

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
FOR THE PROVISION OF ELECTION SERVICES
BETWEEN
FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA and
CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

THIS INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT is entered into this ____ day of _____, 2021, between Fulton County, Georgia ("County"), a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, and the City of Atlanta, Georgia ("City"), a municipal corporation lying wholly or partially within the County.

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement are both governmental units; and

WHEREAS, the County and the City desire to maintain a mutually beneficial, efficient and cooperative relationship that will promote the interests of the citizens of both jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to contract with the County to conduct this election for the citizens of the City pursuant to the applicable laws of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the City and the County are authorized by Art. IX, Sec. III, Par. I of the Constitution of the State of Georgia to contract for any period not exceeding fifty (50) years for the provision of facilities or services which they are authorized by law to provide, including an agreement for the conduct of the City elections; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-45(c) authorizes the governing authority of any municipality to contract with the county within which that municipality wholly or partially lies to conduct any or all elections; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-45(c), a municipality may by ordinance authorize a county to conduct such election(s), and the City has adopted such an ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections ("BRE") has jurisdiction over the conduct of primaries and elections and the registration of electors in the County; and

WHEREAS, the BRE, among other things, is responsible for the selection and appointment of the elections Superintendent, who selects, appoints, and trains poll workers for elections;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the following mutual obligations, the County and City agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

1.1 This Agreement will govern the conduct of any and all elections which the City requests the County to conduct, including any and all runoffs which may be necessary. It is the intent of the parties that City elections be conducted in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local legal requirements.

1.2 For each City election, City, at its sole option, shall submit to County a request in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A. Requests must be made in conformance with O.C.G.A § 21-2-540, now and as it may be amended hereafter, to the address specified in the Notice Section below. If a timely request is not made, the County shall have no obligation to conduct the City election which was the subject of the request.

1.3 In the event any special City election becomes necessary, the City and the County shall confer and determine a mutually convenient date as allowed by law to conduct any such election.

ARTICLE 2 TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall commence on the date that it is executed by or on behalf of the governing authority of Fulton County, Georgia and will terminate on December 31, 2021, unless otherwise terminated as set forth herein.

ARTICLE 3 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Pursuant to this Agreement, each party shall provide the following enumerated services for the election to be held November 2, 2021:

3.1 Upon receipt of request to perform a City election, and the agreement to conduct a City election, the County through the Superintendent or their designee(s) shall be responsible for:

- a) Designating early and advance voting sites and hours;
- b) Placing the City's candidate(s) on the electronic and printed ballots for City elections after qualifying;
- c) Placing the City's referendum question(s) on the ballot for a City election after timely written notice from the City is received by the County (which such notice shall include all necessary details and information);
- d) Hiring, training, supervising and paying poll officers and absentee ballot clerks;
- e) Preparing and submitting to the Municipal Clerk, as required by state law O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224(e), now and as it may be amended hereafter, a list of electors.

- f) Performing duties of elections Superintendent, and absentee ballot clerk for the November 2, 2021 City General election;
- g) Performing logic and accuracy testing as required by Sections 183-1-12-.02 and .07 of the Official Compilation of Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia, now and as they may be hereafter amended;
- h) Providing staff, equipment and supplies for conducting the November 2, 2021 City General election at City polling places on City election days and for conducting recounts as may be required;
- i) Certifying City election returns as required by state law O.C.G.A. § 21-2-493, now and as it may be amended hereafter, and submitting certified City election returns to the Georgia Secretary of State and Municipal Clerk or as otherwise directed;
- j) Upon a change in City precincts or voter districts, notifying City residents of any change in voting districts and/or municipal precincts; and

3.2 The City shall be responsible for:

- a) Recommending early voting sites and hours of operation to the County.
- b) Adopting Election resolutions pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-45(c), now and as it may be amended hereafter, and calls for special City elections as required by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-540, now and as it may be amended hereafter;
- c) Preparing qualifying materials for potential candidates and performing qualifying of candidates, including any write-in candidates, for City elections as required by state law, specifically O.C.G.A. § 21-2-130 *et seq.*, now and as it may be amended hereafter;
- d) Placing advertisements in the City's legal organ regarding calls for City elections, as required by state law O.C.G.A. § 21-2-540, now and as it may be amended hereafter;
- e) Fixing and publishing the qualifying fee as required by state law under O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131, now and as it may be amended hereafter;
- f) Collecting and retaining the qualifying fee as required by state law O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131, now and as it may be amended hereafter;
- g) Performing filing officer duties as required by the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission for any and all state reports filed by the candidates or committees in conjunction with City elections to ensure compliance with Title 21, Chapter 5 of the Official Code of Georgia;

- h) If the City desires to review and verify the accuracy of the voter list(s) for City residents, it must do so not less than 30 days prior to Election Day;
- i) Providing the County with an electronic copy of referendums that must be placed on a ballot;
- j) Reviewing ballot proofs and notifying County of corrections or approval within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving proofs for candidate listings; and
- k) Otherwise cooperating with the County in the performance of this Agreement and providing the County such documentation and information as it may reasonably request to facilitate the performance of its duties under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4 COMPENSATION AND CONSIDERATION

4.1 For City elections that are to be conducted contemporaneously with a countywide General Election, pursuant to this Agreement and to action of the Board of Commissioners on August 3, 2016, the City will not be charged for the cost of said election.

4.2 That in odd-numbered years when the municipalities and school districts hold regularly scheduled and special elections, the municipalities and school districts will pay a no refund, flat rate of \$2.96 per registered voter for the election. If a run off is required, the municipalities and school districts will pay a no refund, flat rate of \$2.46 per registered voter. The payment of these per registered voter amounts is inclusive of the provision of 10 early voting sites. Additional early voting sites could require additional payment

That in odd-numbered years, the municipalities, and school districts will coordinate with Fulton County in setting the dates of elections so as to mitigate the financial burden being shifted to Fulton County for the conduct of elections.

The City will pay the actual cost of such election based on a budget prepared in accordance with the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.

ARTICLE 5 LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 The City shall be solely responsible for any liability resulting from any claims or litigation arising from or pertaining to any City election, except claims or litigation regarding the acts of agents or employees of the County, the County Board of Registration and Elections, and the County Election Superintendent in connection with any City Election held pursuant to this Agreement. The City agrees to reimburse the County for all costs, including, but not limited to, court costs and attorney fees for the County Attorney or outside counsel, incurred by the County as a result of any such claim or litigation. The City shall make payment of such reimbursements to the County within thirty (30) days of receipt of any invoice for reimbursement from the County.

5.2 In the event that a City election is contested, the City shall be solely responsible for any liability resulting from any claims or litigation arising from or pertaining to any contested City election, except claims or litigation regarding the acts of agents or employees of the County, the County Board of Registrations and Elections, and the County Election Superintendent in connection with any City Election held pursuant to this Agreement. The City agrees to reimburse the County for all costs incurred in responding to the election challenge, including, but not limited to, attorney's fees for the County Attorney or outside counsel and all expenses associated with the election challenge and any appeals thereafter. The City shall make payment of such reimbursements to the County within thirty (30) days of receipt of any invoice for reimbursement from the County. If a second election is required, such election will constitute a City Election under this Agreement and shall be conducted in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

5.3 To the extent allowed by law, the City agrees to defend and hold harmless the County with respect to any claim, demand, action, damages, judgment, cost and/or expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees and legal expenses) to which the County may be subjected as a consequence of or as a result of any error, omission, tort, intentional tort, willful misconduct, or any other negligence on the part of the City and/or its employees.

5.4 To the extent allowed by law, the County agrees to defend and hold harmless the City with respect to any claim, demand, action, damages, judgment, cost and/or expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees and legal expenses) to which the City may be subjected as a consequence of or as a result of any error, omission, tort, intentional tort, willful misconduct, or any other negligence on the part of the County and/or its employees.

5.5 It is the intent of the parties to be covered under the auspices of any applicable immunity granted by law.

5.6 Should it be necessary to comply with legal requirements that any of the County's personnel shall be sworn in as a temporary officer or employee of the City, such formality shall be observed without limitation.

ARTICLE 6 EMPLOYMENT STATUS

6.1 All County personnel assigned under this Agreement are and will continue to be employees of the County for all purposes, including, but not limited to: duties and responsibilities, employee benefits, grievance, payroll, pension, promotion, annual or sick leave, standards of performance, training, workers compensation and disciplinary functions.

6.2 All County personnel assigned under this Agreement are and will continue to be part of the Fulton County Department of Registration and Elections and under the supervision of the Superintendent.

6.3 All City personnel assigned under this Agreement are and will continue to be employees of the City.

ARTICLE 7 RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING

7.1 The County Registration and Elections Department is the central repository for all departmental records and makes available public records as defined and required by the Georgia Open Records Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70, *et seq.*, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-51 and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-72, now and as they may be amended hereafter. During the term of this Agreement, the County will continue to comply with the applicable provisions of the Georgia Open Records Act and the Georgia Election Code.

7.2 Except as limited by any provision of state or federal law, the City may request, review and access data and County records at a mutually agreed upon time to ensure compliance with this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 E-VERIFY AND TITLE VI

Each party agrees that it will comply with all E-Verify and Title VI requirements and execute any documents reasonably required related to such compliance. Further, each party agrees that any contracts let for work completed pursuant to this Agreement shall contain all required E-verify and Title VI requirements under applicable law.

ARTICLE 9 AUTHORIZATION

Each of the individuals executing this Agreement on behalf of his or her respective party agrees and represents to the other party that he or she is authorized to do so and further agrees and represents that this Agreement has been duly passed upon by the required governmental agency or council in accordance with all applicable laws and spread upon the minutes thereof. The parties hereto agree that this Agreement is an intergovernmental contract and is entered into pursuant to Article IX, Section III, Paragraph I of the Constitution of the State of Georgia 1983.

Further, the Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections has reviewed and approved this Agreement and has authorized its Chairman and its Chief Administrative Officer to execute any ancillary documents required to complete the November 2021 General Election, including but not limited to the Notice of the Call of the General Election and the Notice of the General Election.

ARTICLE 10 TERMINATION AND REMEDIES

Either party may unilaterally terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, for any reason whatsoever or no reason at all, by notice in writing to the other party delivered at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the termination.

ARTICLE 11 NOTICES

All required notices shall be given by certified first class U.S. Mail, return receipt requested. The parties agree to give each other non binding duplicate facsimile notice. Future changes in address shall be effective upon written notice being given by the City to the County Elections Superintendent or by the County to the Municipal Clerk via certified first class U.S. mail, return receipt requested. Notices shall be addressed to the parties at the following addresses:

If to the County: Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections
 Attn: Director
 130 Peachtree St SW, Suite 2186
 Atlanta, Georgia 30303
 Facsimile: 404.730.7024

With a copy to: Fulton County Office of the County Attorney
 Attn: County Attorney
 141 Pryor Street SW, Suite 4038
 Atlanta, Georgia 30303
 Facsimile: 404.730.6540

If to the City: City Clerk

With a copy to: City Attorney

ARTICLE 12 NON-ASSIGNABILITY

Neither party shall assign any of the obligations or benefits of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 13 ENTIRE AGREEMENT

The parties acknowledge, one to the other, that the terms of this Agreement constitute the entire understanding and Agreement of the parties regarding the subject matter of the Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding and agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter of this Agreement, and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements or understandings. No representation oral or written not incorporated in this Agreement shall be binding upon the City or the County. All parties must sign any subsequent changes in the Agreement.

ARTICLE 14 SEVERABILITY, VENUE AND ENFORCEABILITY

If a court of competent jurisdiction renders any provision of this Agreement (or portion of a provision) to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable, that provision or portion of the provision will be severed and the remainder of this Agreement will continue in full force and effect as if the invalid provision or portion of the provision were not part of this Agreement. No action taken pursuant to this Agreement should be deemed to constitute a waiver of compliance with any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement and will not operate or be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach, whether of a similar or dissimilar nature. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the state of Georgia without regard to conflicts of law principles thereof. Should any party institute suit concerning this Agreement, venue shall be in the Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia. Should any provision of this Agreement require judicial interpretation, it is agreed that the court interpreting or construing the same shall not apply a presumption that the terms hereof shall be more strictly construed against one party by reason of the rule of construction that a document is to be construed more strictly against the party who itself or through its agent prepared the same, it being agreed that the agents of all parties have participated in the preparation hereof.

ARTICLE 15 BINDING EFFECT

This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the respective parties' successors.

ARTICLE 16 COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original, and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City and County have executed this Agreement through their duly authorized officers on the day and year first above written.

FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:

(Seal)

Chair, Board of Commissioners

Attest: _____
Clerk to Commission

Date: _____

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Fulton County Attorney's Office

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:

Richard Barron
Director, Fulton County Department of
Registration and Elections

SIGNATURES APPEAR ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA


 (SEAL)

Mayor

Date:

6/9/21

Municipal Clerk

(SEAL)

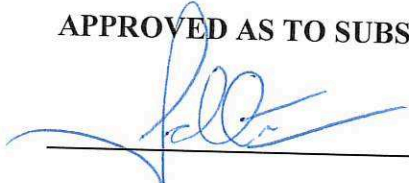
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:

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City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:



Municipal Clerk



EXHIBIT A

As per the Agreement executed on _____, the City of Atlanta, hereby requests that Fulton County conduct its General Election on November 2, 2021 within the boundary of Fulton County.

The last day to register to vote in this election is October 4, 2021.

The list of early voting locations will be forthcoming.

This _____ day of _____, 2021.

Municipal Clerk (SEAL)

The Fulton County Board of Registrations and Elections agrees to conduct the City of Atlanta General Election on November 2, 2021, within the boundary of Fulton County.

This _____ day of _____, 2021.

Elections Superintendent (SEAL)
Fulton County Board of Registration and
Elections



EXHIBIT B

CITY OF ATLANTA

FLAT-RATE (NON REFUNDABLE) CONTRIBUTION

Election	November 2, 2021 General	November 30, 2021 Runoff
Citywide		
Number of Active Registered Voters (as of 3.23.2021)	377,285	377,285
Cost Per Voter	\$2.96	\$2.46
Total Cost	\$1,116,764	\$928,121
Grand Total	\$2,044,885.00	