 30 -- over 32 years old. So TADs are generally meant to end after 30 years. We're 32-plus years into this. You know, in

terms of being a partner in this, Fulton County has been a partner in this. We have, based upon information that was provided to us from January to January 14 from Invest Atlanta, the proportional dollars that we had contributed pre any form of pilot payments only just going to APS was around 23 percent, city of Atlanta 24 percent, and APS 53 percent. There's a pilot payment that went back to APS of 7 million according to the data they provided to us, which changed those percentages to 29.31 and 39.6. So what I just say with that is, over the course of time and depending upon what our tax rate was and the city of Atlanta's tax rate was, we basically been contributing pretty much the same amount as the city of Atlanta, you know, you know, over -- over this lengthy period of time, maybe more, maybe slightly less. But probably if you average it out, it's pretty close to the same. And over that period of time, a significant amount of dollars have gone into this TAD. If I read the -- if I read the 2024 financials correctly, over \$424 million of taxpayer money has gone into the TAD. And based upon a 2022 presentation that was provided to us by Invest Atlanta, the compound -- compounding, you know these -- the purpose of these is to grow the tax base, and then you -- so you need to set back after 30 years and look at this and say, hey, has this been successful? Has it achieved its means? Compound annual growth rate over that period of time is 8 percent. At that point in time in 2022, in the tax -- the tax increment that was provided to us at that point in time was 25.8 million. And then 2024 financials show that the tax increment is 34.1 million. That's a 32 percent increase over that period -- or a 34 percent increase from 2022. So you've had significant growth in the tax digest of this particular TAD. Financial health of the TAD, you look at that. The 2024 financials, and I shared this with our CFO, so she could check me in terms of, you know, some of the stuff here. And I may ask her to just, you know, check me on it, make sure I don't anything wrong. But the cash-in-cash equivalents in 2024 with this was about 82.6 million. Restricted cash investments of 18.78 million, meaning you got roughly 101, \$102 million in cash at that point in time, sitting on the TAD's balance sheet, struck up against about \$62 million worth of debt, debt obligations. So just under 40 million or so of excess cash. Is that a fair reading of that, Madam CFO?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So not to say we're doing this today, and we aren't, but if the TAD would you know, if the TAD were to shut down today, and you pay off all the obligations that excess cash, if it was distributed, even if our portion was that, a conservative would probably be 23 percent, that's \$9.1 million, plus, you know, we have this roughly seven-point plus million dollar increment for a year going in. Look, I mean, I'm not going to get into the ins and outs of these particular projects. But the reality of it is also our financial position has changed over this particular period of time. And when we entered into these TADs, sort of the makeup of how we were receiving dollars and so forth was generally kind of equal with the city of Atlanta as well. In 2005, the sales tax, the amount of dollars we were receiving from local option sales tax in Fulton County was about \$73 million. The amount that APS bit of -- that city of Atlanta was receiving, \$79.7 million, for a difference of \$7.2 million. Well, 2024, those numbers are drastically different according to Atlanta's 2024 budget information, their loss proceeds were \$137

million. Ours, 2024, check me on this, Hakeem and Madam CFO, were \$22.1 million; does that sound about right?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Yes. Commissioner, yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. A difference of \$115 million. We've gone through, and we've had certainly lengthy discussions relative to the budgetary requests that we receive as a Board. Some of these are short term in nature, some of these are long term in nature that are here before us. There are things that we have aspirations to do. Just this past week, we celebrated the opening of a standalone emergency room in Union City, with a desire for that to be a future site for a hospital in South Fulton. We've talked about, we have plans underway in one part of the county, and future plans that we are planning to pursue in another part of the county to expand Senior Services, Developmental Disability Services. We have increasing needs related to senior transportation. We had to -- we had to make the hard decision to reduce certain levels of arts funding. And we've got, you know, a host of requests that come to us from our judicial partners that we have not been able to respond to. And we've got significant funding needs at just sort of a basic level. And from a -- from a practicality, from a funding standpoint, we have generally two sources of money. It's property taxes and sales taxes. The sales tax growth is fixed for the -- for the next, you know, seven, eight years. It's not going to grow substantively. And we all know, and the existing environment that we're in that, you know, based upon what the combined taxes that people pay for school taxes, city taxes, and Fulton County government taxes, there's no desire for increased property taxes. I mean, we just sat through a legislative session where both school boards passed, you know, new exemptions to be voted on by the voters, which, rest assured that we passed both in Atlanta as well as outside of Atlanta. And we had the legislature, pass, you know, tax relief for you know, funds coming out of their surplus and a reduction in the state income tax. So we know from our constituents as a whole, that there's not a high degree of appetite for, you know, an increase in the property tax rate. Our position has changed in terms of the level of funds that we have come in. They're drastically different than our other partners in the TAD at this point in time. And when this provision was passed, you know, it said, hey, you know, after, for events after 2018, you know, we've got -- we've got the obligation to decide whether or not we want to commit our increment to other projects. And I just can't look at where we are right now as an organization, and say we should continue to commit any more of our increment for additional projects in this particular TAD. We've been a great partner, there's been significant growth within this thing. And I think it's met its intended purpose, in terms of what we intended to do. And struck up against all of that and against our needs, you know, whether or not these funds could be available to us near term or future term sort of doesn't matter, because their needs are both near term and longer term. And I think we need to preserve our increment, you know, for such needs. And so with that, I'm not going to be able to support approval of moving these projects forward. I do think that the other -- that there is excess cash in here. It may not be done before, but I think that there are plenty of opportunities for this project to move forward, you know, with some creativity from those of the partners to commit some of their access increment to see them through."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Vice Chair Ellis, thank you. I would just like ask our Madam CFO first, are those numbers accurate that Vice Chair Ellis spoke of in terms of our increments and the -- I believe that I heard Hakeem say that they were. I just wanted to confirm that with you."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "He asked me about their -- the debt, the assets and the debt information. I did not write all the increment numbers down, but when he and I went through this, I think we were on the same page on the increments as well, as far as what our portion was that was going into the Westside TAD on a -- on a regular basis. And then I concur with the sales tax figure as well."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. Then I just want to thank Vice Chair Ellis for that thorough examination of those numbers and that presentation giving me the history of some of your thoughts on the Westside TAD, and I thank you for doing that. I wanted to see if the Invest Atlanta folks could come forward. And I wanted to ask our County Attorney when we talk about those, when Vice Chair Ellis mentioned those excess funds that were in that have not been allocated in the Westside TAD, is there -- and he also mentioned that it might not have been done before. But is it legal, or is it allowable for excess funds of our increments to be used if -- so, I mean -- can Invest Atlanta -- let me rephrase that. Can Invest Atlanta use excess funds in that TAD that, you know, obviously come from ours and everybody else's increments to subsidize if we did not vote for -- this forward. So our portion of the 25 percent on these particular projects, could money from that excess cash be used to fund it?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So as I understand your question, I think what you're essentially asking is, if this Board does not approve Fulton County's increments being utilized in the proposed manner for these particular projects, does that preclude Invest Atlanta from going forward if there are other funds available in the TAD."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "That's right. Thank you."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We have found nothing in our research to prohibit them from being able to utilize other existing funds in the TAD should you deny use of our increment in these projects? That doesn't mean that there's not something out there that they may be more familiar with. But in our initial research, in preparation for this meeting, we have been unable to find any authority that would prohibit them from being able to utilize those other existing funds."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So I'll just turn to Invest Atlanta and ask about that excess cash and that excess unallocated Westside TAD money that's somewhere in the range of 40 million to 45 million, if that cannot be then allocated towards, you know, sort of that other 25 percent if it was not there?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Thank you. Dr. Eloisa Klementich, President/CEO of Invest Atlanta. I will have to have our lawyer, I think, speak with you, if that's okay. My understanding is the way we're reading the documents is that this does require Fulton County to approve the projects before we move forward. But I want to ensure that there is an alignment between legal, great legal minds to ensure that we're following what the documents say. But that's the way my understanding is that how we're reading the documents."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: (Of-mic remarks.)

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "That is my understanding that we could not move forward with the projects, based on my understanding and my conversations with our legal attorney, that we cannot move forward without your approval on the projects."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So I think on -- we are in agreement, but disagreement --"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Okay."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- in that, I agree that Fulton County's current increment cannot be used on these three projects unless you pass a resolution to allow that. But I believe that Commissioner Ivory's question was, can existing increments that predate and have accumulated in the TAD be utilized instead of Fulton County's current increment."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I'm going to look to my CFO, because it's my understanding that when the money comes in, it comes in in one pot. I'm not sure we've divided at what date we got the amount of money, sort of like a bank account in a family, when husband's and wife salary go into one. You know, we don't break off what portion was there. If they did extra hours, it's just how much is in the fund. But I'm going to look to my CFO to see if I'm right."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Yeah. And I -- and I'll clarify that I think the question is, you know, if there's a husband and a wife and a child that were a grown adult that contribute to a fund, you know how much the husband gave, you know how much the wife gave, and how much the child gave. If you take out the child's increment, can then the wife put in for what was taken out for the child? It's -- it's not a hard --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Excuse me, sir. Just one moment. We raised a relevant question here. And this is a legal question, and not a CFO question, correct? Now, where is your -- who's your legal counsel?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "That'd be Rosalind Rubens Newell."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Know her well. So she hadn't opined on this?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Yes. It's my understanding that we have --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, I'm not interested in understanding. Has she given you a definitive answer on this question? Because this is really relevant."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I agree, but I'm telling you from my understanding, what she said to me is that we cannot move forward without Fulton County's --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, that's not -- that's not debate -- that's not what's being debated here. That's not the question. The question is, is excess."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "So I think there's two questions, Madam, CFO -- CEO. I think there's two questions. One legal question could be, could you move forward with Fulton County's vote on the project, even if Fulton County said no to their increment? Like, we don't hold up the whole project, right? So that's a legal question, of with -- without Fulton County's vote, does the whole project get held up? Meaning as to city of Atlanta and APS's is increment as well, right? That's one legal question."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Second legal question, what I'm asking, which is, what can the excess cash be used for?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: Let me get Nino to talk about excess. I don't -- I'm not -- go ahead."

NINO CHIAPPETTA, CFO, INVEST ATL: "So for the question at hand, so for the excess cash, there are -- so right now, there's 41 million uncommitted cash. We have a pipeline of, like, 44 million of projects in the Westside TAD. And I think, you know, we're definitely sensitive to Fulton County's needs. We appreciate Fulton County. And I think this might be a broader conversation that Fulton County might want to have with the administration about if Fulton County has certain needs, perhaps, you know, they can have that discussion about how some of those funds can be reallocated, but --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So what do you -- what do you mean by to have with the -- what does that mean?"

NINO CHIAPPETTA, CFO, INVEST ATL: "I'm sorry?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You said a broader conversation that we should have with the administration. What does that mean?"

NINO CHIAPPETTA, CFO, INVEST ATL: "So Fulton County could have a broader conversation with the administration about TADs --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What administration? What are you talking about?"

NINO CHIAPPETTA, CFO, INVEST ATL: "The city of Atlanta administration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's not you guys?"

NINO CHIAPPETTA, CFO, INVEST ATL: "We're Invest Atlanta. So we're the redevelopment agent for the city of Atlanta. But then there's the administration, you know, the administration that can have a broader conversation about Fulton County needs, city of Atlanta needs, APS needs, and how to address those needs. We're not just focusing on one TAD and saying, hey, let's, you know, let's -- let's take the funds from this TAD. Let's look at all the TADs and all the open projects, and you know, for affordable housing and things of that nature, things that are important to everybody, and where can we, you know, do some reallocation."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Yeah, respectfully, sir. I do agree that there has to be a boarder conversation. But what's before us right now is the Westside TAD --"

NINO CHIAPPETTA, CFO, INVEST ATL: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "-- and these particular projects. And let me say this, I understand that these projects and the money for these projects has already been allocated, right? So we're having sort of two conversations, right? We have an immediate pressing need right now for these projects. And one of these projects is in my district. I understand how important it is, right? We are preparing for a huge event in our city. And this is an eyesore, this is something we need to take care of that has been a problem for a long time, okay. So, but also it is my duty to think about the larger issue. And we do have a very big larger issue, which I think was expressed very eloquently by our Vice Chair. And it has to do with the way we're approaching all of these TADs, and particularly a TAD that has performed very well, has been in existence for more than 30 years, and how we continue to move forward with it. So respectfully, we do need to have a larger conversation. We will have that larger conversation, but that larger conversation affects right now what we're talking about, because we have a crisis. So while we want to be thoughtful of the overlap of the constituents, because we serve the same constituents. So affordable housing is as much of a crisis to them as, say, our crisis when they find themselves in our jail. So -- or when they think about their taxes going up. So we are all dealing, respectfully, with crises. So it's not necessarily just our job to go to the administration and talk to them. We need to be talking to each other in partnership about furthering these crises that all of us find ourselves in, because it's serving the same residents who, by the way, are paying for it, right? So I don't mind addressing this particular issue with the Westside TAD, because it's already been allocated. This is in my district. It has a larger purpose for something that is coming to our entire city, county. Fulton County is going to play a role in World Cup. We matter for downtown, right? We matter for what's going to happen. And so we are very concerned about making sure that the presentation is right. Because if you live in Atlanta, you live in Fulton, by the way. So that is something that we need to be talking

and having a lot of conversation about. But the larger issue is something that we're all responsible for talking about, and it's in our lap right now and has been in a federal way. So that's what we're focusing on trying to figure out. So I do thank you for talking about that, but we do have two legal issues that can be discussed in the global sense of it, and we can deal with this one issue, but both of those things have to be looked at at the same time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, let me -- Commissioner Arrington, followed by Vice Chair Ellis. And I want to get back to this legal question."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman is waiting in the queue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So thank you, Mr. Chair --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. I'm sorry, Barrett was --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No problem."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'll be brief. A couple things. First of all, I -- I've said -- I've spoken to many of you about this leading up to this meeting. And I'm perfectly including the team at Invest Atlanta. And I -- I'm perfectly willing to have a broader conversation, certainly about our participation in the TADs writ large, all of them over the long term. And just as our partners at APS have asked for pilot payments and certain renegotiations, we certainly can renegotiate -- renegotiate and get pilot payments back, or choose to come up with some other plan. And I think that's all a worthwhile conversation, and you know, should happen. But this is about these three projects that have been in the works for quite some time. And I think Invest Atlanta is expressing, through their attorney and through Dr. Klementich that these projects will not go forward if we do not approve them. And I want to just be clear that while I understand we have lots of needs in this county, we -- we don't choose to stop doing senior services because we have issues with the jail, right? There's -- we have all kinds of things that we do as a county and -- and things that we have to keep supporting. And so economic development is one of those things, and -- and certainly work on affordable housing is one of those things. And from an economic development perspective, our economic development direct dollars are not spent within the city of Atlanta borders. We -- we spend that money outside of the city of Atlanta. So we contribute to the economic development inside of the Atlanta borders, which, to your point, is within Fulton County at a -- at a smaller rate than we do in the rest of the county, because -- because we have our partners that are willing to do this with us. And in these -- on these projects, in particular, if I take Vice Chair Ellis's percentages, if we're contributing 29 percent, just to be clear, the largest of the projects, which is the one at 143 Alabama in District 4, is a \$35.2 million project. The TAD grant that's being used to sort of close the gap for them, is a three-point -- \$3.5 million grant, of which our share is approximately 1.15 million, which is about 2.8 percent of the total project. So contributing 1.15 million to a 35 -- a \$35 million capital stack, in this case, is a great return on investment for us. That

building is going to be a phenomenal contribution to the county in that part of town. And it's costing us an investment of 1.15 million of tax increment. It's not coming out of general fund, it's tax increment that's already been delivered and sits in that bank account that is the TAD fund. The smaller projects, obviously smaller amounts. The \$660 -- \$660,000 project, it's a -- I believe a \$260,000 TAD grant. Our contribution to that is 75.4 thousand. And the middle-sized one, the scattered homes in District 6, a \$1.5 million project with the TAD grant being, I think 400,000, if I have that right, and our share being about 116,000. That one is about 7 percent. So these are, you know, small parts of the overall stack. But I've compared this to like a Jenga stack, right? If you pull one peg out of the stack, the whole thing falls apart. And does that mean that these projects will never go forward, that somebody won't find a way to fill that gap, that perhaps there will be some other grant that exists somewhere that can fill this gap, or bigger loans can be gotten, or what have you? Possibly, but they may go away altogether. And they certainly will be delayed. And when I, and Dr. Klementich, you can speak to this. But when I asked you that question directly. I mean, your -- your take was, these projects will not happen; is that correct?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "That's correct. That's correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So, I mean, you know, we're taking it from the experts who've been working on this and who work on this every day, this is what they do. And their attorney who is solely focused on what they do at Invest Atlanta, and what they're saying is these projects will not continue forward. So I think there's another important point to be made here, which is -- and Madam County Attorney, maybe you can help us with this, and the folks at Invest Atlanta, but Vice Chair Ellis throughout this, what if. If this were to close today, there would be X amount of dollars that could be divided in X way. But it's not going to close tomorrow. And even if we were to start to renegotiate or withdraw or what have you, it -- the TAD at the moment is scheduled to go through 2038. And it is -- there is debt obligation. Yes, they could pay it right now, but they may choose to go forward with the TAD, with APS, without us. In which case, there's nothing to divide up until it closes. So this idea that we're going to get this money back in a short turnaround so that we can apply it to our today problem is not reality. And it's certainly not reality without renegotiating. And so, you know, I think the critical point here is, yes, great, let's renegotiate. Let's talk about the TADs on the whole. Let's look at which the TADs are the ones to renegotiate on. We're only talking about the Westside TAD because it happened to come up in this way in this agenda. But it doesn't necessarily mean that's the one where we want to stop investing, perhaps it's one of the others or several of the others, or all. In the meantime, let's not throw the baby out with the bathwater. Let's approve these projects in good faith. We -- we did not give our partners any advance notice that we were going to stop this from happening. And yes, I understand that we have the ability to vote yes or no on this, but certainly by precedent, we have approved and -- and ratified as the term is in the resolution itself, the decisions of the Invest Atlanta Board for these Westside TAD projects for many, many years now. So rather than sort of pulling the rug out from these projects, let's go forward, approve these projects, acknowledge the good work that they're going to do and the good work that's been done to put these capital stacks

together, and have the broader conversation. Let's put an agenda item on the next Board meeting agenda to have the broader conversation. But I just -- I'm really hoping that you'll all be able to sort of mentally separate these two conversations and support these projects."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is that it?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That is it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington. I'm sorry."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And then Commissioner Abdur-Rahman after Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I couldn't agree with Commissioner Barrett more. Frankly, the idea of the bigger conversation and whether we're going to continue in the TAD or not is not germane to the item before us. The item before us are these three projects and whether we're going to approve them. Now, yeah, if the TAD last until 2038, which apparently is something that we -- that Fulton County already committed to and already extended to whether this existing composition of the Board did that or not. I mean, if we haven't gotten out of it, if we haven't backed out of it, then why would we not go forward with these three projects that we've held up now, made them come back down here, wasting their time and our time? I mean, I understand, you know, if there are people that don't want to participate in the TADs. But we already have an existing agreement that we're going to participate in this particular TAD until 2038. So we're going to not honor our agreements? We're not going to uphold what we've said we were going to do? Where do they do that? We're not going to get the money back, unless we're just going to withdraw. And I guarantee you, if I was on the other side and y'all said, y'all want to get out, I would say, go, but you're not getting any of this money. So -- and then that opens up a whole another conversation, discussions, and litigation. But again, all of that's irrelevant. It's not germane, Mr. Chair. It's not germane whether we're going to continue to the participative in the Westside TAD or any of other TADs as we said we would is not germane to whether these three items will get approved. We shouldn't even allow any discussion on the bigger issue. It's irrelevant. It is irrelevant. It is not germane to the agenda item that is before us. We are partners and parties to this TAD. And as such, we should vote -- and I guess we could -- we could vote to approve these or not approve these. But the discussion of whether we're going to participate or continue to participate in TADs is a completely different discussion, has nothing to do with the item that is before us. I'm prepared to support the item that is before us. I'm also prepared to have a broader discussion. I think one point that I think Commissioner Ellis made that is a fair point is that in the LOST dollars, Atlanta got 137 million, and we got 22 million. Think that is a fair point. It's -- I don't think it's germane to this agenda item, but I think it is a fair point for a broader discussion. But again, it is not germane to the item before us. I'm -- I'm

prepared to support the item before us. I am not prepared to just abandon our partners or not live up to our word. See, I guess we're all human. But I try to do what I say, and say what I do. And so anything that is going to make me look like I'm not going to live up to my word, I try not to do that. We've given our word to our partners, the city of Atlanta and APS, that we were going to pool this money together until 2038 in order to spur development, in order to fight blight. And I didn't -- I didn't hear anyone say, hey, we want to get out of this TAD, we just don't want to approve these. And I don't know, I guess there -- there is a legal question of whether the -- if one party says no, whether the other parties can still move forward or use the money, right? I guess that's -- that's the burning issue that is before us, is approval from all three entities needed in order to go forward. I would imagine the answer to that question is yes. Otherwise, why -- why would you even be before us, right? I mean, if y'all could've just used the money without coming to us, guess what, it would already be spent. It would already be spent. So I can answer that question for you. Common sense can answer that question for you. Hey, all right, well, I guess since I've been practicing law for 30 years, my common sense might be different than others. But common sense can answer that question. If y'all could use that money, y'all would have already used it, you wouldn't even be back here right now. You wouldn't. So Mr. Chair, I, you know, I think you should limit this discussion to the agenda item before us and not allow people to be talking about this larger, more general idea that is not germane to the item before us."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, can you hear me? You have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes. Yes, Chairman, can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. My thoughts are plain on this. At the end of the day, every ship -- every tub has to on its own bottom, as the old folks say. I'm a big supporter of Invest Atlanta. But however, and while we have had -- we've seen the revenue generated from the TAD. The bigger question that has come to my mind is based on my constituency and what they are saying, not what I am saying, but what they are saying because they are the ones that sent me down here to represent them. For instance, some of my constituents are saying, only the builders are the winners here. Now we got several schools of thoughts that can say that that may or may not be true. But that is a consensus amongst some of my constituents. Now, to my Democratic colleagues, this question is not necessarily to my Republican colleagues, this is to my Democratic colleagues in an open forum. Because we all know that Democrats carry the banner of affordable housing. We all know that the Democrats carry the banner of jobs being created. How many jobs were created as a result of the TADs? Where is the affordable housing and is it leading the crisis of gentrification? You cannot tell me not to have this conversation and not to bring it up now, and that's not germane. Because if you're going to tell me that, tell me when it will be. What I'm saying today is not that I can't support it. What I'm saying today in my investigation of when they came into place, there were references of jobs being created. There were

references of affordable housing. I appreciate that even on both sides, we understand this is a bigger conversation. In fact, the problem is people seem to think that today is not the day to have the conversation. And to that, I -- (indiscernible) if that's the case, then are we doing business as usual. And who do the people of District 6 have to speak on their behalf? We may need to be -- (indiscernible). We may need to relook at this. But I owe no political favors to any. What I owe is accountability, first and foremost to the taxpaying citizens of District 6, and to all of Fulton. But you cannot tell me not to ask these questions. You cannot (indiscernible) that they're inappropriate. Affordable housing is a crisis (indiscernible) jobs are. Gentrification is a crisis. And I've got (indiscernible) what are we doing? What have we done? And will today, a vote without this conversation suffice those in District 6? It will not for me. Doesn't mean down the road that my thoughts may change. But right now, considering on what I looked at and the numbers that are in front of me, I would do a disservice to the taxpaying citizens of District 6 to support this and not ask those questions and not have them answered. So I ask to you, are we doing business as usual? Are we looking at something and saying, hey, well, that's not our problem, that's somebody else's problem? So today, I tell you unfortunately, I cannot support this until those questions are answered. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis. What?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "She asked a question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What was the question? Just a minute. Just a minute. Just a minute."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Do you have any outstanding questions, Commissioner, right now that you want to address?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'm sorry, Vice Chair, are you --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Did you have any outstanding questions you wanted to address?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Just a minute. Were you asking some questions that you wanted --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'm asking, what I am asking if there is an opportunity here to have those questions answered if we do not move forward."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Future questions."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "There is ample funding. There's ample funding for those projects to maybe go ahead and/or, I'm saying both, we need a reallocation, and we need a refocusing on, there are jobs needed and there's affordable housing needed all over Fulton County, but especially in District 6. We've got other districts, but

right now, I think those colleagues that I have can speak to their districts. I think the other colleagues can speak to those districts much better than I can. But my point today is to raise a concern that there is a affordable housing crisis. There is jobs that were promised. I need someone to tell me, what do I tell my constituents when they ask, where are the jobs that were supposed to come as a product of the TADs? I cannot, in good conscience, sweep those questions under the rug as a representative and as a Democrat. I know this is an uncomfortable conversation that we don't want to have. But I have to have it today, because there's going to -- there's no other opportunity that I will be able to have that conversation and get the answers that my constituents need."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Ma'am, did you hear a question that you feel you have to answer?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Yes. I heard was how many affordable housing units we've been able to produce in the TAD, and I do have that number. So we've been able to produce in 2024, 1,301 total housing units, of which 1,160 were affordable housing. And I'll just state, we are just as committed as you are, Commissioner to affordable housing and jobs in the south and all of our tax allocation districts."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can anyone speak to how many jobs have been created --"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I don't have the exact number in front of me, that's why I didn't speak to it. And I don't want to give you approximation. But I will tell you it's higher -- it's a higher rate than in our other parts that are not in TAD. But I will send that number to you immediately when I get back to the office."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. What I want you to do -- because Doctor, you know, I've been a big supporter, and this is not adversary, and please don't take it as such."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "It's something that need to be asked at this moment in time. And unfortunately, you are the ones that are here to answer. When we're talking about affordable housing in the Westside TAD, what are we talking about when we're talking about the rental, the cost to individuals that are looking for affordable housing in just specifically that District 6 part of the Westside TAD?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "So for the Westside TAD, if you look at the project that's in front of you with the Westside Future Fund, they're at 60 percent AMI, which Jennifer is going to get me what the rate is, to answer your exact question. And so what is exciting about the Westside Future Fund scatter site, that will go to individual and individual families. And that rent, and these are for sale and -- go ahead."

JENNIFER FINE, VP, PLANNING, INVEST ATL: "Yeah, so the Westside Future Fund Project is for sale, affordable for sale, so not applicable to rental. But the other project, the Community Builders Project, that's going to have 50 percent of AMI in English Avenue, that equates to about 650 to \$700 for, you know, for a one bedroom. But we have our deepest levels of affordability in terms of the area median income number in English Avenue in Vine City, since that's our primary area of focus. And we look at the data in terms of what the average household income is. It's obviously very, very low. So we know that affordable housing in English Avenue and Vine City is not the same as affordable housing in other parts of the city. So that's where we try to get the deepest levels of affordability."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Let me ask you this, because it was on my list, and unfortunately, I passed it. Do you -- do you have a number that you could give me in this open forum? And if you don't, that's fine. But I did meet -- meant to ask. The constituency base that has (indiscernible), they don't consider 300 to 400,000 as affordable housing. And so what I'm asking you is that a midline, is that where some of these projects are hitting for one and two? Do you have a number of affordable housing that would go to that number that you're speaking of when you're talking about, you know, the income and what you all look at as far as what would be affordable from a purchase, not a rental?"

JENNIFER FINE, VP, PLANNING, INVEST ATL: "So Eloisa just pulled the HUD number, that's the -- that's the foundation for what, you know, is determined to be 80 percent of AMI for for sale or rental. But I can speak specifically to your question, because I think you're asking, what is, or what is our target for an affordable for-sale, single-family home in English Avenue and Vine City? I think that's what you're very explicitly asking about."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes."

JENNIFER FINE, VP, PLANNING, INVEST ATL: "And that is a conversation we have daily, internally and with our partners. And I can tell you this, the projects that we are involved with, mostly in English Avenue and then some in Vine City for single family, it's the hardest thing to do, is to -- is to get affordable for sale. And we're really trying to target between 60 and 80 percent of AMI, which is much lower than traditionally what's considered affordable for single family for sale, can go up to 140 percent of AMI. But we're really trying to get at the 60 to 80 percent. And in order to achieve that, we need lots of subsidy and lots of partners including Westside Future Fund and the Atlanta Land Trust to layer all of their tools to really get that purchase price down. Because construction costs are construction costs, and it can cost \$350,000 to build a three bedroom, two-bath house, but that's not an affordable sales price. Nobody believes that to be the case. So we layer our incentives and our down payment assistance and our Westside TAD funding to bring that cost down. Westside Future Fund brings its financing into it. Atlanta Land Trust brings its ability to raise philanthropic capital. Sometimes purchasers can take advantage of down payment assistance through the Westside Future Fund or Atlanta Housing. So single family for sale needs all of those

layers, including the Westside TAD, to bring for sale homes. Sometimes we can get at the \$200,000 level, and sometimes it's higher. But that equates to about 60 to 80 percent of AMI, which is the target. And that's the lowest level of affordability that I've seen anybody else even nationally be able to achieve. So that is our goal. That is our target. And we have been successful so far, and it's very hard to do. And we need all of the partners on the same page doing it."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "And I'm just going to add to your question about numbers, that would be about a house for one individuals is about 135,000 is the total cost of the house, and then we would layer the down payment assistance, which would be anywhere from 40 to \$50,000 to help someone get in there. So that means an individual could get in, possibly anywhere from 60 to \$80,000 to buy a home."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. We know that -- and the reason this is a concern and the reason that I brought this forward today, we know that gentrification has increased. AMI has increased because of gentrification, which means that they are not going to be the legacy residents that I know that you all have a commitment to, I know that. And like I said, this is not adversarial. This is trying to figure out, how do we get creative? How do we look at something that we didn't necessarily create but we have to address. And I know it's an uncomfortable conversation for you all. I know it's an uncomfortable conversation, probably for all of my colleagues. But it's a conversation that I have to have today, because there's not going to be another opportunity for me to have this conversation. And if we walk away today with you all not necessarily getting what you all wanted, and for us looking as though we are making it a little bit harder or difficult, if it allows us to go back to a semi drawing board and redo this and bring it back in two weeks, then I'd be more than happy to support that. What I'm saying today, and we are dealing with today in 2025 where gentrification is at an all-time high in District 6, where a lot of legacy residents cannot afford to live or rent in District 6. We need a creative answer. And when I say we, I mean me and the constituents that sent me down here. So I would ask, if at all possible, what the Vice Chair as well as Commissioner Ivory brought to the table, if a conversation can be had, I would appreciate that in an effort to try to resolve this. And I am on board for resolving it, but I'm not on board resolving it on the backs of the taxpaying citizens of Fulton County that depend on us to help them with this vision that supposedly the city of Atlanta has, as well as Fulton County of affordable housing and jobs. And so on that note, I will release my time. I will ask that you all take to heart what I have said today on behalf of my constituents. I know these are uncomfortable conversations. I know that some people are not going to be fans of me for bringing this conversation. But guess what, they weren't fans of me beforehand. So there's no love lost. I must do what I need to do for the people who sent me here. So what I would appreciate any concern any possible creative way of looking at this to be looked into. Thank you."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I would just add on all the Westside Future Fund Projects Commissioner, they only goes to legacy residents. So we're right there with you and aligned that we need to ensure -- I mean, that was in many of those

community meetings with you, where we put our own personal reputation on the line for our constituents that we were going to ensure legacy residents took those. And I remember those -- I was with you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's why I wanted you to know that's not adversarial."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "No, no. I appreciate your support."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- (indiscernible) -- at you all. It's just if I do not bring it up at the time that people are listening, no one will listen to it at all. And so let me go on record saying I am a big supporter of the work that you all do."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Thank you, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "But I -- I am. I'm doing the best that I can, given the situation with the concerns of the citizens. Thank you."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else you want to answer that she asked?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I think I covered most of the questions. And I'll just add, I'm always available to come if you have any questions. But I'll always make myself available to you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No other questions at this time for her, answers rather? All right. Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "This should -- I had a question for our staff. I just wanted to -- I think I'm right on this. Can you think of any development, real estate development project we have committed funds with another city in Fulton County with in 2024 or 2023?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Nothing particular is coming to mind, Commissioner Ellis, Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Some small TADs outside of Atlanta, right?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Well, we do have -- I mean, we do have, yes, a couple of TADs that are outside of Atlanta, but I can't think of any --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Any direct that we have --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Anything that would have been outside of the TAD that came directly to the Board for --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- specialized approval, other than perhaps the one that was just done on the -- I'm not sure this really counts, but the 4-H land site, though."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "But that was our land."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That was our land, the Botanical Garden."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "But we --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Cottage Homes, the Cottage Homes Project, maybe that we did with our ARPA money."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right, our money. All our money, right, and in the unincorporated area, right?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "In the unincorporated area?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO: "That's Union City."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That's Union City."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah, no, Union City, yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So 1 million or so, something like that."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: They -- with ARPA money. And then our, roughly our TAD increment, I think for Atlanta TADs was like 55 million, something like that."

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The amount that was pulled out from our general fund billings."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Tax money, right? That's what that is, tax, property tax --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, property tax. That's part of our property tax, yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So -- and then our Economic Development budget in the general fund is about one and a half million. Does that sound about right? So just --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It's pretty small, yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- my point being is this, this is a -- this is a very large county, right? In fact, majority of the population sits -- Atlanta is big, but the majority of the population actually sits outside the city of Atlanta. And so I do want to correct sort of one misnomer that we dedicate all of our economic development efforts outside the city of Atlanta. You just heard that number. It's like 60 to one, okay? So let's just sort of be real about that. We, the citizens of Fulton County, Fulton County taxpayers have invested significant, significant dollars into economic development in Atlanta, disproportionate, well disproportionate than anywhere else in the county. And that vehicles come through TADs, and that is not in dispute. So I just, I want that to be on the record and people to be understand and be clear about this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "We represent the entire county. The stuff you talk about is important. But equally, we've got other very big needs, many of which are same things. I have affordable housing needs in my particular district. I've got a particular niche that - that has some severe needs. You know, but no funds are -- no funds are coming in there, okay? So just -- that's -- I just want to correct that sort of misnomer that was thrown out here. If we -- have we not met any of our obligations as respects to Westside TAD?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "County's met all their obligations."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "We've met all their -- all our obligations. Okay. So we've been a willing partner. This conversation and my parts of this are specific to these projects and to the Westside TAD. And my position in the way to read the document, when that decision was made back in, what was it, 2007, 2008, to extend it, something like that, right? You know, the words in that say, you know, projects after 2018, you know, come back to us for the decision whether or not we want to commit our increment. And you know, that doesn't mean -- that didn't mean that, hey, we're going to go work up a project, and we're going to do all the work on it, and then we're going to show up at Fulton County and say, we've done all this work, you got to sign off on it. And if you don't -- you don't sign off on it, you're a bunch of bad folks, right? The way I read that is like, at some point in time, somebody had the foresaw -- foresight to say,

look, after that period of time, this needs to come and be given serious consideration. Do we want to continue -- want to continue to apply your increment here? Because it may have sort of that -- ship may have sailed. The purpose of the TAD may have been met as it was -- it was construed at that particular point in time, not just the fact that, hey, here's another good project that we could throw some funds at. So I mean, as I look at this and where we are, and I'm not going to rehash everything I just said. I think we have to do our due diligence and be a -- be a fiduciary to the taxpayers that we were all elected by, to say, hey, you know, should we look at this and say it's time to not approve any additional increment starting with these particular projects. We can't commit it right here, knowing what we know and should preserve our increment knowing the needs that we have elsewhere. And I don't think -- it may have not been done before and I've still not heard, and I don't have based upon what I've read, I don't see a legitimate legal position why somebody -- I mean, you all may -- in the Westside TAD, in addition to the tax increment, if I read it correctly, you also made a million dollars in just interest expense, roughly in 2024; is that correct?"

JENNIFER FINE, VP, PLANNING, INVEST ATL: "Correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right. I mean, that's kind of -- I mean, it's almost unheard of to sort of think of like, hey, this thing is so healthy that it's not only getting tax increment, but it's also generating significant investment in, you know, interest off of it as well. But I don't see why there's not -- you know, you got it. There is excess cash build up to be able to go back and say to another participant in the TAD, if you really want this to move forward, could you commit some of your excess or increment to it? There are no other bond obligations that -- all that bond obligations are met and spoken for within a -- within a particular footprint of the cash that you have on hand. So, you know, I don't -- I don't see where that's not an opportunity for that to be done and for the project to be able to move forward. It may not have been done before, but there's a lot of stuff that's never been done before that certainly could be worked out and could be done in a fairly quick manner. So I just, you know, I appreciate, I appreciate everything that has been done within the scope of this particular TAD over a period of time. And Fulton County's participation in it should not go unrecognized. And probably it has been unrecognized, you know, in terms of way -- what our role in this is, and how significant of role it's been. But as I look at it now, I feel like it's generally met its intended purpose, and we shouldn't continue to allow our increment to be built up in there. We've got other places where we should consider those funds to be able to go even if -- even if we're not going to be in receipt of them until somewhere down the road."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Did you hear a question you want to respond to before I'm asked to allow you to respond to a question that I didn't hear?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Commissioner, I didn't hear one either. I was --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I didn't hear one before. Thank you. That's just an editorial comment."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Oh, okay."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That was addressing some comments that were made by my colleagues and we --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- we were only committing a small amount of money to city of Atlanta in terms of economic development. So I just really wanted to clear that up."

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

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I don't really have any questions, per se, but I do want to say, you guys do an amazing job. You do a great job. I actually used to live in the Westside TAD before the TAD was there. So I know what development has come during my college days of living over there. And it's amazing what all has been created over there. Traffic now is a little bad to get around, but it's amazing over there. And I have to commend Commissioner Barrett for meeting with me for going over things. She really -- she's a fighter, and she really believes in everything that Invest Atlanta does, and she has first-hand experience. So I really take what you say with a lot of weight. And the three projects I see is like, just amazing projects, the -- the one on Alabama Street, the corner, you know, that's going to be front facing to Five Point Station. It's going to be World Cup soccer coming through there. So I really do see the need for that project and all the projects from the small five flex on up to the midsize projects. But with that being said, it's -- and I've been going back and forth, back and forth with everything. And what Commissioner Ellis and Commissioner Ivory were stating about, you know, this was in 2017 when the TAD was extended and we had so many needs all across the county. And since you guys do such a great job, you've won all of these TADs. You've gotten approval for all these TADs. But even in my part of the county, in Roswell, we're looking at -- they're looking at trying to get a TAD together. And I don't know if we'll be able to afford to go into another TAD with them. And to me, that's -- that's sad, because they have great plans for this area, and we've invested, Fulton County, all the taxpayers of Fulton County have invested so much with Invest Atlanta. I do feel like we need to have a discussion. There is a reason that we had approved every project, the other TADs we don't. This is the only one that we have the privilege of doing this. So I feel bad, but if this is the only one that we have leverage, sometime we might need to pull a lever with some times are tough. And times are tough for us right now. We're having to make hard decisions on where we spend more dollars, and our finances are uncertain moving into the future, and it's very likely we're going to have to raise the millage rate because of those expenses. So the burden is going to be placed on our taxpayers. And then Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, it was surprising that your constituents, your legacy residents, haven't been happy or pleased or have some doubts in there. So that was kind of a shifting point for me, because I no longer live in that TAD. But to hear it from someone who does and is with those constituents and those legacy partners, I really value her insight as well. So at this point, I feel like maybe this is the time where we do have to make some tough decisions and maybe not

go in these projects. And hopefully, our Attorney is right and these projects can move forward without our funding. I wouldn't think that we would set it up that we had the ability to kill any project that you guys have forward for such a small amount of money, 1.2 million. It seems like, given your finances, you're in much better shape than we are. And I don't know if you want to speak to that, Soo, you look like you're about to speak."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Well, just briefly. Obviously, Invest Atlanta would receive advice from their own attorney. But just to give a little context on that point, it is our understanding that APS, for example, another participant in this TAD, receives pilot payments back, and sometimes receives their entire increment returned to them. So I believe that would be consistent with our initial reading that equal participation by all of the contributing entities is not a requirement for any given project to move forward, so long as you have sufficient funds from other increments to fund the project."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And that's the legal question that needs to be answered. You have one opinion, and my good friend, Roz Rubens has a different opinion."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: (Off-mic remarks).

NINO CHIAPPETTA, CFO, INVEST ATL: "Yeah, so there's an omnibus TAD agreement where APS gets increments back, I think some is piloted back to Fulton County as well. There's an agreement with -- not in the Westside TAD."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, all right. So again, you have one opinion, their opinion -- their counsel has a different opinion. You represent us, not my good friend, Roz Rubens."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I'm going to have Roz reach out."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, I'm going -- I want to make a -- have a -- I'm going to get it in writing from her, what you said, what you believe her opinion is."

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "Thank you, sir. I will do the same --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Make this condition upon us, receiving that. Commissioner Ivory, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you, all of the Commissioners, Vice Chair, and Mr. Chairman for all of the conversation on this. And thank you, Commissioner Thorne for, you know, paying close attention to the Alabama Street project, which is in my district. And which is why I took the time to meet with Invest Atlanta and to really begin to think about this. And not for a lot of the arguments about whether we -- it is our responsibility for the economic dev -- you know, all of those things. We're responsible for a lot of things. We should be working in partnership with all of our cities to be dealing with all of the issues that we're dealing with, and then we're particularly responsible for certain things which we find ourselves in a crisis over. I think that this larger conversation has

kind of been sprung upon y'all, as you came to present in formal fashion that you have presented before the projects that have been funded, and that this Board has said okay to in the past, and you -- you've moved forward. But it is at a certain time that that happened due to the crisis that we find ourselves in. So I don't want that to feel like it was, you know, oh, so now they want to start talking about this thing. It happened because it happened, right, at this moment in time. But it is true that you fund -- you allocated, and these projects have been, I understand that if one of the projects doesn't go through for the owner, who is renovating the property that she lives in, she will lose funding from the bank that is the portion that she needs to continue the whole project through. I don't want to punish these projects for the condition that we find ourselves in right now. But it is very important to understand the condition that we find ourselves in, because it's going to have an impact moving forward completely. So I don't know what other projects you've already started to think about allocating money to that you would have to come back to us for a vote. I think you've gotten a lot of information about how that will probably go, you know, in the future, as we continue to have our conversations about what we need to do. I still do think there is that legal question of, does our vote -- there's the two questions like, can the excess funds be used somewhere else? And I think that our County Attorney has been dealing with that. But I also think that there's that other question, if our vote holds up the whole thing. Regardless of the answer to those questions, I do not want the Alabama Street project because it's in my district, it's germane to a cleanup that is involved in a larger, pro -- you know, a larger event that's coming to our city, with World Cup to be held up. So I am -- I would commit to voting to move this vote -- this forward today for these three projects. But it is -- I share the concerns of all of the Commissioners in looking at our participation, the way we're structured across all boards, not just across TADs. Of course, you know, sales tax, of course, all of the areas that we are -- our money is coming in from our taxpayers, and examine what is best for them in the way that Commissioner Abdur-Rahman speak about -- spoke about, and what our particular districts need for economic development, what our constituents want. So I just hope that you hearing all of this from us today, you know, gives you an understanding of the challenges that we face in doing this. And I don't want to punish these three that were here on the agenda before you knew that we were sort of thinking about these things, but it is important conversation for you to be aware of."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other comments? Now, let me be clear. You work - you put a lot of time on this. This is in your district, and it's in Commissioner Abdur-Rahman's district. You support it?"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Yes. Just those three."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I want to be crystal clear about, you deserve the credit for putting the time in this."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You want --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Well, Mr. Chairman, I want to say thank -- thank you for that. And I put the time in it because we've been talking about this for two or three weeks now. And I am the newest Commissioner, so I had to rely on the Chairman's knowledge and historic education about Fulton County, and Vice Chairman Bob Ellis's understanding of the intricacies of this, these issues. And I want to say that I'm not -- I'm coming to this, you know, it might feel like, oh, I'm that vote. But no, I'm thinking about this from a very important, larger view, that I need to think about it. But I understand that this Alabama Street project is very crucial. And that is the only reason why I am voting on this today."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'd like to request, probably won't be honored, but I want to request it publicly that, since you did not know -- do not know the definitive answer by your counsel, If you would get that to us in writing, I would appreciate it. With that, you support this and --"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I will get --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion -- pardon me?"

DR. ELOISA KLEMENTICH, CEO, INVEST ATL: "I will get that for you."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Abstain."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes; four yeas, one nay, two abstentions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Thank you very much, Commissioner, Commissioner Ivory. Continue Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0269**, Request approval of a Resolution approving an Agreement between Fulton County, the Fulton County Tax Commissioner and the City of Atlanta to provide Judicial in Rem Tax Foreclosure Services concerning Municipal Code Enforcement Liens, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Now, I have introduced this at the request of our Tax Commissioner who was not present at the last meeting, who is present today. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington. Is there a second at this time? Not yet. So let's hear from you, Commissioner -- strike that -- you are a Commissioner, Tax Commissioner."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I think so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Good afternoon. This is a project to do traditional foreclosure on basically abandoned properties with significant tax liabilities and liens on them. Fulton County did probably about 1000 of those back, maybe 2000, 2004. Those were for single-family homes, usually abandoned. A judicial foreclosure is done with the approval of the courts. A Judge approves a judicial foreclosure. It's basically the reverse of the normal nonjudicial foreclosures that the Sheriff conducts every first Tuesday of the month. With a judicial foreclosure, the right for the redemption is only two months. The court gives an order to do the foreclosure. With the nonjudicial the legal barment takes place after a year after the Sheriff sale. So it's a very different for -- very different process. The successful bidder with a judicial foreclosure could get a property within about three months. The city approached me on this project for basically abandoned large properties which significantly liens and usually demolition liens and things that on those properties. Part of those -- some of those properties are going to be used to put on affordable housing. The cost of this project is going to be borne by the city. The county does not pay for the -- for the title searches are anything like that, unlike what you did back in the early 2000s. So all the risks on this project is basically with the city of Atlanta, not with Fulton County. And Fulton County doesn't pay for a single thing on these projects. But it would get their portion of delinquent taxes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What about the people? The people, they get put out. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So just to real layman's terms on this, your office would be responsible for the judicial foreclosures?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That is correct."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "This is to residential or commercial properties?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "It could be for both. In the beginning, when I did them, back in the early days, they were for both. The majority of those were residential properties, and the people who used -- who bought those were usually very young people, first jobs, et cetera."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Did you say very young?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "They were usually very young people back in the early 2000s. It didn't take much in those days to get a single property, a single-family home in those days. This is going back 20 years when you were in the city. Remember those dump trucks around the city?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "So this is -- this is being introduced in order to deal with blighted properties and -- I mean, it's not -- yes?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yes, blighted properties."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "So are these vacant -- is the property already vacant or is -- could there possibly be somebody living in the property?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "There could be somebody living in the property. But in the days when I did it, we targeted properties where nobody living in property. And if we inadvertently found out that somebody was in the property, we would pull back. But the ultimate decision was made by a Judge. We did not just go and throw people out of a house. We never did that, nor do we do that today in my office."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Now, if this judicial foreclosure process -- we -- if we approve it, does this judicial foreclosure process, would you implore -- like, what -- what would you do to prevent, you know, if there's a family that has, you know, a lien, you know, several liens, it's time to foreclose on them. What are you going to do in that situation?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Every one of these legal actions. Each one is a legal action, because its final approval is --

COMMISSIONER IVORY: By the court.

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "-- by the court. It is at my sole discretion, and I exercise that discretion in the past, and I will continue to do so --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "By not throwing families out?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I wouldn't throw families out."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "I understand that this process of the city of Atlanta asking you to do these judicial foreclosures was -- you were approached with this many years ago or several times, approached with this and you had not wanted to do it."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "What has changed?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Well, for one thing has changed --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Do you want a water?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "The pollen is affecting me."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Oh, me, too. I don't mind."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "No, no, no, I'm fine. That won't help me."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Because I understand."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That wouldn't help me."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Not when I live under trees and woods and things have been affected me. What's changed this time, first of all, let me say that the city has approached me many, many times over the years through several Mayors. This one is tied to a particular project different from the other times. There was nothing -- there was no end goal in the in -- the in the other approaches, they just wanted to get properties. This one has some goal, and it's tied to housing. The other thing that's different is that the county is not paying for this. The city is paying for this, and the risks are with the city, not with the county or me. And our Attorney could talk to that."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. I -- so I understand, you know, that the city's main goal of affordable housing for making, you know, properties available to be used for housing options. I think it's admirable to think about it from this perspective. I want to think about what could go wrong in allowing judicial foreclosures now, as you know, a choice. When folks have been in a foreclosure situation in the past, they could rely on the fact that Georgia is a nonjudicial foreclose -- or Fulton County is a nonjudicial foreclosure county and -- I think it's state too --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Wait, wait. What do you mean non -- no counties are nonjudicial foreclose --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Well, I mean, we don't do court foreclosures."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I don't do it."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "You don't do it?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I don't do it."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. Correct me on that."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I have done it in the past."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So you don't do it, but you would get into an agreement with the city of Atlanta to do it. In the worst case scenario, I want to understand how this could, you know, what measures would be in place so that this wouldn't go wrong and people would find themselves -- I heard you say it would be in your discretion. So you -- what would happen if you were no longer here and it -- now, this was allowed, and somebody was not going to use, the new Tax Commissioner was not going to use the discretion to throw families out; how would that work?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I can't speak for an oncoming Tax Commissioner. But I would assure you that when you go to Fulton County Court with one of these things, the Judge has to approve it. And everybody who has any semblance of a property interest in this property is notified and could show up at court. And I remember in the old days, sometimes the owner would have died, and a sibling or a niece would be in the house, and we'd go to court, and then that would show up, and usually we'd back off, or the Judge would back off, and not do it. So I would rely on the courts to make sure that nothing funny happens when I am not here."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "And just so I understand that you said that there was no cost to Fulton County. But what about just in time and resources? What will be the -- will there be any burden of time and resources taken from your office, even if it's not cost?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Not, not -- not much in just to oversee the properties that are being mentioned or, you know, given to us. But the title work is done not in my office as it was in the past. The cost is not coming to the county, so we don't have to set up any accounting for it. And so that's out of the question. All costs come to the county. We would normally disperse their -- the taxes when it comes here, just like we do for every other property."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I'm sorry, I sound so hoarse. I don't have a honey pocket in my shirt."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah. I just had a quick question --"

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

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. She said that things have changed. They've come to you for this of repeated request, and the thing that's changed, it's for a particular project; is that what I understood?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "No. In this case, I understand the reason for having a project or have me do these foreclosures."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "And the reason I was given by the Mayor himself is that this should be -- would be part of his initiative to get affordable housing by getting, sometimes some of the very big, underperforming or abandoned properties back on the tax role, free and clear of any legal encumbrances, and that's the reason for it. Secondly, he was going to pay the cost of this project. And thirdly, if nobody forecloses on it at the courthouse steps, it would then go to the Land Bank, who would pay all the costs that he has guaranteed. So that's how they would get it, through the Land Bank."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Is there any way that this could be weaponized against anybody? Like, code enforcement, you know, someone starts getting hit with, all of a sudden, with all these code enforcements, they can't afford to pay it, they know it, they get their property taken away."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That's not weaponized. I mean, if there's delinquent taxes on it and there's a lien on it, I could foreclose on it. The problem is, most of the time with these properties, there is so much burden on the properties that they have no commercial value, the burdens and the tax burdens and liens, et cetera are overwhelming the value of the property, and so nobody would bid on it. In this case, in that case, it would then go to the Land Bank, who would pay the minimum cost, and then the city would then get it."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, other questions? Any other questions? Commissioner Arrington."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "You're a lawyer, you should know this stuff."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, you know, I don't want to make it any more confusing. But the Sheriff doesn't actually foreclose. The Sheriff actually executes a levy --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- which is not a foreclosure. But what my question is, what about indemnification for any lawsuits, right? So if somebody sues you, or sues the Sheriff or one of the Judges, if Atlanta's covering the cost for this, then I would just, Madam County Attorney, ask that they indemnify us from any claims or lawsuits that might result as a result of these judicial foreclosures."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "The language of the proposed contract provides for the city to pay for legal representation and for indemnification for representing either the Tax Commissioner or Fulton County should entity be sued in relation to these foreclosures."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. What if somebody sues the Judge that signs the order?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I would have to review that again. I don't know that that's specifically included, although we could certainly argue that that should be covered under the same concept that it there should be no costs for defense or judgment to the county."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Or we could include it in the agreement --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Certainly."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- so that -- so that we know upfront --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Sure."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- that it's covered. I wouldn't want to wait afterwards, and then try to argue for it. I'd rather argue for it now and include it. All right, well, I mean, you know --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What are you suggesting, Commissioner?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "My only request was just to make sure that we were indemnified. I think Commissioner Ivory and Commissioner Thorne were worried about blowback, and what potential blowback, right, that there could be from constituents, from others. And you know, the one way that there could be blowback that I did not hear anyone address would be lawsuits against the county, the Tax Commissioner the Judge or anyone else. And so I'm just asking that we include that we make sure that anyone, that any Fulton County employee, is indemnified from any action that they might take, because they may not -- they may not sue you, they may sue -- they may sue your Deputy, right? And then I guess my other thing, Madam County Attorney --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Well, that's covered."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's covered?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yeah. Of Fulton County employees. Your question specifically was a Judge."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Right, well, I think what I heard her say was that you were covered and that Fulton County was covered, but I did not hear her say Fulton County employees were covered. And then Judges, I guess, you know, probably a little different, they're probably state employees. But you know, my other question is, so, well, I think we need to make sure all of those are covered. So I'm just asking that all of

that gets covered, that there's complete and full indemnification for anyone on our side that performs anything in case of a lawsuit, right?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I really appreciate that. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam County Attorney, how can we incorporate what Commissioner Arrington is suggesting?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We can certainly beef up the language to -- I was just looking up the proposed contract, and have found the provision. It does mention the Tax Commissioner and the county. So we could certainly be more inclusive in the language about who is covered. So that would expand the specifically referenced parties. There is always the possibility, in reality that -- that we could present it for defense or indemnification, and it may not, you know, be responded to in a manner that would allow us to just hand it off to the city or to outside counsel provided by the city. So there is that risk. But to the extent possible, we could include more comprehensive lists of specific covered --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, I'll tell you how I would handle that risk. I would have -- incorporate language that the Tax Commissioner could take it out of the funds collected if they don't do it. I know how I would handle that if I was County Attorney. It would -- it would be -- we would maintain the right to deduct it from any funds collected before dispersing to them. That's what I would do."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Madam County Attorney, where are we?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "What I am hearing is that before you would, as a Board, be willing to consider signing on to this agreement, you would at least like to see some additional language, more robust language around defense and indemnification."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So do you need time to do that?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I would appreciate some time to do that, yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, all right. Commissioner Arrington, you still have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. Wouldn't that just be part -- I mean, you're saying you need time before we approve it? Or you need time -- has an agreement already been negotiated?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "There is a draft agreement that is attached to this item, yes."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I mean, I guess, you know, I don't want to slow it up. I just want to make sure that it's included. And I would just say, you know, make it part of the conditions for approval."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can I be put in the queue to speak, please?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I can speak now, Chairman?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis? All right, go ahead. Commissioner Ellis yields to you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yeah, I would just -- I would like to put a motion to hold this. And I'm going to tell you why. My good friend, Dr. Ferdinand, I have to disagree with you. Any and everything can be weaponized when it comes to politics. So I want to support this. I'm concerned about a couple of things that I would like to have a off-line conversation with the County Attorney about because I would not want to give someone an idea that they don't already have. So before I could support this, so I'm going to put in a motion to hold this. It's not time sensitive, County Attorney, I have a couple questions off-line that I would like to speak to you about. In my concerns in this climate, where whether they are residential or commercial, where people are struggling with losing the main source of income that's coming in, with the economy headed to a recession. I don't know if I can support this totally because it's -- almost gives me a robbing Peter to pay Paul type mentality, which may be unjustly. So let me, let me say that. That's why I need more information. But I want to put a motion in to hold this so we can get the correct language, as well as I can get the answers that I need from the County Attorney myself."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a sub --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Will you want to make this a friendly motion?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, no, no -- Ferdinand, let me preside, Tax Commissioner. Thank you, thank you, thank you. The substitute motion to hold. Is there a second to the substitute motion to hold?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, I'll second it. And Commissioner Ellis, Vice Chair, you want to be heard on the --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah. I just --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- motion to hold?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- I mean, you don't have the powers to do this right now. The state did not -- does not give you those particular power --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I have the power to do this right now."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well, you don't have the power to do this with the city of Atlanta right now without this action by us."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I have the power to do that for the city of Atlanta right now."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Then why is it before us?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Because I wanted to make sure that the county understands it, that you know what I'm doing. I'm not trying to do this privately or silently. And I don't believe in just exact -- exercising an authority, because I have it. There are many things I could do without the Board, but I don't, and this is one of them."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. I -- is that -- I was not of the understanding that -- I was under the understanding that this did require our approval in order for it to occur."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So I will say that as a general matter, Dr. Ferdinand does have the authority to enter into contracts as a separate entity. But in this instance, there is a statute that comes into play, it's O.C.G.A. § 48-5-359.1 that for this particular type of agreement does require Fulton County to be a party to agreement."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. I guess -- I guess this from a property rights standpoint, this just doesn't feel right to me, different and distinct from what our normal practices is elsewhere. I do think, you know, there is, you know -- where code enforcement is the underlying tool for this. I do feel like that that's opens itself up for the opportunities for abuse, and it provides me pause from a property rights perspective. Just, that's my perspective on it."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Could I respond to that?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Not all counties do nonjudicial foreclosures like we do in Fulton County. Some counties rely on judicial foreclosures for the collecting taxes. I don't. There are Land Banks around the state who routinely do judicial foreclosure, that's how they get properties. Back in the early days, I did more than 1,000 of those over the years. And we never had a Judge sued to start with, never the Judge sued. We are always very temperate in terms of how we exercise our

authority on these things. And I don't think over those years, and Mr. Chairman, you may speak to that, because most of those properties we did a judicial foreclosure on were in the city of Atlanta, I'd say, probably 99 percent of them. And I have never heard of somebody, an elderly person being evicted, or an heir being evicted who were in college and inherited the property. We did not abuse this authority. And we did not abuse people's property rights. It's one of the things that I made almost like a rule in my office. Don't over abuse the authority you have. You have a lot of authority especially in this judicial, and we never abused it. And the Attorney we had at that time, Bill Dodson, who is now deceased, was very, very adamant about making sure that we do not abuse people's property rights, take away properties maliciously and things. We never did this kind of thing. And I'll certainly, while I'm Tax Commissioner, that's not going to happen here. But I understand your point. I understand your point also. And I think the Attorney will work with us to make sure those things are taken care and I support them."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, I just -- I mean, I still -- the fact that you're in your role, somebody else can be in that role tomorrow, different people could be looking at it. And the underlying driver of this is how people treat, you know, at the municipal level, code enforcement. And code enforcement, the rules and so forth that are placed upon property owners are a lot different today than what they were in 1920."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yeah. Let me add one thing to that. The Attorneys will tell you that, that before we begin the process, there has to be delinquent property attached to that property. I'm not going to go to properties that are code, totally code enforcement. That's not what this is for."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The way that the document reads, it doesn't suggest that to me, that that's a requirement."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We will look to find you the exact provision. But the -- one of the terms that Dr. Ferdinand insisted upon was that the code enforcement lien would not be the only basis on which this foreclosure would proceed, that the contract would only cover properties that had an independent tax lien in addition to the code enforcement, so that it would be more clear and be on a more solid footing in terms of the legal basis to go forward with a foreclosure."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Maybe, it's -- the way I read it, is more like that wasn't a -- maybe it's a consideration, but it wasn't a requirement."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "It should be."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I mean, I don't want to belabor this anymore. If we're going to hold it, we can --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- have a conversation on some of the questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And I don't know if you know this or not, Dr. Ferdinand, or if this would be a question for the city of Atlanta. But my presumption is that most of these properties are for vacant lots, or vacant or abandoned lots, and so --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That -- that might also be a provision, Madam County Attorney, that we want to include, make it for vacant lots, and that might also help people, where worried about property rights and people worried about families being evicted. If this is only for vacant lots, then that would eliminate, I guess it won't fully eliminate property rights for Vice Chair Ellis, but it certainly would address Commissioner Ivory's issue of families being put out on the streets, right? And so, you know, that might also, again, County Attorney, be something that we want to include to make it only applicable for vacant lots. And I don't know how many of the properties are vacant lots or not. Maybe that makes sense, maybe it doesn't. But I certainly will -- would offer that, because I think that might address some of the issues of the Commissioners."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other questions? The motion on the floor -- yes. The motion on the floor is to hold."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Yes. I just wanted to ask one last question. If in the consideration of all these proposals that are being made to the legal document, I just wanted to ask why two months from a year? Where did that number come from, versus four months or six months?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "The law. The law states that the successful bidder at the court of steps for this judicial process has two months to redeem."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Then they can have a deed in one month. Whereas, in a nonjudicial, you cannot bar the right of redemption for one year. That's a legal basis, it's not arbitrary."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Other questions? All right. The motion on the floor is to hold. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion to hold passes; six yeas, one nay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "25-0313, Request approval of a Resolution to repeal and replace the Code of Resolutions, Subpart B, Article II, Employee Organizations, Sections 154-36 through 154-44 of the Fulton County Code of Laws to streamline recognition of employee organizations; and for other purposes, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Hermon."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I want make -- oh, I'm sorry. Chairman Pitts, go ahead."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, I want to make a motion to approve, and Mr. Hermon -- what is this? Mr. Hermon."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes, good afternoon, Commissioners. Kenneth Hermon, Chief HR officer. The resolution that we're talking about today is a continuation of our conversation from the last Board meeting, where I articulated to you, Commissioners that the existing ordinance that established a process for how various unions and employee associations are recognized by the Board of Commissioners was very convoluted, and I think most of you agreed. And I think, Commissioner Arrington, you suggested that we, you know, have a conversation with legal and how we could streamline this document. So what we have is our version of a streamlined document or process for how employers -- unions could be recognized. Some of the major changes from the original document is we've eliminated the need for the 50 percent plus one provision. And in the communication that I sent you yesterday that showed the -- the chart of existing members of unions that are paying dues in our system, you can clearly see that some of them are not attaining that 50 percent plus one. So that's what we kind of relied on that evidence to be comfortable that we could remove that provision. We eliminated the analysis that, you know, is -- was required by the County Manager. We removed the requirement of now no longer requiring a formal resolution each and every time a new organization wants to be recognized by the Board of Commissioners to pursue the employees for membership. We made sure that we protected -- let me just say, we grandfathered the existing organization so that they don't have to adhere to a new round of certification, so their status remain status quo. And then we also did some cleanup of the language to make sure it's clear that, you know, what -- how we define an employee, and we specifically we excluded state-funded employees from being unable to join any of these organizations, as well as amended the process for recognition specifically, and this is where you guys, sorry, the Board of Commissioners would be interested so that the process is now this -- one, the employee organization would request recognition to the County Manager. The County Manager will confirm the organization is registered with the state of Georgia, which the Georgia Federation of Public Employees has done for us today, as well as -- and then the Board of Commissioners would approve the recognition, which would allow the employee

association or employee organization to begin the process of trying to solicit membership for them, for their organization. So we're hoping that with these changes, Commissioners, that is an example of how we've streamlined a process that's been on the books since, I think the last time was 12,010, that it was modified. And as an added note, I did have a conversation with Mr. Lee, the National Director of the Federation of Public Employees Union, this morning when I saw him on the way in, and he said that the changes were amenable and a good first step in allowing his and other organizations into the county to talk with our employees if, in fact, they so desire to be members of various unions or organizations."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, any questions for Mr. Hermon?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I saw the original, what was the 50 percent, I heard you talk about that, but it was 50 percent or a minimum of 300. What, what -- is there a minimum number in this attachment A?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "No, sir. It's if they employ -- the organization just has to meet the criteria of being barred, not barred with the state -- being recognized and registered with the state of Georgia, send their recognition request to us. We'll prevent that to the Board of Commissioners, and if the Board of Commissioners accept them, then they can go out and secure membership. So there's no longer a 50 percent plus one or a minimum of 300 required anymore."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So two employees to have -- have represent something, and one of them -- that will be okay?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes. And as the communication I said, we currently have a organization right now that has only two members as members to that organization that are receiving dues from those two employees."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Well, if Alan Lee is okay with it, then I guess I'm okay with it. It just seems that the size requirement maybe 300 might be too big, but two also sounds, sounds a little too small to me."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I agree with you, Commissioner Arrington, because I thought the purpose of labor groups was to form to have a bigger voice. And if you have two people paying dues, and your voice still isn't that big, than your individual voice. But I guess if people are willing to pay into an organization where they might be the only member represented, then I guess so be it for our employees."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other comments?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0314**, Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the implementation of a pilot program for the reimbursement of childcare expenses, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll move approval, and see where is it?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Mr. Hermon."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes, so Commissioners, again, this is a resolution that would allow us to attempt to solve some of the problems that we've been hearing from the employees as it relates to trying to fill a chair -- a childcare gap that they might have within their respective financial situations, as well as our way of trying to entice the employees back down into the Government Center, as this might be the primary place of work. So this pilot, which you know has -- which the communication with the Chairman's office started way back in early 2024, would allow us to begin the exploration of setting up clear procedures as to how employees would be able to participate, how do we reimburse, and the like. And as I communicated to you in the correspondence yesterday, you know, we looked at different things. We first explored physically when the Government Center was extremely empty in early parts of coming back in from COVID, we explored the idea of having a childcare facility on site. And as I communicated there, we quickly abandoned that, after we got some estimated costs by working with Care.com and one of their providers as to how that would be. I think it was roughly about \$3 million. Then we also explored the option of surveying the employees, which we surveyed the employees and got a good sense from the employees as to what their needs are. And as communicated, the survey got about 256 responses. The highest departments participating were the Sheriff, the Tax Commissioner, and the Library, you know, and of the combined individuals that said, yes or it depends is about 95 percent. So almost close to about 40 percent of those surveyed said that they would

consider if, in fact, the county made a program of reimbursement available to them, they would consider utilizing the locations around the Government Center that are 1.5 -- 1.5 miles within the Government Center. How the resolution writes -- reads, sorry, is it provides for reimbursement up to or -- up to \$500 per month per employee who is participating. And we estimated that to be a roughly a \$300,000 cost for the balance of a six-month period of the year. And in the communication, I think the Chairman is talking about where the funding would come from, and that's going to be discussed during the midyear review, and potentially from the under -- any potential under runs from the payment that we made for the key performance indicator, the key performance payment of that \$15 million set aside. Additionally, in the resolution, it speaks to exploring, giving us the authorization to explore, also a solution at the Fulton County Jail at Rice Street. That one is a very unique solution that we would have to explore, because a normal daycare facility that operates from 8:00 to 5:00 doesn't fully address all of the concerns at the jail, since it's a 24-hour operation. And the closest 24-hour operation that we found to the facility is all the way in Smyrna, which was not as conducive as you would like if, in fact, we're trying to entice individuals to assume those roles as correctional officer. And then also make it easy for them to report to work and provide the necessary services that we need in order to take care of our, I think the Sheriff call them his residents. So Commissioners, we're hoping that you can give us the approval so that we can start the additional hard work to get more detail and put a program in place. And then hopefully by the midyear review, funding will also be in place and then we could launch this program."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Hermon. I am mostly supportive of this agenda item. I heard some different numbers, and there's no number in this resolution. I heard a \$300,000 number from you, and I also heard a \$15 million number from you. What is the amount -- the resolution says that there's ample money in the budget to cover this. What does that mean?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Oh, well, Commissioner, we were -- I mean, if the language needs to be specific, again, the intent of that language was understanding that they may be of the fifth -- and let me just clarify the numbers. So the \$15 million number, the Board of Commissioners approved in 2025 to pay for the key performance payments to the employees for achieving the key performance indicators, which has already been paid. We anticipate that there is an under run of that \$15 million, meaning we didn't get to the full 15 mill, we didn't exceed it. So that, I guess that's where the language is, you know, without being specific, suggests at the midyear review once Finance present those numbers to the Board of Commissioners that there would be ample resources to get this program off the ground, which we estimate would be about \$300,000 from July to the end of year. And again, this is just a pilot for the Government Center."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, so -- so the anticipated budget for this resolution is \$300,000?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes, up to \$300,000."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Up to three -- wait, but there -- so why does the resolution not say up to \$300,000?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "I apologize for the wording, so it --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I mean, because without that, it could be \$3 million or it could be \$30 million, right."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes. I see your point, Commissioner, and I am willing to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's add the three -- he's correct, up to 300,000. Approximately 300,000, that's the -- that's the estimate."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "That's the estimate, correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. So I -- thank you, Mr. Chair, because to just say there's ample resources without identifying the amount of money that you're talking about is -- is not comprehensible for me."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Like, I can't digest that without knowing what number you're talking about. So thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had a question about the available space in the daycares that are in the 1.5-mile radius. Have you called each of these daycares to find out what their total cost is to put a child in daycare there, and also how many spaces they have currently available?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "When we conducted the initial survey back in April or May of last year, each facility that we called said at the time that they did have space available. But as you can imagine, things change from day to day, month to month, based on the services and the utilization rates. We also did get rough cost estimates as to what it would cost per month for daycare services at the various facilities. And as you can imagine, it ranges. One facility, I remember off the top of my head and I looked at it, I think it was like over \$2100 a month for utilizing the daycare facility. And I think that was for child age five, four. At time that they will be there, include meals and those --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "You said it was how much, 2100?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "It was \$2100 per month. That was just one facility I remember off the top of my head that I --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And you said -- well, it sounds like you said that you haven't checked on the space for a year, about -- since about a year ago."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And how many spaces were available at that time? Because you're saying they have space, but was there space for 100 people to put their children there, one to two children per family?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "And I think that's -- the answer to that is, yes. If it -- because there are five facilities. So I think each facility had about 20 or so spaces available at the time. Now, one facility definitely would not have 100 spaces, but it would be on a first-come, first-serve basis at the facility. But I believe it did meet the -- I think it did exceed more than 100 slots when we did survey those facilities --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I mean, I'm asking because I did have an employee reach out to me to -- when they saw this on the agenda, and they said that they had looked at some of these facilities for exactly this reason, because they do have to come here, and some of them were exceedingly expensive compared to what they could get closer to where they lived. And also that many of them had wait lists. So I don't know if that's just been the change over the last year since you all looked. But I think we would need to know that, or at least have some idea of the, you know, availability. Because if - if there's only, let's say there's only 50 spaces available, then are we getting a genuine pilot out of it, if they're not really space available for 100 people to participate? So I think that would be good information to have. And if there isn't enough space, then we might consider, you know, even if you're trying to achieve the same goal of getting people in the office of expanding the 1.5-mile radius to a larger radius that's still somewhat close. But, you know, where there's more availability and maybe some better prices, so they have more options to compare prices."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "And we could commit to do that. And as you can imagine, the environment has changed as well, with a number of the private entities now coming back into work. So maybe that might accounted for the space inability -- unavailable, being unavailable. But I can go back and do another search of the initial five, and if we don't get anywhere near 100, I can expand the radius and then come back to the Board of Commissioners when we're ready to implement this program, and recommend that it's either three or 5 mile, and give you a lot more detailed numbers since we'll be about three months away."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. And I mean, this is more like a general question, but if -- how many people are -- are supposed to be -- like, how many people is -- have this building as their base of operations?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Well, I wouldn't count just this building, because within the radius, I would count the Government Center, the court, Juvenile Court, Medical Examiner's office, the Library, which is roughly, I would estimate about 2,000."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So about 2,000 people in this general -- "

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Right."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- vicinity. Okay. And of those, how many are hybrid currently, do we know?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Oh, that I don't have off the top of my head, Commissioner, no."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So I'm -- I guess what I'm asking is if the -- I mean, let's just say, for the sake of this conversation, that it's 2,000 people that have their base of operations here, and 1,000 of them are hybrid. Obviously, we'll find that number out at some point. But like, if this only brings, and this is more a question for you, Mr. Chairman, I guess. But if this only brings 50 to 100 back to the office, does it meet your goal of trying to get people back in, or is it just a step, and there's other steps to come? Again, I just -- how does it factor in?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, 50 or 100 is better than none at all from my perspective, and it would be a great employee benefit."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, certainly any help paying for daycare is a great employee benefit. I mean, you know, if the budget wasn't, you know, the issue, I'd say, let's just give people a break on daycare if we could afford to do that. But clearly that's not really possible to give everybody that. But I guess the other question is, do we know how many parents there are who have children of the 2000 that are stationed in this general area?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "I had the number, Commissioner. I think when we -- when we issued the survey, we sent the survey to all the employees who had kids at the time under the age of six, plus all the employees -- and we might have had some overlap, any employee who were utilizing the Care.com service when it was in place in early 20 -- in 2024. And I believe it went to about 350, 400 individuals, and of that population, 256 responded."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Got it, okay. That's helpful. I mean, obviously the only other thing I would just say as a general purpose concern about the budget, and this, the uncertainty that we still have about our expenses for this year. And while I think the idea is good, and I like giving people help with daycare, I am wondering if this is the right time to do it. If maybe we should be waiting until the next year's budget to see what we have, versus trying to do this kind of midyear, because it does seem like we

may need the savings from the performance bonus under runs or any other under runs to sort of address some of these unknowns right now, known unknowns, as the County Manager likes to call them, that we have coming as it relates to the justice system."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think there's never a wrong time to help parents with daycare, being a parent of six and the grandmother of two."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Congratulations."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Yeah, thank -- well, I don't know about that. But so I was wondering that as you're doing this pilot program, you'll find many different -- you'll find out things about the implementation that you will want to do later on. And I just would like you to consider employees who are caring for their grandchildren. Many, many employees are -- and they might not have necessarily gotten full custody, but they're caring for their grandchildren, and that they would be able to be a part of this program as well for grandchildren. So I just wanted to throw that out there as part of the consideration as you keep considering it. But thank you for doing this."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "We can look at that, and we would word it to the extent that it would be if any child under the age of, let's say six, that lives within the household."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Right, that would be great."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, Mr. Chair. To follow up on Commissioner Barrett's point, I think, you know, maybe up to five or 10 miles and not only from here, but also from their house. Because it might be easier to drop them off, and apparently according to Mr. Hermon, it might be cheaper to drop them off at a daycare that's near their house before they get on the road coming here. So it wouldn't necessarily make sense to pay \$2100 a month if you can pay 500 or \$1,000 a month within a mile and half or 5 miles from your home. I mean, you know, for me, I'm coming from Southwest Atlanta, right the border of South Fulton, you know, where there are daycares in that area. And so I guess I would just ask for a friendly amendment to allow, one, to increase the radius to five or 10 miles. And then two, to make it either from the Government Center or from the employee's residence, right, because it might -- it may be cheaper for us and easier for them to drop them off on the way to work and pick them up on the way back home than, rather than doing it downtown where the rent is higher and everything else is higher, so --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I accept that. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. I was just going to make a comment that I know, not that I have children in childcare, but that several school programs have childcare buses that would pick up from, you know, the school and take them to the childcare until the parent got off. And so if it was close to your home, those childcare centers wouldn't be -- you wouldn't be able to get that \$500 bonus, I would say, for childcare. But I am kind of with Commissioner -- I understand the -- we always said, no new programs, and this is basically a new program. But I understand we do have the funding in the budget, and I would recommend keeping it a pilot project, just something small, maybe we don't expand it now, because it seems like you studied what you studied, and you're proposing what you studied. But just to keep it small and see if it works. And if it really does increase productivity, brings back people back into the office and accomplishes what the intent of it is to do."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "And Commissioner, just to -- you're right. So we know the population now that was interested based on the 1.5 is 100. With the friendly remember being adopted by the Chair -- by the Chairman, you know, we'll go back and I guess, we issue another survey to figure out what that population now would be. And -- and the pilot would now be, would be the same, but change significantly with, I am sure, with more individuals interested in participating, then we'll have to figure out how do we get those individuals into the program as a pilot as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: (Off-mic remarks).

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "A year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So I just want to make sure I understand the current friendly amendments that have been accepted before we vote. So we have, we've agreed that we would limit it to 300,000 for the pilot; is that what we said?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Up to, is what he said."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Up to 300,000. So that means, however many --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Up to, I said approximately 300,000."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. But there's a -- we're saying there's a dollar cut off for the pilot program. So in other words, if you were to take the other friendly

amendments, which I believe you agreed to were, which was a five to 10-mile radius, both of home and of --"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "The county."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- of -- then you might get a lot more people interested."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So you would have to cut it off at a certain number."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So it would be like first-come first-serve kind of thing?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Or a lottery. We'll have to figure out what's the best way that shows that it's a fair opportunity for those -- this new population to be able to gain access to --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So but there is that dollar limit for the six-month pilot?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "And still keeping the dollar limit, yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Can we get some direction on maybe a couple of things. One is, the only employees that are eligible are ones that are currently in a flex-work environment or hybrid working environment today? Or is it any employee that has the reporting location as 141 Pryor or the two or three others? That's one question. A second question is, you know, on some of -- when, just when you look at the top three participating departments, Sheriff, Tax Commissioner, Library. I would think those are virtually not flex environments. So those are the ones that responded. I just want to be clear, when he designs the program that he designs it in accordance with what you're exactly targeting. And then the, you know, the unintended consequence is, take Tax Commissioner. So I want to make sure that we understand that we're going to be explaining to Tax Commissioner reps that are in Maxwell Road, North Annex, South Annex, and Greenbrier that they don't qualify. But if they're in the Government Center, they do qualify. But maybe they don't qualify if they're not in a flex work schedule, because they have to be here everyday any -- in other words, I just want to make sure that Ken understands exactly what he's supposed design before he walks out of here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I think Ken understands, Mr. Manager. But if this is not a good idea, let's don't do it."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I'm not saying it's not a good idea. It's how he designs it, is going to have to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It's some pilot program, and we're asking him to develop. He can consider everything that he's heard. And if we don't like it when it comes back, we vote it down, period."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Understood."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair, I was just going to ask, maybe we do a motion to hold so that we can hone it in, because to the County Manager's point, if -- if Library -- if employees from the Library has responded to this, and they're all at branches, it should -- the radius should be from their work location. In my mind, it should be available for all employees, number one. Number two, it should be from wherever they work, because if they work at Maxwell Road at the South Annex, that's not their fault, that's where we have assigned them. And so it should be for -- it should be, you know, within a certain mile radius of wherever they are. But, I mean, I'm supportive of it. But it sounds like the survey -- the survey results are dated, and it sounds like there's some other options to consider. And so it might make more sense to -- for Mr. Hermon to bring it back --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can I --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- after he's chance to update the survey results and after, you know, we have some, maybe some further discussions about the locations, because I mean, the jail isn't within one half miles of here. So you know, if those are the employees that responded and the Library employees responded and the Tax Commissioner employees responded. If those are the employees that need -- that need the help, we might need to make sure that they are being included as well."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can I get in the queue, please?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Commissioner Ellis, all right. Vice Chair, you want to be heard now? There's a -- there's a -- Commissioner Arrington, you wanted to make a motion, substitute motion to hold?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I mean, I'm -- I guess I can. I, you know, I guess I wanted to hear from the rest of you. I'm fine moving it forward. But I think it does need a little refining, you know, to make sure they get it right, right? It's a great program, but I would hate to leave out the employees at the South Fulton Annex and Maxwell Road and the Library branches, particularly if those are the people that responded the highest to the survey results. And then the survey, you know, it sounds like it's dated as well. So I'd love to get updated survey results and maybe have us talk about, you know, making sure that we're really addressing the people that responded to the survey."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. You want to make the motion hold?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, motion to hold."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a second? All right. There's a motion made to hold and hope we will not hold today. Commissioner Ellis, you still want to be heard?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, I just -- I just got a simple question. Are we voting to approve implementation of a pilot program --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, just --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- or voting -- voting --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- pilot program."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- to approve -- you bringing us back a program --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- to consider implementing?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's what we're doing."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Well, I mean, to me, we are holding it then. I mean, I don't --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, because the County Manager asked for clarification on what the program would be that he's supposed to bring back."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. We have a motion on the floor --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'm in the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hold. Just a minute. Just a minute. The motion on the floor by Commissioner Arrington to hold, seconded by Commissioner Dana Barrett. And I hope that we will not hold today. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor on the motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chair. Well, I wouldn't want to hold this, because I think we're getting a little bit too in the weeds, because it is a pilot program, and we're not going to cover everything with this pilot. The purpose of a pilot program is to kind of see what's the best direction to go in. And I think we are getting a little bit too in the weeds about it. I would not want -- because to be told, Chairman, you've been talking about this for, I know, well, over two years, okay? Because I've had employees to ask me, and so I would hope that the colleagues today will move forward

with this, with the concerns that we have all shared to Ken Hermon, for it to be tweaked. And if Ken Hermon and the County Attorney, feel free, I don't think you have to, but feel free to opine on this. If he needs to come back and bring some version or bring something that he needs to alter, he could always bring it back for further approval. But I think holding it is doing a disservice to all those employees whose been hearing us talking about it for two years. So I can't -- I cannot, in good conscious, vote to hold this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett on the motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. Yeah, so just on clarity again, like I don't need to hold. I can withdraw my second on that if -- but I want to understand the sort of clarification that Vice Chair Ellis just brought up. Is this -- the way I read it to be this is, go ahead and implement it, start it in July, or whatever you said. And but now, are we saying that it's -- it's actually, bring it back for -- as a full, like, a fully thought out program, and we approve it then, and then you start? I'm -- I'm --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's too much."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Right, so is it -- but that's where I'm sort of -- there's some confusion it seems like, about whether or not this is just a, go with these changes and start it in July. And then that does sound like that based on the changes we threw in, it -- it changes the cost potentially, and who can participate, and adds a lottery and all kinds of other things. So, I mean, the County Manager is asking for clarification because they need to implement this. So I'm fine with us going forward if it's clear what we're going forward with, that's all. I don't -- I'm only holding because I thought we needed more clarity. But if we don't, I mean, I guess that's a question to you all. If you have enough clarity to move forward in July with the program, up to \$300,000, it's okay with me."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "And if I may try to provide clarity, I think because the funding wouldn't be identified until the midyear review, technically we are in a hold. So all of your recommendations that you have put in place allows us to now, fine tune the definitions of what is the eligibility, what's the radius? If we could issue a new survey and get it updated, we could do further research on the availability of slots within the original 1.5 or the new one, the new 10 miles. And all of that could get us to when we get to June or July, you have a fully-fledged out program that we're ready to potentially implement on the day that you approve the 300,000 versus approving the 300,000, and then we're doing the analysis to start several months later."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, I'm fine with that, so I'll withdraw my motion to hold."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Well, I'm just saying technically, because I still have to do all of the leg work to do the additional changes that you require, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, so that's why it makes sense to bring it back then after you've done all that."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Are you withdrawing your second to hold? Is there another second to hold? Another second to hold?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. That substitute motion fails. Now, back to the main motion, which is to approve."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, she's still listed as the second on that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now, on the motion to approve, let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the motion to approve."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "As amended, right?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

CLERK GRIER: "As amended, yes. And the motion passes unanimously."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0315**, Request approval of a Resolution expanding the Adult Day Health Program provided by Fulton County's Department of Senior Services to be accessible to employees and for other purposes, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll make a motion to approve. We get a second?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Properly moved and second. Mr. Hermon, you earning your keep today."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Thank you very much. You know, it was, I guess the stars aligned today that we just finished talking about providing access to care and supporting our employees when their family is young as related to daycare and childcare services. But now we're also talking now about providing some type of

support for employees when they're now taking care of a loved one who are there, nearing the end of their -- of their life on this earth. And HR is always a big supporter of providing as many perks and benefits to the employees as possible. And ever since we had, we will allow the Care.com contract during COVID, 15 percent of the utilization of the Care.com contract was for adult care that our employees were leveraging from that contract. What we are asking for today, and through the partnership that I -- and the exploration with Ladisa Onyiliogwu, the Director of Senior Services, we put our heads together and we found an opportunity for the county to, again, provide that support to the employees of the county, leveraging services that are already available within the county, which kind of follows what the Board has already done relative to the multipurpose center. I think in 2010 -- '05, the Board adopt a -- a resolution that allowed nonresidents to leverage the multipurpose centers services. And what this resolution is attempting to do today is to allow our employees who may not be residents of Fulton County, to be able to access the Adult Day Care. Utilizing the exact -- the existing process within the Senior Services Department, which includes a sliding fee and application process and the like. And hopefully, you know, provide some solution and cost savings to those employees who are -- have the honor of taking care of an elderly person within their -- in their household. From what I saw in the last time that I looked actually, right, actually last week, at least the one in Cobb, and also, to mention, Commissioners, other jurisdictions do not offer adult day services at county facilities, it's mostly in the private sector. So in Cobb where I live, I think the going rate at least at one private facility was \$135 per day for senior to go to receive either care or just various services from the facility. And as you can see, based on the capacity that's available within the senior services, we believe that a potential of five slots per Senior Services location, which would get us to about 20, correct? To about 20, could go to softening the financial burden. Again, potentially, we might have 500 employees who might be in the need. But again, if we could offer this solution to potentially 20 employees, again, we are doing our part in trying to create a solution for that honorable task of taking care of a loved one in their final stages. And I don't know, Ladisa, if you have anything that you would want to add to the presentation."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Thank you, Kenneth. Ladisa Onyiliogwu, Director, Department of Services. HR and Senior Services has partnered since 2017 on caregivers in the workplace. So we -- we really believe in this supportive benefit for county employees who are caregivers and have the capacity support. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you. The motion on the floor is to approve. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Hermon, this is another resolution that doesn't have a budget. What is the budget for this?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "No budget is required, Commissioner Arrington. We currently have capacity within our four Adult Day Programs to support five slots for Fulton County employees who may bring in a mom or

a dad or someone that they're caring for. To answer your question, specifically regarding the budget, it's a direct service. So we have personnel that is about a little over a million that's already allocated in our budget. We're not going to go over that. And operation costs are about 400,000 total across all four facilities. So the intent is not to increase our program budget to support this, it is to provide this access to our facilities within our budget."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Don't get mad at me, because I was just in Fairburn at the Senior Center, and they complain they don't have any services, they don't have any professors, they don't have any structures. There -- I mean, like there's a laundry list of things that aren't being provided to the existing customers. So how do -- how does that get resolved? How do we bring in more people and we're not even servicing the people that are there properly already?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir. The Fairburn Neighborhood -- that is the New Beginnings Neighborhood Senior Center in Fairburn, Georgia. It is one of many Senior Centers that are separate -- that is funded under the Aging Services contract. I did receive a list of their concerns that are primarily facility related, regarding programming, sir. We are working with the contractor to make sure that the seniors are receiving the types of classes that they're interested in, such as physical fitness, wellness. However, we have audited and reviewed the programs that are being offered there, and our team has gone out there frequently, and they are receiving services. But we are sensitive to any concerns that they may raise, and we're addressing it. There is capacity in the Fairburn location, but that's a different program. And so we are not recommending -- and it's not for this resolution. This resolution is to support Fulton County employees who may have parents living within their homes and they're caregivers for them. And those parents may have functional limitations such as the early onset of dementia, and they --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, I understand. I understand that."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That -- the issue is, you're saying you've got capacity --"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- at these facilities to bring on these people, and that there's no extra cost."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And I'm trying to understand how you can have capacity to bring on additional people when I'm getting complaints that the people that are already there are not being serviced properly. And I can guarantee you, if we go

over to Bowden, it's going to be the same way. I'll go to you where every Senior Center, and I'll bet you it's a laundry list at every Senior Center. There -- how many instructors are there for the classes? The instruct -- we had that issue last year. So like, and the -- we have open, vacant positions. So I'm fine with supporting this. But what you're telling me is, you have the existing resources and with your existing budget to cover that. And what I'm saying is, you can't, because there's too many people complaining that they aren't getting the services that -- that the existing people aren't getting the services."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir. I'd like to parse that out. We have three facility based programs. So for the Adult Day Health Program, we definitely have the staff, the budget and the facilities to support up to five slots. And that's for any Fulton County employee, like you acknowledged that would bring their parent. So we'll set that aside, because the instruction will be there, the activities, the group trips. For the multipurpose side, and we have four across the county, we have just surveyed our centers. And the customer status satisfaction rates are quite high. And so we provide programming and arts, aquatics, nutrition, we provide meals. But what I'd like to do is provide a memorandum to you and the entire Board that explains the instruction, the level of instruction -- instructors that we have for the multipurpose and adult day, because those are provided through Fulton County employees. And then I can also delineate the types of programs provided in the Neighborhood Senior Center structures, and we have 14 across the county. And so we do work closely with the Aging Services contractors, which is what the Board approves every year, to bring in either volunteer instructors or paid instructors. They partner with Arts and Libraries to bring in programming as well. So I'll provide that memorandum to you to answer and clarify exactly how we are providing these services and responding to customer complaints."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. And I need an update, because I'm supposed to go back --"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- to Fairburn and give them an update on what has been done. So I need the update from you on what has been done to address their concerns. Or you can go back with me. We can go back together."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "I'll go with you. Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. Because I'm -- you know --"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "I'll remember."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- this sounds great, right?"

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "But I don't want to -- if the people that are already being serviced aren't getting the services they're need, then it's hard for me to understand how we bring on more. But I understand your point is there are three different programs, and this is one program that has capacity, even though the other two may -- may or may not have."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yeah, it's a valid question. Because we just had to address the instructor issue in the Arts Program at Benson. So we work with, we address, we respond to your concerns, the customer's concerns and try to work as quickly as possible to resolve."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this is a great idea. I'm glad we're going to open this up to Fulton County employees and that there's space available. I just actually had a question about the process to get people on board to participate in this. And the reason I'm asking is solely because I have a constituent, an open constituent issue right now, where someone is trying to get their parent into Adult Day, and they're struggling with the process. There's somehow -- there's a back and forth, they're not getting timely responses. This is what one person is telling me, so it's - it's just one person's opinion. But I just want to understand when you -- what is the process to get into Adult Day?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes. The process begins with a call either to our Starline, if you don't have any other number, that's (404) 613-6000, and they can direct you to the center of your choice or that's closest to your home, or you can contact the Adult Day Program directly. You would meet with the lead of that program. They are Program Coordinators."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So you go in person, and meet with --"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "You would go in person. So you could view them. You could tour our facilities as well, but you can have a conversation. You need to get paperwork for your doctor. But at that preliminary discussion, you're getting information on the services that we provide and the eligibility requirements. Then the person, your constituent, would take that paperwork back to their doctor to make sure that the testing that's required is completed and that the documentation is completed. You would then return that back to the Adult Day Program. We would conduct an assessment, make sure that you do meet the eligibility requirements, and based on capacity. And there is capacity at all of our facilities right now, then you would be admitted into the program. So what I'll do is have a team member follow up with you --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I was going to say --"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "-- so we can make sure that we address that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And I will follow up with you, and I haven't done that, so that's on me. But I was just curious because it does seem like, that's a fairly long, detailed process. And I think maybe part of the problem is -- and it may be documented somewhere, but I think this, for whatever reason, this person doesn't have all the information about the process."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And that may be -- it may be just as simple as that. But so -- so these folks that would be affected by this program are welcomed, because of this program, would go through that same process. How, about how long does that usually take, that whole back and forth?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "It really depends on the caregiver and the physician's responsiveness. Every time I go into an Adult Day facility, I'll have team members saying, hey, we've got two assessments scheduled tomorrow or three next week. So as soon as we schedule our conversation with the caregiver and provide them with the information, the timeline is up to them on and -- and then the physician's availability to conduct a physical, complete the paperwork, again, provide the -- make sure the senior is tested and passes it. And then the caregiver has to respond back to us and give us that information."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. Yeah, that's very helpful, thank you. And thank you, Mr. Chairman, for putting this up. It's a great idea."

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

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 11, **25-0316**, External Affairs Presentation, 2025 State Legislative Session Update."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. It's been a long day. I almost forgot we had a legislative session. But indeed we did. Thank you, team. So Sine Die was a week and a half ago on April 4th. And we're just going to give you a recap of our session and some of the kind of wins and opportunities for next time. Next slide, please. So again, we recapped. One of the biggest highlights for Fulton County, one of the biggest victories in this session was the allocation of \$9.4 million for the North Fulton Behavioral Health Crisis Center. As you know, our current center at Oak Hill opened on October 31st of 2024. And now we have the opportunity to have an additional center. I'm sorry, Chairman, I waited all day for this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's go."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "So we will be opening that. Next slide. I just wanted to also thank the County Manager for his support and our engaging our Legislators on that item. Next slide --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And Representative Jones."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "And the -- Yes, absolutely, Speaker Pro Tem Jones really fought for that and made that happen. Without her, it would not have happened. Just want to give -- give her that recognition and thanks. One of our other top three items was the allocation of three additional State Court Judges. And that one went all the way through, and has gone to the Governor's desk. Veto deadline, by the way, is May 14th. So we do not expect any issues with this, but just, that's when we will really send our final report out. So thanks to our State Court team, as well as the really bipartisan support in our delegation for getting this done. Next slide. They would be appointed and then -- and then, of course, run for office the next time. But, yes, sir, the new Judges would be appointed."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Who makes the appointment?"

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The Governor. Commissioner, I don't want to misspeak. So let me pull the Bill and get that to you. I believe it's -- Jasmine, you want to -- we'll get that for you. The next slide, please. Again, we've talked about behavioral health. And also want to mention that there is additional funding in the Georgia DBHDD budget for forensic services and forensic beds for justice-involved individuals. We talked earlier today about competency, and so those beds are really important for individuals who are not yet well enough to stand trial. Next slide, please. Unfortunately, this Bill did not make it through all the way. It's -- this is the Senate Bill 10, which includes the language related to the Judicial Officers. So this Bill crossed over, but as you may have heard, the Senate left a number of Bills on the table when they adjourned on Sine Die, and this Bill was one of them. So it is still live legislation. It crossed over, but that is the final step in the process. So it would be -- this is one we will continue to work on in 2026. Next slide, please. I'm sure all of you've seen news coverage about tort reform. This was Governor Kemp's really top priority."

There is an element of this related to our -- our priority area was around premises liability, and so we've highlighted that here. This Bill has already been signed, so we're just, you know, we'll continue to look into this. Of course, this affects the County Attorney's office primarily in cases that they're handling. Next slide, please. Next Gen 911, this is, want to thank ACCG for their hard work on this. And really this is benefiting not just Fulton County, but also all of the public safety answering points within Fulton County and helping really increase public safety across the board. So this would really create a structure for that Next Gen 911. It creates kind of some system standards for new systems, training, all of those kinds of things. So this is setting groundwork for Next Gen 911. I know some of you will be at ACCG next week, and we'll hear more about this. This is really one of their top priorities. Next slide. Digital court reporting, this one has also gone all the way through. So this allows court reporting in certain cases. We will provide you -- and I think we have already sent you in our weekly reports, the Bills. But just so you have the final. I know those you who are in a courtroom frequently would be -- find this of interest. Next slide, please. But also just want to point out that this really helps simplify the scheduling of cases in times where a court reporter's availability -- they're very high demand. Senate Bill 244 is one that we had a lot of discussion about. Unfortunately for us, this did pass, and it has very specific language in the -- in the final version of the Bill that, in a case where a -- a case has been dismissed and a prosecutor has been disqualified from the case based on their conduct, it would cause the county government to be -- that those defendants could seek reasonable attorney's fees, and the county government is still the source of those payments, and specifically the budget of the prosecuting attorney. So we're going to have to kind of watch and see what happens next. Again, this is one where -- they also, I just want to point out that this also was attached to legislation that creates an opportunity for recompense to individuals who were wrongfully accused and convicted and later found to be innocent. So those, it creates a structure for those individuals to receive payment from the state. Georgia was one state that did not have that in place, and -- but it also has the second effect that, again, the Bill sponsor was very specific, that this was specifically about Fulton County. Next slide."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So well, if you go back, please, one slide."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Go back, please."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm most concerned about that last -- I guess it's maybe third to last sentence. This applies to all criminal cases pending on or after the Bill becomes law. So that goes back to my point about retro -- of the Bill not -- it sounds like they're not trying to apply it retroactively. But I heard you say that they were trying -- that the sponsor was trying to make it apply to Fulton County, so."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "So the Bill -- the case that we're -- we all know which case we're talking about. That case is still pending in that the prosecutor was removed by the Court of Appeals. She, the prosecutor has appealed. And so the case has not been dismissed at this time. So it is, I think, if the case had been dismissed prior to the passage of this legislation, then it would not apply to us."

But because that case is still an active case, pending her appeal of her removal, then it would apply to this case."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right, thank you."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes, sir. Thank you. Next slide, please. This is -- so the caption on this is a little bit confusing. But Senate Bill 151 was Senator Beach's original Bill about the Development Authority. It ended up being attached to a different Bill, which is House Bill 155, which was about arbitrators. Then -- this has nothing to do with arbitrators. It's really now about Development Authorities. It's specific to North Fulton, and it allows those cities to opt out of having the Fulton County Development Authority conduct certain activities within their city. It does not create a new North Fulton Development Authority, which was the original purpose of that legislation. Really, I think the Development Authority is engaging the cities in conversation about how they can collaborate and work together. There are advantages to having a Development Authority that is active across the county. But again, that's -- that's something that the Development Authority leadership, I believe, is already engaging the cities in those discussions. Next slide, please. I just want to point out that there will be, and I think you talked about this earlier, three referenda related to homestead exemptions. All three of these are around schools. So Senate Bill 330 creates a new exemption for seniors. And then 776 and 777, new senior exemptions for Fulton County Schools. So one for Atlanta Public Schools, two for Fulton County Schools. So we're working with the Tax Assessor's office and Tax Commissioner's Office. Senate Bill 330 has little bit more complex language around implementation, so we're having some discussions around that. The other two are a little bit more straightforward in how they will be implemented. Next slide, please. There were some questions from the Library and the Library Board Members and their Foundation around House Bill 483, and this bill was tabled in the Senate and did not go through. So just wanted to make sure you were aware of that. Next slide. There will be a number of Study Committees. I won't go through all of these, but if you are interested in any of the Study Committees, we will -- please let us know. We will be monitoring those over the summer as they meet, and we can certainly make sure you're aware of those meetings as well. Next slide. Again, just more Study Committees that we wanted you to be aware of. Next slide, please. So again, our next step, we do kind of a wrap-up session, where we invite the legislative liaisons from departments. So we will be holding that closer to the veto deadline so we know, you know, just to make sure that nothing did -- nothing got vetoed that we didn't think would get vetoed. We will also issue our final written report around that time. We do an annual survey of departments to identify any issues that they may have around legislation. We bring that back, and also, we'll meet with all of you about any issues and concerns that you have. We will continue to be engaged with ACCG. I already mentioned the Study Committees. And again, we'll be back at this before you know it for the 2026 Session. I also just want to thank Jasmine in particular, who's done a tremendous job this year, really stepping in and handling a lot of the work. And also want to thank our lobbying team, who've been really a great asset for us this year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "She did a good job."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Jasmine. She needs to correct the record. I probably messed something up here."

JASMINE CAMPBELL, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Thank you all, and thank you, Jessica. So Commissioner Arrington, for House Bill 625, the appointment term ends December 31st, 2026. The election will take place in May 2026, and the four-year term starts on January 1st, 2027."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. So that's aligned with our terms."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Sir?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's aligned with our terms."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Yes, that's right, yes. Yes, sorry."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Our district terms, at least."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Any questions? Well, it's been a pleasure. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 12, **25-0317**, Discussion and approval of payroll deductions for employee organizations sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manager or Mr. Mr. Hermon, who was that?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Commissioners, so we just -- we adopted the changes to the ordinance. So now this is the actual vote to recognize the Federal Employees Public Service Union."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So we need a motion to approve them, is that what --"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, I'll move approval. All right."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Second."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yea."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0318**, Discussion, tax assessment and billing update, sponsored by Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. We can skip this. This was covered during the -- it's built into the operational report. So I'm good with that."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0319**, Discussion, Library parking."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah. I'll be brief on this. Look, I think all of you have libraries in your district. I don't know if this applies to everybody but. The ones in my district, they all have these spaces in them that would -- which are reserved for EVs. None of them have EV chargers. And most of the time, when I go by them, there were either no cars parked in there or there are gas-powered cars parked in there. And very infrequently, are there EVs parked in there. They're close to the building. I've gotten a lot of complaints about this over the years. And I think it just -- it's a bad look. And I just think they all need to be replaced. If they don't have an EV charger in them, I think they need to replace with either senior citizen parking or handicap parking or just everyday use parking. And that's my request."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What do want to have happen, Vice Chair?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "My request is if there's no EV charger in there, to convert these to either senior citizen parking, handicap parking, or general use parking."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any objection? So we communicate that to -- Commissioner Arrington. Sorry."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah, I was in the queue. For me, thank you for bringing this Vice Chair Ellis. For me, this begs the question, and maybe Mr. Davis knows the known-unknowns. How many EV parking spaces do we

have? What is the maintenance schedule? Do we need an assessment to find out how many we have, how many we don't have? How many spaces do we have versus how many chargers we have? Like, somebody should know the answers to those questions."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, Commissioner Arrington. So at the moment, we have seven electric vehicle charging spaces at the Metropolitan Library, where there are seven charging stations involved -- installed. We are planning to install another set of charging stations at the Animal Shelter, as that facility was built with the infrastructure in place as a part of the original construction project. The spaces that are being referenced in this particular agenda item were originally put into the library renovation or construction projects in order to obtain the appropriate LEED credits. As you know, there was a strong desire for the libraries to be LEED certified. And so we had a consultant that provided those recommendations. Since this item appeared on the agenda, we've kind of tracked down some information that says that we won't necessarily lose our LEED certification at those facilities. We can take them out. We are not funded at this moment to put EV charging stations anywhere else. We're working towards that through grants and other alternative means beyond direct funding allocation, but until that time, those spots that Commissioner Ellis is referencing in this item will remain vacant, and we can move, if the Board so chooses, to change those spaces."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you for that answer. I would at least, Vice Chair Ellis, like some type of assessment to know where we are and where we aren't. I think all your recommendations make perfect sense, right? Make it senior or elderly, but I would at least like to know what we have versus what we don't have before executing that, you know?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I think he just outlined what we've got. We only got it at once -- one library and there's going to -- the other was going to be in the Animal Shelter."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That's it, right?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Those -- so you -- so we only have 14 EV charging station in the county?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "We have --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Or at libraries? Because I guess this is particularly library parking."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "At the library -- as far as the Library System is concerned, there's only one library that has electric vehicle charging stations, and it has

seven ports. Three -- four individual units, three of which are dual ports, and one is a singular port for an accessible parking space."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. What about Wolf Creek library?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "None."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Is -- and what about any of the other libraries in south side? Gladys Dennard?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "None."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "He said none."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Wait. So I want to -- I want to be real clear what your none is to. Is your none to the charging station, or is your none to the designated parking spaces? Because there's a difference between those two."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, sir. That is none to the electric vehicle charging stations."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So how many designated EV parking spaces do they have?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "It varies from building to building based upon the total number of parking spaces in the lot as determined by foot traffic. So I would have to pull that information together and can get that to you rather quickly."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, thank you. Yeah, I would just love to know who's on first and what's on second."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I mean, it's still my request. I mean, doesn't matter if we got six or five or whatever. We don't have any charging stations there. My request is still the same, that we just remove these and convert them, so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. That's a -- any objection to that?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, yeah. I mean, I -- I mean, I guess we just have to have a vote. I mean, you know -- or, you know, I don't know that there's a motion. I don't know if I need to do a motion to hold. But I would like to get the information that I requested before having to make vote on this."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I would like to make a motion to hold."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Bring them all back. We do a resolution, we take up about six, seven hours' worth of folk's time, and we'll do it. Fantastic."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We're going to hold it."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That was a discussion. So just bring it back in a different way."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0320**, Discussion, Clerk of Court, passport fees, disclosure and reporting, sponsored by Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Try to be brief on this. As you all recall, I think that was two years ago, we had this as part of our legislative agenda, maybe three years ago. Think Jessica's already left to go have a good time. But the -- anyway, we the -- the legislation was sauced with -- that we had sought was to eliminate compensation receipt by Clerks of Court and Probate Courts for administration of passport services. That Bill, as it ultimately wound up, was passed. It was SB19. And it did not eliminate the personal income piece, but what it did require was that clerks and/or Probate Court Judges who were receiving these, these kind of compensation, would be required to make a disclosure to the governing authority of the particular counties. So where a -- and that was effective January 1, 2025. So we're a full quarter into this. And then we have the right to adjust what we want that reporting to look like or to be and/or the frequency of it. But the quarter has passed. So I had requested, because I've had constituents that have required about this and wanted to see what it was. So the Clerk of the Court's did provide a document, a brief document back to us that we all saw yesterday. So three line are on here from Madam Che Alexander, who's the Clerk of Court. It lists three items on it the county general, county general fund, in a figure of 2.299, just under 3 million noted in that, a US Department of State of 697,517.74, and processing fees of \$150,010. I did have a chance to speak with the Clerk yesterday, and ask if these were overlapping. In other words, where -- was the 150 a subset of the 2.299 or at 697, and she indicated that they are all separate and distinct. And also asked, what is processing fees mean? Because that's not necessarily clear to me, in terms of the way that's written. And I said, is this your, the compensation that you receive for passport fees in the first quarter of 2025, and she, she spoke, she said, yes. So I think -- I -- we've got the report. I think it should be something that we should look at and decide, is this adequate enough for us, or do we want to see something different,

that's more specific, and what kind of frequency we want to receive? And then whatever we decide upon on that, I would like it to be routinely done, and then part of our public record and put into, you know, whether it's in Consent Agenda or whatnot, but it just be a routine reporting that would come forward through our Board of Commission level."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So what do -- what is the county general -- what is that 2.2, again, county general fund?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I had asked, and I am not sure of this, ad I think that's a point we need some clarification around."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, let's clarify that. All right."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah. Because I had asked our folks whether that is general fund for associated with passport stuff, is it other things, et cetera? So I asked financial staff to get some sort of additional information for us on that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And the same thing with the department. But the processing fee, you ask a specific question there, whether or not that was going to her; is that correct?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right. And I think we can ask that back and confirm it. And I think it should be worded that, you know, as to what it is, you know, processing fees, compensation to the Clerk, whatever, so it's clear. But that was what she indicated to me yesterday when we spoke on the phone. But I think the report could use some clarity on that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, I just like to make a, you know, just a couple of observations here. That does need to be clarified, but and we talked about this in the past. And the truth of the matter, my Chief of Staff always reminds me of this. To the best of my -- there are two employees that are the beneficiaries of this type of state legislation. One is the Tax Assessor, and he's been -- strike the Tax Commissioner, and he's been adamant about that. And the other is the -- the Clerk of Courts. And we may not like it, but it's legal. And I need to make that point that it's legal. There's nothing that -- until the state law is changed, it is legal for the Tax Commissioner and for the Clerk to receive what they receive over and above their regular compensation that goes along with the job. The state set it up that way, and it's not going to change unless the state decides to change it. And my guess is, that's not going to happen. The reason it's not going to happen is because there are Tax Commissioners in the smaller counties, there are Clerks of Courts in the smaller counties who make a little of nothing that's relative. And their -- and compensation comes from situations like this. In this case, her -- the processing of the passport, so we may not like it, but it's not going to change. Now, how does this work? What happens? Well, some Clerks do not accept it. They give it to the -- to their general funds. Some pay the employees who do the work out of it and keep the rest. And then some Clerks, very few of them, keep it all. And so if you'd like a report on that, we can get you the report. But my point here is, there's nothing illegal

about what happening. We may not like it, but if you just extrapolate this, 150,000 per -- is that per quarter, Vice Chair?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That's as I understand it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So times four, that's the extra 600,000 a year. But that's, again, there's nothing illegal about it. And it's not going to change unless the state changes it. And the smaller counties going to work with their Senators and Representatives to make sure that it doesn't change. So that's my 2 cents on this. Nothing illegal about it at all. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, Mr. Chair, I would just say I think you got that mostly right, about 90 percent right. There is also the Probate Court Judge that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- Vice Chair Ellis mentioned. And it is -- it's not just the state law, it's the State Constitution, too."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- because they are -- they are, all three of them, are constitutional officers. So not only would the State Legislature have to make a vote and a move and the Governor would have to sign it, but then there would also have to be a vote of the citizens of the state of Georgia in order to change the Georgia Constitution, so --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Not going to happen."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "It is not likely that is -- that is going to change."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Well, I mean, I -- I don't think that the Constitution would not have -- there wouldn't have to be a referendum to put this in face. They had legislation they could approve that would have restricted or put caps on their compensation. So they have the ability to do that, absent some sort of referendum. So you know, but bottom line is, there's a reporting requirement. There was a almost unanimous vote, one dissenting vote in the Senate, when this thing was passed, that there be a clear disclosure. And you know, I think there's -- you know, the Senate felt almost universal on it. We should get a quality disclosure. It should be something that people should look at, have an understanding on, and there should be transparency around."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Absolutely."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Absolutely. And -- but is that just for the Clerk of Superior Court, or is that for --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "It's required for both. But it's my understanding -- well, this is just specific to passport fees. It's my understanding that we can make an inquiry that our Probate Court Judge does not do any processing of passport transactions. This is specific. The legislation SB19 was specific to passport fees."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. But I don't -- all right. I don't know that we can --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "We can make an inquiry."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I don't know if our Probate Judge does --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "We should make inquiry. That's fine. That would be -- I think we can make a note of that and follow up, right? Just, you know, with the Probate Court Judge, and just confirm that there's no activity she does with this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Next. Anything else?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, no further items. Thank you for your patience and attendance today. We are adjourned."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.