

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

January 05, 2022

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: February 2, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts

10:01 a.m.

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

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)

PRESENT

Liz Hausmann, Vice-Chairman (District 1)

PRESENT

Bob Ellis, Commissioner (District 2)

PRESENT

Lee Morris, Commissioner (District 3)

PRESENT

Natalie Hall, 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**22-0001 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 Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. **(ADOPTED)**

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

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

22-0002 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Chris Hagan Appreciation Day."
December 16, 2021 **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing "Keith Wilson Appreciation Day."
December 16, 2021 **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing "Dawn Axaam Appreciation Day."
December 16, 2021 **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing "Andrea Connor Appreciation Day."
December 16, 2021 **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing "Robert Connor Appreciation Day."
December 16, 2021 **(Hall)**

Proclamation recognizing "Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms Appreciation Day."
December 20, 2021 **(Hall/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing "Troy Cost Appreciation Day."
December 25, 2021 **(Pitts)**

Commissioners' District Board Appointments

22-0003 Board of Commissioners
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD (APPROVED
UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Term = 5 Years

Term below expired: 6/30/2021

Christine W. Merritt (**Hausmann**)

Vice-Chairman Hausmann nominated Christine W. Merritt for a District reappointment to a term ending June 30, 2026.

22-0004 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY VETERANS EMPOWERMENT COMMISSION, INC.
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Term = 3 Years

Term below expires: 12/31/2024

Vacant (**Ellis**)

Commissioner Ellis nominated Stephen Leake for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2024.

22-0025 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY VETERANS EMPOWERMENT COMMISSION, INC.
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Term = 3 Years

Term below expires: 12/31/2024

Vacant (**Morris**)

Commissioner Morris nominated Michael Moore for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2024.

Open & Responsible Government

22-0005 Finance
Request approval of the Resolution to modify membership of the Administrative Committee of the Fulton County 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan to the composition of Positions 6, 7 and 8 of the DC Plan Administrative Committee to allow Position 7 to be either an active or former employee of the County.
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

22-0006 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 317 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Berkdale at Crabapple HOA, Inc. for the purpose of constructing the Berkdale at Crabapple III Project at 0 Applegate Drive, Roswell, Georgia 30076. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

22-0007 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 175 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Berkdale at Crabapple HOA, Inc. for the purpose of constructing the Berkdale at Crabapple III Project at 0 Applegate Drive, Roswell, Georgia 30076. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

22-0008 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 1,942.5 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Pulte Home Company, LLC for the purpose of constructing the Berkdale at Crabapple III Project at 12121 Houze Road, Roswell, Georgia 30076. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

22-0009 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Line Easement Dedication of 8,779 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Pulte Home Company, LLC for the purpose of constructing the Berkdale at Crabapple III Project at 12121 Houze Road, Roswell, Georgia 30076. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Justice and Safety**22-0010 District Attorney**

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Fulton County District Attorney and four Sub-recipients of the 2020 Comprehensive Anti-Gang Program for Youth awarded to the District Attorney: Atlanta Police Foundation, CHRIS 180, Offender Alumni Association and We Are Value Excellence Inc. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**22-0011 Board of Commissioners**

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

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Vice Chair Hall, to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by adding item #22-0028 by a super majority vote. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

b. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Hausmann and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to amend the Regular Meeting Agenda to move up item #22-0023. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

22-0012 Board of Commissioners

Appointment of the Vice-Chairman.

Appointment of the Vice-Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners for a one-year term, in accordance to the current Fulton County Code § 101-36 (b), amended by the Board on October 20, 2021 (Item #21-0839). **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hall and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to nominate Commissioner Hausmann as Vice-Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

22-0013 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Regular Meeting Minutes, December 1, 2021

Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, December 15, 2021

Emergency Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes December 24, 2021

Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes December 30, 2021

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

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

22-0014 Board of Commissioners

Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. **(NONE)**

PUBLIC HEARINGS**22-0015 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.

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 30 minutes at the Regular Meeting, nor will this portion exceed thirty minutes at the Recess Meeting. In the event the 30 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. Similarly, written comments (that were timely submitted) not previously read, may be read at the end of the meeting. For more information or to arrange a speaking date, contact the Clerk's Office.

(CONDUCTED)

14 Speakers: Sandra Burchardt (Elections/Happy Faces Contract Renewal); Aimee Uphues (Elections); Michele Sarkisian (Elections); Susan Ortiz-Villajos (Elections/Happy Faces Contract Renewal); Candy Muldowney (Elections/Happy Faces Contract Renewal); Kevin Muldowney (Elections); Lucia Frazier (Item #22-0017/Elections/Happy Faces Contract Renewal); Elisabeth Omilami (Hosea Helps, Inc./Funding); Matt Rowenzcak (Item #22-0017); Maggie Goldman (Homelessness/Funding); Roger Arnos (Happy Faces Contract Renewal); Tom Lewis (Item #22-0017); Zenobia Haynes (Elections) and Perrin Bosnic (Item #22-0017)

4 Zoom Speakers: Ben Howard (Senior Services); Melissa Runyan (Elections/Happy Faces Contract Renewal); Sarah Pedro (Happy Faces Contract Renewal) and Shelia Hamilton (Item #22-0017/Homelessness/Elections)

2 Comments Read Into Record: Robin Hahn (Elections) and Susanne Hubbard (Item #22-0017)

COUNTY MANAGER'S ACTION ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****22-0016 County Manager**

Presentation of COVID-19 Operational Response Update. **(PRESENTED)**

22-0017 Finance

Review and approval of the FY2022 Final Adopted Budget and FY2022 Budget Resolution. **(PRESENTED/DISCUSSED)**

22-0018 Registration & Elections

Request approval of qualifying fees for Fulton County offices to be filled in the 2022 primary or non-partisan election. **(APPROVED)**

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

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

22-0019 Human Resources Management

Request approval to modify the classification section of the Classification and Compensation plan by changing the pay range of the existing classification of Locksmith from grade 10 to a set-rate range of \$57,000.00 - \$72,000.00. **(APPROVED)**

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

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

Health and Human Services**22-0020 Public Works**

Request approval of a Resolution expressing Fulton County's support and approval of a Memorandum of Understanding regarding funding and collaboration by and between Fulton County, Georgia, the Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, Cobb County, Gwinnett County, Dekalb County, Georgia, the Georgia Department of Transportation, and the Atlanta Regional Commission; authorizing the Chairman to execute the Memorandum of Understanding. **(APPROVED)**

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

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**Commissioners' Full Board Appointments**

22-0021 Board of Commissioners
SOUTH FULTON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD
(APPROVED)

Term = Serves at the pleasure of the governing body which appointed them.

Term below expires: Serving at the pleasure of the BOC
Carl D. Cox **(BOC-2/Carn) (Resigned)**

Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Jim Sams for a Full Board appointment.

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

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

22-0022 Board of Commissioners
SOUTH FULTON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD
(APPROVED)

Term = Serves at the pleasure of the governing body which appointed them.

Term below expires: Serving at the pleasure of the BOC
Kent Mason **(BOC-2/Carn)**

Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Kent Mason for a Full Board reappointment.

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

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Ellis

COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

22-0023 Board of Commissioners
Presentation: Georgia Music Accord Feasibility Study **(Pitts) (PRESENTED)**

EXECUTIVE SESSION**22-0024 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING PERSONNEL: Chairman Pitts, Vice-Chairman Hausmann, Commissioners: Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington and Abdur-Rahman; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo and Deputy County Attorney Jerolyn Ferrari

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Vice-Chairman Hausmann, to enter into Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to approve the request for representation in item #2 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

c. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Hausmann and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to approve the amended resignation letter of Registration and Elections Director, Richard Barron, of December 17, 2021 to be effective April 1, 2022 at the request of the Board of Registration and Elections. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yea: Hausmann, Ellis, and Morris

Nay: Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Pitts, and Hall

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Chairman Pitts, to call the question. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Nay: Ellis

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Hausmann

ADDED TO THE MEETING

Items added to the Agenda

22-0028

Board of Commissioners

Resolution in Observance of the 93rd Birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. **(APPROVED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve adding item #22-0028 to the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve item #22-0028. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Hausmann

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of – MIC IS ON -- good morning and welcome to the Regular Meeting, the first meeting of the year, the Fulton County Board of Commissioner's. It's a Regular Meeting and it is 10 o'clock a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Liz Hausmann."

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bob Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Lee Morris."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chair Natalie Hall."

VICE CHAIR HALL: "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: "Thank you, Madam Clerk. 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: "Thank you. And I would respectfully ask that we all wear our masks unless you're speaking. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On Page 2, Consent Agenda, **22-0001**, 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 Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, items, Madam Clerk--"

CLERK GRIER: "--no--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--Commissioners, are there any items on the Consent Agenda for separate discussion?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "None. If not, there's a motion to approve by Vice Chair Natalie Hall, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Board, we have an item requested to be added to today's Regular Meeting Agenda by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Request approval of a Resolution in observance of the 93rd birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "When is the birthday? When do we meet again --"

COMMISSIONER HAUSMAN: "--on the 19th--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--what's y'all's pleasure? You know, the rule is unless it's an emergency, what's your pleasure --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- do you mind if I just speak momentarily --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- no, ma'am go ahead--"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--because we were dealing with COVID, in the midst of dealing with COVID, I suffered a loss in my family as well. And so, I was under the impression that we would have time in order to do it for the next meeting, and did not realize it. So, I do take responsibility; and I do understand, Chairman that it is best not to add stuff, and, you know, items unless it's an emergency, but if it's at the Boards

pleasure, if they can make this -- this concession this time because we really would like to try to have it in place in continuity with the activities."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So, the rule is unless it's an emergency, but we meet, and I think we're all in support of this. We meet on the 19th? Birthday's on the 15th; so, it will be after the fact. So, I would move, then, that we make an exception here. It takes five affirmative votes. Is there a second--"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "--I think the motion's been made--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--it's already made to add it -- all right. The motion to--"

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: MIC IS OFF/INAUDIBLE

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- sure. We have a motion to approve adding it to the Agenda by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Commissioner Hausmann."

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "Yes, thank you. We do this every year as you know, we have a similar Resolution. I don't know if the language is identical in this one. But we've had it -- recognition of the birthday every year that I've been here. So, you know, honestly I would think that this would not need to be an emergency, and I think last year we added it as an emergency. So, and I think I made a comment then that this should be a regular occurrence because we've always done it. So, you know, I'm in a real quandary here because I think that it's something that's -- it's not unknown; it's a regular thing we do. And it - we do meet again before the holiday, so--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--we do not--"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--we do not, that's --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--we do not; the birthdays on the 15th, we meet on the 19th."

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "Oh, I thought we usually -- it was usually the holiday was the following -- okay. All right."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--it was changed this year, that's why--"

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "--all right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Any other speakers?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote on adding it to the Agenda. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioners. All right that's added. What else?"

CLERK GRIER: "On Page 4, Regular Meeting Agenda, **22- 0011**, Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda with the added item, 22-0028."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Repeat that. Repeat what you said, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Wait. All right. There's a motion to adopt the Agenda -- to adopt it by Commissioner Morris, it's seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**22-0012**, appointment of the Vice Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

VICE CHAIR HALL: "I'd like to nominate Commissioner Liz Hausmann as Vice Chair."

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

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Second."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Seconded by--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--everybody--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--Ellis -- everybody, okay. All right. Let's vote, please. Are there any other nominations?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "If not, the nominations are closed; let's vote. Madam Clerk?"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Congratulations --"

VICE CHAIR HALL: "--congratulations--"

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "-- may I take a moment?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No."

(Audience laughing.)

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "Thank you. First of all, I want to thank Commissioner Hall, for her year of service as Vice Chair. I appreciate all your work. And I also want to thank the Commission for this privilege of serving as Vice Chair, and I certainly do appreciate the bipartisan nature of the support as I enter into what could be my final term as a Commissioner for Fulton County. So, I just want to say, it's an honor, and I thank you very much for giving me that honor."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Madam Vice Chair. And again, I'll see you in my office after the meeting to give you your instructions." (Laughter.) Continue Madam Clerk."

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "Did you say give me my instructions?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN: "Good luck with that." (Laughter.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "**22-0013**, Ratification of Minutes. Regular Meeting minutes, December 1st. Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, December 15th. Emergency Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, December 24th. And Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, December 30th, 2021."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a motion? All right. Motion to approve by -- I'm so accustomed to saying Vice Chair Natalie Hall. It's going take me a while to adjust -- Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "22-0014, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. We do not have any today."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 5, Public Comment, 22-0015. 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. Public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30 minutes. Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Board, we have received 14 speaker cards."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fourteen?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

CLERK GRIER: "We'll start with the speakers here in Assembly Hall. Will the first five speakers, please come down. Sandra Burchardt, Aimee Uphues, Michelle Sarkisyan, Susan Ortiz-Villajos, and Candy Muldowney."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Come on down, please. And as always, when you have 15 seconds remaining on your two minutes, I'll simply say, 15 seconds and that's your key to conclude your remarks. And before y'all begin, I don't know whether Mr. Bostic from Senator Warnock's office plans to speak or not, but he is – where'd he go – he's here in the audience. Please stand and let us recognize you from Senator Warnock's office. Thank you for being with us today. Yes, Ma'am, you have the floor."

SANDRA BURCHARDT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Sandra Burchardt. I live in Fulton County. I am appalled that you, Fulton County Commissioners would even consider extending the contract for Happy Faces. Why don't you fire them? They have demonstrated incompetence, lack of familiarity with Georgia law, and total disrespect for the integrity of all legitimate voters. Your willingness to continue to use them should embarrass you. Fulton County has earned an egregious reputation when it comes to elections, and Happy Face employees play a big part in the corruption: Scanning stacks of ballots multiple times is not acceptable. Taking large containers of ballots out from under tables after telling observers to leave is not acceptable. They behaved in ways that discussed honest people with integrity all over the world. Using them promotes corruption beyond anything I thought existed. I find it deplorable. Every time you're quoted saying, 'Fulton County elections are honest and fair; and smoothly run, you violate decent people who died to protect our right to vote. People should be fairly elected because they are people of integrity, who have the courage to defend the laws of this Country. Your job is not -- your job is to protect justice; not to deliver candidates

in elections. Richard Barron and Happy Face employees corrupted the last Fulton County elections. It's on video. Some people in this room want to increase the budget to spend 37 million to have them do it again--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--15 seconds--"

SANDRA BURCHARDT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "--why? In Fulton County -- they use local citizens -- or they do not use local citizens, and they do not promote integrity. Corruption always destroys. Truth is recognized and it produces real freedom. It produces freedom when there's truth. Thank you."

AIMEE UPHUES, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Aimee Uphues, and I would like to make very clear that we could not move forward without addressing the 2020 election. In October, Rasmussen reported that 56 percent of all voters believed cheating affected the outcome of the 2020 election. 2020 was not an ordinary election. It was used to bring in Biden, Ossoff, and Warnock using all means of voter fraud. Stopping the count, lying about the water main break, the stuffing of ballot drop boxes, currently under investigation, the lack of chain of custody, absentee ballots, voter roll discrepancies, the pristine ballots that nobody can look at. As I look at the proposal for the 2022 budget for Registration and Elections, I see a \$21 million increase given to Richard Barron, who is either incompetent or complicit in this fraud. Why on earth is Richard Barron still working for Fulton County Elections? A proposed budget increased from 16 million to 37 million in one year? How much of that money is going to Happy Faces? How much of that is for Richard Barron's contract? Our election workers should be the local stakeholders in the community where the elections are held like it used to be. Not a paid temp agency with ties to a candidate on the ballot. Do not renew the contract with Happy Faces temp agency to run our elections. Imagine that you're a bank manager, and we bring you evidence suggesting that money in your vault is counterfeit; how do you reply? We have the most secure vault in history. No. It is your responsibility to investigate. Instead, you say, bring me the evidence. We bring you more evidence, and you respond with, "you shouldn't raise such allegations. It will diminish the people's confidence in the security of our bank. If you're more interested in saving face than securing the funds in your bank --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

AIMEE UPHUES, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- you need to be removed from your job. Our votes are more precious than cash. Any public official not investigating the massive election fraud that took place in November, needs to be removed from their job immediately. And should become familiar with the legal consequences of committing voter fraud. Good day."

MICHELLE SARKISIAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Michelle Sarkisian, I'm a resident of Fulton County. I have a serious question for all of you. How much more incompetence and negligence is Fulton County going to have to endure relative to our elections? Fulton County has become a joke across the nation. And certainly, right here. Let's just cite a few examples: Richard Barron, thank goodness, resigned a couple of months ago. There was no denying very poor performance any longer. Yet you did not immediately launch a search for a new elections director. And so, you extended his contract now through March. That's a dereliction of duty. Why did you not take responsibility and act? Election integrity should be a nonpartisan issue. Yet can Ms. Abdur-Rahman, explain why she gloated about Republicans getting a whooping on her Facebook page? That is stupid and unprofessional in my opinion. The Country has known how poorly trained and unqualified Happy Faces employees are. Two were fired for shredding voter registrations. We still don't know their names. We wonder how many others weren't caught? How about the infamous Ruby Freeman? Who's responsible and accountable for hiring practices? Really, you should be. You have the contract. Carter Jones report outlined numerous examples of shoddy work. Are you aware that Happy Faces is named in a current lawsuit? Doesn't it concern you that hiring Happy Faces under these circumstances shreds public faith in the very election processes you oversee? Do you realize or care that Fulton County continues to be characterized as a cesspool of voting problems --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--15 seconds--"

MICHELLE SARKISIAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and suspected of voter fraud and corruption? I'd like answers to these questions; so would many. And who gets the glory when you have eyes to see, and ears to hear, and you boldly oppose corruption? God does."

SUSAN ORTIZ-VILLAJOS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Susan Ortiz-Villajos. I'm from Alpharetta. I worked in Forsyth County as a poll worker during the 2020 presidential primaries for early voting and Election Day, and then I moved to Fulton County. The experience I had applying for and being a poll worker in Fulton County makes me think you can run the elections much better without Happy Faces. The County's election day training ran much smoother than the Happy Faces training for early voting. It is also hard to juggle two contacts: one for Election Day, and another for early voting. I had to keep track of two trainings I was scheduled for, two different dates, times, locations, two different managers to be in touch with, two different payroll departments when there were glitches; and almost everyone working with me during early voting, had glitches with their Happy Faces paycheck. Furthermore, the election day poll work - for the election day poll work, I called Cynthia Floyd Thomas from the

Board of Registration and Elections to see why I had not been contacted after filling out the poll worker interest form on the County website. She said they had gotten 10,000 applications and were very busy. Now, why on earth would you need a personnel agency to hire early voting clerks, and to fill other positions when 10,000 citizens expressed an interest in working the polls? Why would you want to befuddle the process by having an election day run by one group, and early voting by another? It would be so much easier to just go to the County website and apply for a poll worker position, and then one could talk about availability once they're offered the job."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-15 seconds-"

SUSAN ORTIZ-VILLAJOS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Many of the 10,000 may not be able to work 19 days straight as required by Happy Faces, but will be glad to work part-time for a few weeks, in addition to the one Election Day. In this day and age, tools like, SignUp Genius makes scheduling so easy, and that is what Forsyth County uses for its poll workers scheduling. Please consider doing this on your own without Happy Faces. Thank you."

CANDY MULDOWNNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi. My name is Candy Muldowney, and I live in Fulton County. My comment today is regarding the Happy Faces contract renewal. It was much discussion between members about this at your December 15th meeting. One obvious point that was not even mentioned was the fact that Stacey Abrams has a financial stake in this company, and that she is also on the ballot. Why don't we take a look and see if David Purdue has any financial ties to a staffing agency. Or maybe even Vernon Jones or Candace Taylor. That would be, okay, if they did, right? No wonder the citizens of Fulton County don't trust their elected officials. Integrity means the quality of being honest, and having strong moral principles which includes truthfulness, and trustworthiness. We simply want honest and fair American elections. If you hire Happy Faces again, our confidence in you will be broken. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "Next five speakers, please come down. Kevin Muldowney, Lucia Frazier, Elisabeth Omilami, Matt Rowenczak, and Maggie Goldman."

KEVIN MULDOWNNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Kevin Muldowney. I'm a Fulton County resident. The Carter Jones report states that temp workers are sloppy, poorly trained, and simply don't care about our sacred election process. And further states that Fulton should stop relying on temp agencies. It also mentions a couple of workers claiming they were going to 'F' things up as they went up to work. Very sweet. Richard Barron, our on again and off again director, has said 'I don't know how they recruit or how they train their workers'."

Disinterested temp employee should not be touching or handling ballots or testing election equipment. By canceling the 7.7 million-dollar contract with Happy Faces, Fulton County can certainly afford to hire a full-time employee to recruit and hire Fulton County citizens to staff their precincts. Forsyth County, our northern neighbor does a commendable job doing just that, and they hire a seasonal workforce from their community that is more than willing and able to staff early as well as day of election precincts. Don't wait until the last minute when the BOE will claim it has no time or choice. Cancel the Happy Faces contract now. Fulton County already trains thousands of poll workers for election day. Give them the opportunity to work in their County for early as well as day of voting. We also need to redouble our efforts to find a highly qualified replacement for Mr. Barron. Upping the BOE's budget another 21 million or more than a hundred percent increase seems like more of the same--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--15 seconds--"

KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-throw money at it no matter how badly the BOE is run. Our best chance to maintain good optics is to show that we can get our election processes under control both fiscally and managerially. Thank you."

LUCIA FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Lucia. I have the same questions. Why is the election's budget for 2022 up 37 million from 16 last year and from 18 million in 2020? So, you can't say that it's because there's a big election because we had one in 2020. And why is there still consideration of keeping Barron in elections after the lack of transparency and poor business practices as shown by the County auditor's report? At the last election board meeting, I was there and he proposed that he wants to spend \$3 million which ended up being \$5 million as further discussion revealed on additional voting equipment just to save workers from bringing machines back from early voting and back out on election day? We already have too many BMD's on early voting. One excuse he used is I need one for every 250 voters, but that's wrong. I looked the law up and it's one for every 500 and it's not relevant on early voting, only on election day, because you only have 28 precincts times 12 BMDs. That's not one for every 500. So that doesn't work. You can pull back half the early voting BMDs and use them for election day. Y'all don't have to spend \$5 million. Y'all don't have to spend 37 million. I know there's a number out there; that's not the right number. So, this was observed by him. Y'all know he's not doing things right so stop, stop letting him work. In addition the machines are only good for a limited time so stop investing in them. The other question y'all need to ask, somebody needs to answer. What did we do before Happy Faces? Who was used? We didn't have a temp agency."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "15 seconds."

LUCIA FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "There's plenty of local volunteers. Don't think that there aren't. We'll show up. Happy Faces has been blocking people. They make it so hard to get through. Seventeen step process, a resume, work all 19 days or none; okay, that's telling people 'no, we don't want you'. Thank you."

ELISABETH OMILAMI, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I represent Hosea Helps. It's a nonprofit in Fulton County. Has been for over 30 years. And I represent my 21 staff members that are not first responders and the reason we qualified as first responders because we work face-to-face with people in Fulton County before we even knew there was a vaccine, before we even knew what COVID was. My staff was willing to be out there touching people. And you know in the old days they used to say if I'm talking to you, I would hope you look at me. I really hope you look because I want you to think of your mother. I want you to think of your grandmother going to the refrigerator, opening the door, and having no food. I want you to see her with her bones aching, and her knees crying out going down the steps to get on a bus because there is no supermarket in her neighborhood. I want you to see her with her little cart, buying a loaf of white bread, some hot dogs and some tuna fish -- to feed herself for the next seven days, because she does this every seven days. I want you to see your grandmother."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: 15 seconds.

ELISABETH OMILAMI, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- who has lived her life serving others, starving right here in Fulton County. I want to thank you for what you've done for Hosea Helps, but it's not enough. We cannot cut the budget for our seniors and our homeless and our poor. They are suffering. I can't bring you a good report. I can only say, think of these people as your own family members. And do the right thing with the money. We need more funding --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--thank you--"

ELISABETH OMILAMI, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "--thank you."

MATT ROWENZCAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Excuse me. Good morning, Commissioners. Today I would like to speak to you about Agenda item 22-0017, the proposal of the 2022 budget specifically on page 39, as you've heard before, is the Registration and Elections line item. And just to keep the numbers simple this morning, in 2020, we spent \$18 million. In 2021, we approximately spent \$16 million. Those numbers were fairly close, right? But in 2022, the proposal is to spend \$37 million which is more than 2020 and 2021 combined. If I were you -- if I were the election department, I would certainly make aware you know make available the details

of those funds because today that's not currently available. And if I was going to ask for 21 million additional taxpayer dollars for this County, you know, that would be the least you know that I would do. There are companies in Atlanta and in this state that are required to report every single penny that they earn or spend you know to you know publicly County records that's the standard right they have to report earnings every single quarter so why can't at least once a year that be provided when you're asking for almost more than double the budget you spent last year? So, the question is are these – is this number legitimate and where are the funds going because they shouldn't be going to the Southern Poverty Law Center--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--15 seconds--"

MATT ROWENZCAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "--they shouldn't be going to the Center for Tech and Civic Life, and there certainly shouldn't be another additional \$5 million from BMDs because Mr. Barron is unwilling to move the machines between early voting and election day. So what are these funds for? Thank you."

MAGGIE GOLDMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Maggie Goldman of Johns Creek, District One. I was pleased to see an AJC article about Fulton accepting applications for emergency solutions grants to aid eligible nonprofits that provide homeless services in the County residence. \$960,000 worth of grants. This should really help some of our nonprofits provide services. In fact, seeing how few dollars Fulton County currently spends on homeless services, I'm going to be asking the Commission to adopt the grant amount into future budgets. I attended the swearing-in ceremony of Mayor Andre Dickens on Monday, and I believe in his commitment to do more to help individuals facing homelessness. This is an area that Atlanta and Fulton should embrace working together. Majority of the homelessness services are physically located within the city limits of Atlanta, but that doesn't mean Atlanta should be solely responsible for those services. North Fulton has a few great programs for families facing homelessness, but the programs are very restricted in terms of capacity. They are almost always full when someone tries to access the programs. Since there are no emergency shelters in North Fulton, it's my understanding that these individuals are sent to shelters in Atlanta. The 25 to 60,000-dollar community service grants of which only some are awarded to organizations providing homelessness services, give the impression that Fulton County cares about this issue. But it does not reflect a true concerted effort to alleviate poverty and homelessness in Fulton. The very least the County can do is develop a plan with the city of Atlanta and other cities in Fulton who are also responsible for conditions that contribute to homelessness like a lack of affordable housing and start dedicating resources to alleviate these issues in ways that will truly impact the community. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: “Next four speakers, please come down: Roger Arndt, Tom Lewis, Zenobia Haynes, and Perrin Bostick.”

ROGER ARNDT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: “My name is Roger Arndt, and I live in Roswell. There's a saying that all government is local and if this is local and represents government, I'm totally disgusted. I am so disappointed in what I see here. Group of people come in here and they take their time to speak to you. My understanding that the Chairman has asked a group of folks, if they would come forward and share because they've been expressing concerns what they would recommend to fix these elections. Why would we do that? We take time out of our days to come speak to you and what do you do? You look down at your systems, you don't look at the speakers, and you obviously don't listen. Because you keep doing the same things over and over. You keep hiring -- how many times have you now fired Rick Barron? What did you hear from the mayors? The last time he was fired, it was after the mayors expressed their concern. And what did we do in December? Or just recently, you reinstated him for 90 days. How do you do that? This man fought failed an audit worse than anything we see; and the mayor's called that out. What do you do? You put him back in for 90 days. Why? Because you can't find somebody? Are you looking? There's no way you could possibly be looking. And I can tell you exactly where this is going. We have asked you do not hire Happy Faces. Get rid of Rick Barron. Cleanup this system. What you said Chairman, publicly nationally is there will be no audits in Fulton County. You've completely rejected these requests despite what is showing on national TV over and over. You ignore it just like you're ignoring us today.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “15 seconds.”

ROGER ARNDT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: “You ignore us today. We're going on mayors. You've got a mayor's call on Friday. I can guarantee you, Kirk Wilson will be telling you we're dropping out -- Roswell doesn't want Fulton County doing their elections.”

ZENOBIA HAYNES, PUBLIC SPEAKER: “Hello. Good morning. Happy new year. My name is Zenobia Haynes, Outreach Representative to Senator Ossoff. I'm here to bring greetings on behalf of the Senator. Very happy to be here today. And I'm advocating for more support in funding for seniors and the unsheltered. The Senator continues to push forward his efforts in the Senate to end homelessness. Recently with the reach for veterans act which services especially veterans, homelessness in the Metro area and across the state of Georgia, so this support will be vital in that effort as well as serving our aging citizens. Again, thank you for allowing me to address you this morning. Happy New Year's and please feel free to reach out to me should I ever be of any assistance to any of you. Thank you.”

PERRIN BOSTICK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: “Good morning. My name is Perrin Bostick and I serve as the Outreach Representative for US Senator Rafael Warnock. I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak to such a distinguished Body. Senator Warnock is doing everything he can to make sure that Georgians are healthier, safer and more just and that means making sure that our two most vulnerable populations get the support that they need: our homeless and our seniors. In order for us to really have that great impact, we really need the support from our state and our County partners to make sure they’re getting the help that they need. And so, just thank you again for this opportunity and if Senator Warnock can be of any assistance to any of you, I mean any of you, please reach out to let us know. Thank you.”

CLERK GRIER: “Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, the next speakers will be via zoom.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “How many?”

CLERK GRIER: “I think we have five.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Five?”

CLERK GRIER: “Yes.”

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: “Good morning, Commissioners. You have five attendees, and the first one is Ben Howard.”

BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: “Greetings Commissioner's and staff. And special greetings to you, citizens of Fulton County. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. I have come to declare January 5th, 2022, as the unofficial appreciation day for that now retired Fulton County employee, Kenn Vanhooose. If I had the power to summon that scribe, the scribe who writes about those who have served senior citizens I would say write the page that Kenn Vanhooose was present when the Commission on Elder Affairs sought to certify the counties senior multipurpose facility needs. I would say write the page that Kenn was present when the Council on Aging held a senior citizens days at Welcome All Park. I would say write the page that Kenn helped Diane Williamson and Diane Rutherford find representatives to serve on the Commission on Elder Affairs Board of Directors. I would say write the page that Kenn was present when seniors from all around the county, filled the government center auditorium to let their presence be known, and their voices heard. And so, Kenn, though you may be absent from the Commission on Elder Affairs meeting on the 14th, whenever researchers thumb through the annals of the Fulton County Commission on Elder Affairs, they'll often times find that name, Kenn Vanhooose.”

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next speaker is Melissa Runyan."

MELISSA RUNYAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Melissa Runyan here. I live in Fulton County. I just wanted to let you know my encounter with Happy Faces. I applied through their website to be a poll worker, and I received a call that I had been approved and that they would be in touch with me with respect to training. I made it clear that I am a full-time employee, so I can only do part-time work. I later didn't hear from them until a Thursday morning. I received an e-mail stating that I was due to be at a certain place at 7:30 a.m. that morning to start training. I didn't have time to -- and I was to be there Friday as well -- I had no time to get anyone to take my place at work, so, I was unable to fulfill my duty. To me, this is a very disorganized company and paid way too much money for what we get in return. Secondly, you could save millions of dollars if you would reach out and ask for Fulton County residents to volunteer as poll workers, poll counters, poll techs. We are willing to do it to have a safe and secure election. Which we do not have as of 2020, the presidential election and the 2021 Senate runoff. We have no security in our votes and that is -- we've never felt this way before--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--15 seconds--"

MELISSA RUNYAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "--and I'm asking you from the bottom of our hearts to do the right thing. I will help organize the volunteers. Thank you."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person is Patricia Roberts. Patricia Roberts. Okay, while we're waiting on Patricia Roberts, the next person to speak is Sarah Pedro. Sarah Pedro. Okay. The next person to speak is Sheila Hamilton."

SHELIA HAMILTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners, and happy new year. I am Sheila Hamilton, a 47-year homeowner of Fulton County, District Six. It is my hope that in 2022, the Fulton County Commission will bring about new ideas and ways to have citizens become more engaged with the work of this commission especially during the -- as referenced, the agenda that we have before us. I'd like to state that the budget is concerning to me because we as citizens did not have any input. I am concerned that homelessness is not completely or fairly funded. I am concerned that employees of Fulton County do not have the opportunity to be provided salaries that would not provide them being on food stamps, or section eight housing. It is shameful that employees of Fulton County have are qualified for receiving food stamps, and section eight housing. Additionally, I am hoping that Bridget Thorne, who is a constant speaker in this Commission in 2022, would find more productive avenues rather than supporting the voter fraud theory that has been perpetrated. I commend Richard Barron for hanging in there with us--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--15 seconds--"

SHELIA HAMILTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "--he has been threatened and I commend him and all the employees for enduring what they have endured. Thank you for the opportunity to speak and I hope homelessness will be addressed in this Commission as part of the budget; and that employees will be fairly compensated for what they do. Thank you."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Commissioners, I just wanted to make sure that everyone had spoken and I'm going back to two other people. The first is Sarah Pedro."

SARAH PEDRO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Yes, hello, I'm on. This is Sarah Pedro. I'm a Fulton County citizen from District Two. And I just wanted to echo the sentiments of previous commentors, previous citizens about removing Happy Faces -- terminating the contract with them. We can do this ourselves and a lot more -- with a lot more integrity than that organization has performed. Also, just to comment on that previous one, I appreciate what Bridget Thorne has done to shed light on the corruption that went on in the 2020 election, and I applaud her efforts and her persistence in shining a light on all of this. I think it's egregious for the fact that many times she's been ignored by all the stuff she's brought forward. So, thank you very much for your time."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: The last speaker is Patricia Roberts. Patricia Roberts. Okay. I guess with that being said, I guess that will be the last of the participants on zoom."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, the 30 minutes is up, but we have four e-mailed in comments left."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Quickly, can you summarize them?"

CLERK GRIER: "Ms. Waller?"

REGINA WALLER for PUBLIC COMMENT: "Yes, I will go ahead with those. The first public comment is from Robin Hahn. This is a written request to not approve additional funding for elections [SYSTEM FEEDBACK INTERRUPTION] elections with Fulton County. I do not approve, condone funds to further our elections process. An additional comment that agrees with Ms. Hahn is from Susanne Hubbard, and then we also had a comment from Ms. [SYSTEM FEEDBACK INTERRUPTION] Pedro, who also has spoken as well as a comment from a Sheila Hamilton who has spoken. Would the Board like for me to again read those comments?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Thank you. They've already spoken."

ZOOM SPEAKER: "Can you give me a copy of those comments, can you put them on a slide for me? [Inaudible.] elections board--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--all right, tell--"

REGINA WALLER for PUBLIC COMMENT: "Copy of their comment – they, they spoke—"

ZOOM SPEAKER: "--they spoke--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--who is that--"

REGINA WALLER for PUBLIC COMMENT: "--I'm reading your comments--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--all right, cut this off, y'all need to work this out--"

REGINA WALLER for PUBLIC COMMENT: "--wait, she just sent pictures of --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--thank you Ms. [Inaudible.]--"

REGINA WALLER for PUBLIC COMMENT: "--yes, two of the emailed comments were commenters from zoom, Ms. Sarah Pedro as well as Ms. Sheila Hamilton. If the Board agrees I will go ahead and repeat what they just said--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--no, no--"

REGINA WALLER for PUBLIC COMMENT: "--or send those over to the Board again--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--we've been very lenient this morning. Thank you for your comments. Anything else, public comment? All right--"

REGINA WALLER for PUBLIC COMMENT: "--and that is it, sir."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 5, County Manager's items under Open and Responsible Government, **22-0016**, presentation of COVID-19 operational response update."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. I want to be even more brief as we have been meeting weekly over the past two weeks with both the Commissioners and Mayors. And as you know, case counts, positivity rates, hospitalizations are increasing rapidly; so, we want to actually go through the charts this morning for your

benefit as well as the public. As well, there's a huge spike in demand for testing. I've visited all three sites: North Point, Boulevard, and Stonewall Tell on Monday and we're seeing from 800 to 1500 folks a day at those locations. I want to give special thanks to the Fulton County Sheriffs' office, the Marshal's, and Fulton County police for providing personnel for traffic control and movement of vehicles. They did a phenomenal job with very little notice. We're also working with the Department of Public Health at the state level for a potential mega site for testing in Fulton County as we've done before. We are in addition awaiting the arrival of 46,000 home test kits. They were to have arrived yesterday, but they been delayed. Hopefully this week they will arrive, and we'll discuss a distribution plan for those kits today and seek your input on that. As well as you know, there are federal plans for over 500 million test kits to be procured – those are going to be made available via a federal website. It is alarming to see the number of new cases in our employee base. You'll see today 153 new cases. That's a high watermark for any reporting period and that's with 82 percent of our employees being vaccinated. In light of these trends as well as the impact on employees, we're going to recommend keeping our senior centers closed for the time being, continue a virtual approach in our court operations including suspension of jury trials -- in-person jury trials and then obviously encouraging teleworking wherever possible. You can see in today's paper many of the Fortune 500 companies in Atlanta, whether it's Home Depot, UPS, and the like are delaying back to office work. I did receive a call on New Year's Eve from Chris Nunn, the DCA Commissioner with very good news. Our ERAP reallocation request has been approved. We're waiting now for the federal government to give us the final details on that. But nonetheless that's very good news. He also anticipated last week receiving and had heard verbally, that Treasury had approved their mortgage assistance plan. As of yesterday, he still did not have the final details on that; but we're anticipating that approval shortly. This may seem like déjà vu all over again, the good news is that we know what to do and we know how to scale our response. The bad news is of course the uncertainty of the duration of this very tremendous spike. I would also remind you and you'll see in the, in the presentation you been provided that we have expended a hundred million of the slightly over 300 million for this total response effort and again this is a four-year program. So, within one year, we've expended one third of it. So, keep that in mind as we look at the budget and any reserves that we recommend. I'm going to ask Matt and Doug to actually step through the charts because of the again the severity of these spikes and the details, and they'll do so quickly, and then be available of course to answer your questions, Mr. Chairman."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Thank you, Mr. Manager. Good morning, Board of Commissioners members. Let's go ahead and get started. We're going to touch on a couple resilient points and hopefully be able to answer any questions or concerns you guys have today."

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "Good morning. Next slide, please. Next slide, please. Many of you have this in front of you. Hopefully, the slides will catch up. The seven-day averages for cases, hospitalizations, and percent positives as of today are all at record highs for Fulton County. Ninety-two percent now of all new cases are from the omicron variant; 70 percent of all new cases are from the unvaccinated population; 96 of new hospitalizations are from the unvaccinated population; and 96 percent of all new deaths are from the unvaccinated population. COVID County hospitalizations have increased 667 percent since the last BOC meeting; and pediatric COVID admissions are up 771 percent since the last BOC meeting. Three of the major indicators that we track for Fulton County COVID on our scorecard are red (% positives, cases, and hospitalizations) you'll see we're in good shape on deaths over the last couple of weeks. Next slide. It's always good to have a visual of kind of the health of the state, County, and United States. You can see it feels like December 13th was a long time ago. We were at a very good place then, and as quickly as January 4th you can see the severity in Georgia and how it's starting to radiate from the Atlanta Fulton County Metro area. The United States is starting to see much darker colors all over. Next slide. One update on this slide, if you look at the red bar that says Fulton County cases per hundred thousand, we're now at 1432. So, we're 14 times the recommended amount of cases for to be considered for high transformation, and we're at 36.6 percent for percent positives which is, oh three and a half times the recommended amount for mandatory masking. Next slide. This just shows and this came out yesterday, they do a weekly report of omicron versus the Delta variant. Omicron is now in purple and now accounts for 92.1 percent of all new cases in Georgia, and you can see that Delta is still around; but for the most part in the United States omicron has become the dominant variant. Next slide. So, every month, we look at a monthly total, and you can see that December was our highest ever by about 6000 cases; 23,410 our highest case count ever, and then the deaths which are lagging indicator did tic up slightly from 41 to 57. Next slide. Just to show you quickly the municipalities -- if you look at the third column the percent change over the previous 14 days, every one of the municipalities are somewhere between 400 percent to over a thousand percent increase in cases. So we're seeing -- seeing it all over the County in all the municipalities. Next slide. So, this is kind of the snapshot that we present and we compared to the last BOC meeting. The daily average for cases is 2,075. If you look at the orange chart, second one from the left, that's up 1,687 percent since the last BOC meeting it is more than doubled our previous high from January 3rd of last year. The percent positives is the one that's just crazy -- 36.6 percent, 813 percent increase since the last BOC and our highest previous to this was 16.8 percent; so, we're about 20 percent worse. Anybody that's driving through our testing centers -- one in three cars -- over one-in-three cars has an infected individual in the car. Hospitalizations reached a thousand yesterday. That's up 685

percent since the last BOC. The average deaths is 0.4, which is down 200 percent since the last BOC, but remember death lags from hospitalizations and ventilators by about four to five weeks. Next slide. One other comment I want to make is kind of alarming; so, we hear a lot of information about it's not as serious. Currently in Fulton County, we have 69 people on ventilators that have COVID-19 in the County. So that's pretty impactful -- is up about 400 percent since the last BOC meeting. All right, the scorecard you see some red, yellow, and green -- hospital bed availability is an average over the last days, you see it in the green. A lot of that has to do with the fact that there is not a lot of scheduled procedures going on in the hospitals. We're already as of yesterday in the red on hospital beds availability for the night before. So, we expect to see those numbers kind of trend towards the red with a thousand people in the hospital. The other thing to the morgue census is a hundred and five average which puts us into the auxiliary trailer. We're okay, but we need to clear some of that out. And testing results because of the demand on the testing centers have been delayed 48 to 120 -- we're doing everything we can behind-the-scenes to shorten that time period because we understand how important that is. Next slide. We talked about the predictive models -- this is a little bit -- we're up to 2000 cases today -- 2000 average, so this data is from the 23rd. So, in one week, we've gone from 827 to 2,000. The projected peak right now is February 7th. The most of the modeling that I've seen now has moved that to the left into late January. And so, we will update the modeling and constantly share it with you as we get new information. Next slide."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: "So, before I venture into vaccinations, I just want to take a minute to talk about specimen point of collection. We do have three sites that we're collecting currently. I just wanted to make sure that everyone is aware, we actually on New Year's Eve collected 2,884 samples at our locations. That broke down to about 1400 in the North and 800 in Central and 650 in the South; and those numbers are just going up. So, we're trying to add additional capacity throughout the area. The County Manager, we'll speak to you about that, and we working with the state department of public health to identify a location where we can offer as a mass testing site for the people that we serve as well as our surrounding jurisdictions and hopefully we'll be able to share that news with you by the end of the week, or the beginning of part of next week regarding what that efforts look like. What we do like to highlight is once again the fact that the Fulton County team has vaccinated over 533,000 individuals. We're looking at 61 percent of our population is still fully vaccinated; and of that fully vaccinated population, 38 percent have been boosted. That's about 232,000 individuals. Still want that number to come up. A lot of people are becoming eligible for their six-month period of time from their first and last Pfizer shot; so, please, help us amplify that message to get it out there. Incentives also work. We'll continue to do that as well. We've actually expended over \$250,000 in incentives to

actually reach over 2700 individuals, and we'll continue to do so. And we want to also make sure that we - the listening public understands that anyone 12 years or older is eligible for their Pfizer shot at this time for a booster. So, please make sure you do that. Also, during the mayors meeting, Dr. Paxton went ahead and showcased the slide, and wanted to make sure the people and the public also knows this as well; if you do get your booster shot it actually helps your efficacy by 25 percent and your ability to go ahead and fight off the new variant. So, if you're fully vaccinated you have about 50% chance of getting the current variant infected with it. If you're boosted, it actually increases or decreases your chance to about 25 percent. So, please take advantage of the booster shot at this point in time. If the moderator, or the person controlling the slides can switch to slide 15. It's the vaccination response slide. Just wanted to highlight the fact that we did see a little bit of decline over the holidays; but we're seeing numbers start to pick up again. Our southern location now has plenty of availability. We'd love to make sure that the people in our South Fulton footprint take advantage of that site to make sure they continue to know that that's there and leverage it and we could definitely use some more individual traffic in that area to make sure we can help folks fight this current virus. Next slide. Just want to highlight the facts that our mobile vaccination team is still reaching out to the public of need. Eighty-one percent of the people of color is what we're targeting, and about 85 percent of the places that we are hitting are places that have a little uptick based upon the CDC census track data. So, continue to do good work with that and we'll continue to move forward with that as well. Slide 18, please. It'll be the path forward for 2022. So, want to make sure that the public knows that we've increased our capacity by 63 percent to ensure there's a lot of locations for individuals to get boosted – if you have - or get your first and second dose of the vaccine if you haven't done so yet you'll see the locations on your screen and we want to make sure that we continue to offer nighttime opportunities at all of our fixed sites as well as mobile units which will go ahead and continue to target those areas with low uptick in the census-tracked data. So, a lot of flexibility. This new plan allows us the ability to go ahead and take some of our units that are at the fixed sites push them out into the community if need be. If we start seeing a reduction in demand at our fixed locations and that's one of the things we're really proud of going into this quarter how we're actually going to leverage our resources to be able to respond. Next slide, please. Just want to make sure we also continue to showcase with this the ability for incentivizing as well as leveraging financial incentives and taking some of the core Epi folks that the Board of Health has; and reprioritizing to make sure that we take care of individuals that are homebound or individuals that just cannot get out for one reason or another to get to a vaccination site. So, those folks are being taken care of by our partners in the Board of Health and leveraging those resources to do that in what we want to make sure is that everyone knows that this team between the Board of Health

and in Fulton County we're leveraging grant dollars, we're leveraging resources to make sure that we're nimble in our response in this effort. At this point, I'd like to pass it over to Dr. Roshelle who'll talk about the next section, which is the home test kit program."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: "Thank you, Matt. I'm sure each of you has heard much in the news and perhaps from constituents about home test kits and availability or lack thereof. Today, I just want to illustrate three components of what we know about home test kits to date. So, as the County Manager discussed in his opening remarks, the Board of Health has procured 46,000 home test kits for distribution to Fulton County residents. This is a two-pack test kit, and we are working through the logistics right now as it relates to where these test kits will be distributed throughout the community. The funding source for these test kits is a federal equity grant. So, while there will be focus throughout Fulton County to distribute the test kits, there will be a special emphasis all communities with low vaccination rates, high COVID rates in throughout the community. We will also have a reserve for direct-to-consumer for constituents who simply cannot get to one of the designated distribution sites as well as partnerships with community-based organizations. As I indicated, the target population is through the equity lens which will focus on low vaccination, and high rates of COVID. You may have also heard through news reports that the federal government is planning to procure 500 million test kits. As of today, we are waiting on details for how those test kits will be distributed. The intelligence tells us that these test kits will more than likely be a direct-to-consumer process through a government website. The quantity per household as of today is unknown. There is also a 50 million quantity of test kits that will be distributed through federally qualified health centers. There are several federally qualified health centers in Fulton County and those will also be access points for their patients. The administration has also signaled that there will be a private insurance reimbursement option for test kits. Details are still to follow. Today, I also want to present a recommendation for the procurement of 46,000 additional test kits to double the quantity of test kits that the Board of Health has procured already. We are working with Purchasing to determine availability as quickly as possible, as well as the type of test kit. I have been in conversation with the CDC to vet reputable vendors that meet the FDA requirements. The approximate cost for these test kits is trending between \$16 and \$24 per unit, and the approximate projected costs can be anywhere between \$736,000 to 1.1 million. The proposed source of funding is ARPA funding. In addition to this, the access points will mirror what we are partnering with the Board of Health which are 15 access points spread throughout the County. It will also include a direct-to-consumer component as well as partnerships with our CSP providers who are serving low to moderate residents. The target population will be for Fulton County residents only. Based on four key assumptions is what this recommendation is based on these four key assumptions are one that we will continue to see a high public

demand for testing as evidenced by long lines and lack of available appointments. The COVID positivity rate will continue to be over 10 percent for the next four weeks. And consumers remain concerned about costs and access to home test kits. And the fourth assumption is that the federal home test kits will not be immediately available for Fulton County residents. So, these four assumptions anchor the recommendation to procure 46,000 additional tests kits to double the quantity that the Board of Health has purchased. Mat that concludes my remarks.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: “Thank you, Dr. Roshell. And I’ll just go ahead and see if our External Affairs director, Ms. Corbitt, would like to go ahead and comment on the last slide. But if not, I want to make sure everyone is aware of the ‘Mask-up, Vax-up, Boost-up Campaign’. It was shared with the Mayors last week. Also, media packets were passed out to all of the Mayors as well as our cities and other partners as well to make sure they have this information so they can push out to the constituents and continue to work with our ad campaigns, and coordinating closely with our Board of Health partners regarding this outreach effort. So, we thanked our teams, both on the Board of Health side and the Fulton County side, to get out this ‘Mask-up, Vax-up, Boost-up Campaign’. With that being said, we’ll turn it back to you, Chairman, to see if there are any questions or concerns.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Any questions? Commissioners? Commissioner Ellis, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, Vice Chair Hausmann, and Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Ellis.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Yeah, thanks, Mr. Chair. Just a few questions; one in terms of the way that hospitalization with COVID is defined. It's not necessarily -- I just want to verify this is or not verify this. It's not necessarily you came to the hospital because you had COVID – you're clarified as COVID, right? People that are coming in for any procedure are tested, and then they test COVID and then they're in this count of hospitalized with COVID; is that a correct statement?”

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "So, the hospitals -- most hospitals--“

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: --“right--“

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--test everybody that comes in the door for COVID and so you could be in there for another procedure and be a part of that and have COVID. The transmissions rate is so high; so, your--“

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “--right--”

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "-- your premise is that not every – not all of those thousand are in there just because they have COVID--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--right. Certainly, if you're in there for some reason and you have COVID and then that further compromises this--"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--we have asked the hospitals to start tracking it separately, so we could get a better count--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--okay, okay--"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--but they're not doing it--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--so, just in relativity, I just want to kind of make sure that I understood that. And then these numbers you had shared this stuff about the ventilators you know changed. So, I think that's – that was very useful data point on the - but the CCU bed availability is sort of held steady at a pretty good - at a --"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--yes, sir--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--still in the green category--"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--I, I like I said, I think there's a lot of artificiality built, built in over the last two weeks--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--right--"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--we'll see once the hospitals get back to normal operations--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--right now, we've been pretty steady--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--okay. All right. I want to talk just a little bit about the boosters and the vaccination stuff. And, I'm glad to see it kind of where you know continuing to emphasize that and what we're looking at doing at the different sites and all that. Just one thing I wanted to throw out for consideration certainly at our fixed sites, (let me take this off for a second), I do think that the lines and appearance of testing you know prevent people from really wanting to go through, go through the process of getting you know their booster which that process inside the building looks to be fairly quick right now but they're faced with this you know long line outside because of the testing. One just suggestion, and I don't know if it's feasible or we have the manpower to do it is to designate separate hour, some separate hour time where there

is no testing going on, and there's just vaccination going on; so that people could get in there and we could move that through a little bit more quickly. And may – and so - anyway just offer that out for consideration. But as I understand it really our vaccine availability is it's healthy and we've got the capacity to do more, really, at all these sites. Is that a fair statement?

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. So, we do want the public to know that is that you're seeing these long lines, but if you want to get boosted or want to get your vaccination you know if you can get through that and get parked, you can get inside these buildings and that moves fairly effectively."

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "And law enforcement has been informed if you're there for a vaccine, they're separating them and getting them in a different queue. It worked much better yesterday—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—okay—"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "--and so we feel like we're in a better place--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—but they can only tell them that once they get to that—"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "—yes, sir—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--that point of entry; so, they got to get through the traffic line to get there—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—if I may—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—yeah—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "--just to make sure the folks understand; —"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—yea—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—we're just speaking about 4700 in that one comment, sir—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—is that - the other site says they are separate—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—they are not co-located—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—okay—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—in that one location, there is a complication—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—okay. All right. Well, as much as we can think about that then you know I think it would be helpful because it seems like we’re having a healthy interest in both vaccination and testing at that particular location.”

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "Since we’re public, we do offer nighttime hours every Tuesday til 8:00 after testing."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Are we continuing that? Because the current website I saw does not had not reflected the evening hours—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—we’ll look into that, sir—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Okay.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--but that is something we’re doing.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Okay. I looked at it yesterday, and it didn’t reflect the evening hours. Because this thing is so contagious at the current point in time, right? Sort of two, two comments that, one I heard from a public health official not in this County, but I think a reputable public health official nonetheless, who made the statement when it came to testing, ‘hey, if you feel bad, you probably have it. You don't need to get tested; stay home and isolate’. What is your reaction or response to people that are providing that level of advice? Is that the right message to send? You know, how should people respond to that particularly if they, they basically feel that they probably have been exposed and they have symptoms; you know--”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--I think it’s a very difficult conversation. The Health Director that made that statement, they have a lot of different resources than we do; a lot less, excuse me. So, we have a little bit more that's available to the constituents that we serve. What I can share with you is that statement is not shared with the district health director of Fulton County--”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Okay.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--Dr. Paxton, and that is not a DPH wide statement as well--”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Okay.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--so, those two things I can go ahead and put to that comment, sir.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Fair enough."

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "And you, for some workplaces, you do need proof of positive tests to miss work, so--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--okay. And then on people -- the thoughts around with the, hey, this thing is so widespread at the moment, what's the purpose of going and getting boosted at this point in time? It's not or get vaccinated, you know. It's not going to be in there long enough to have an effect. I should just wait this out until things die down. You know what's the, what is our, do we have sort of a public health message response to that other than vaccinations and you know getting vaxed and getting boosted is good—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—well, before Doug said something, it's slide three – I don't want to make sure we don't mince any words or loose site of the third bullet on there—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—right—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "— 96 percent—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—correct—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—of all fatalities are unvaccinated—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—yeah, and I get that, and I understand that; and I think but there's a certain portion of the population it's like well, even if it gets in my system, it's not going to have any impact, because this thing is so widespread right now. That's, that's the, I mean what's the—"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: "—no—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—to help combat that message."

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: MIC IS OFF "We still have people we're trying to protect. People that have co-morbidities and our elderly population; and so, the more people we have out there spreading it, the chances that the people that are really vulnerable, they could progress. That would be my plea to get vaccinated is to protect the people that need to get protected. Because it is, like I said it's - MIC IS ON - it's scary when you look at the numbers, and most people will be asymptomatic or low-symptomatic but you're still transmitting—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—right—"

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: “—and that, that could eventually end up people will be hearing about and [Inaudible.]--”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—if I may, the science is well, just because you get your shot today—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—right—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—yes, it takes two weeks—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—right—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—for your body to get that full level of immunity; but, everyday your body is developing more and more antibodies to help you.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—okay, that's the message, you know – it's not too late—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—no, sir—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—and I think that's a message as much as we can kind of put that out there in this messaging is right. I think it would be helpful for certain people. The test kits portion of this and I appreciate Dr. Roshell and the stuff that you shared, I guess the -- certainly there is a high demand for them right now. We've gone through high demands for different things within COVID over a period of time. I mean we should be synced to procure these. Can we -- I guess my question is really can we procure these quickly enough you know or is it a situation where we'd be putting in an order for this stuff and we had a law three months from now and we've got these things sitting somewhere, and I think they expire at some point in time; don't they? So, that's really my, you know question on that.”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: MIC IS OFF “Thank you that –MIC IS ON – that question, Commissioner Ellis. Purchasing has already identified a vendor that is in alignment with CDC guidance and FDA administration approval. So, we can begin the purchasing process this week. They have available kits for us—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—and they think they would have supplied -- they would be able to get them here—”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “--yes, sir—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—quickly enough. Okay. And within that too, this purchase of our, this additional purchase that you talked about, we would prioritize some of our CSP partners getting them—”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “—absolutely—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—the test, particularly the stuff the ones that have kind of residential related you know—”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “—yes—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—kind of clients. Okay. Good. And last question going back to testing at the sites. We’re, you know, fortunately we’ve had generally good weather, up until we had some high winds the other night that impacted some of our sites. But you know, we all know that we’re certainly in a period of time where we’re going to have weather volatility and cause us to close down and that sort of stuff and you know I think it’s, so I’d want you to speak to it a little bit about kind of our plans for making sure we kind of got active plans for dealing with weather; but also within that, I was curious to whether or not since we’re doing a lot of this stuff outdoors, does do extremely low temperatures have any impact on the quality of incredibility of the tests themselves? So those are the two questions I have on that; so.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “So, if we may, the Chief Clinical Officer, Dr. Holland, is on the line on zoom. I’d like for him to see if he could fill that last question you had—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—okay—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--about the effectiveness of tests at lower temperatures. Dr. Holland, would you mind stepping in? Maybe the moderator can just ensure that Dr. Holland has ability to go ahead and speak. I’ll take the first part of your question while Dr. Holland is trying to be looped in, sir. So, we are an outdoor environment for safety of course of the individual’s doing the sample collections. It is a really rough time of year with temperature swings as well as with frontal lines that come through. We’re making sure that our partner MACO, who is a state Department of Public Health contractor for those sites, has the necessary weather plans in place. We advise them when we have lightning in the area as well as other threats; so, they can take the necessary shelter to protect their individuals. We ask people to pack a lot of patience on those particular days. Our External Affairs Team is pushing as much information out to let folks know that there may be delays, 30 minutes at a time while waiting for lightening to clear and such. Temperature extremes are also something we’re making sure that our partners of MACO are aware to take make sure they’re taking enough breaks; our law-enforcement partners as well; to make sure they are probably clothed, then coming in to get more warming breaks as well and when appropriate, assisting them with heaters and other things that they need. We’re trying

to make sure that they, well they know what works best in these environments since MACO is the one that's responsible for that for their team members, but when appropriate, we are assisting them. Just want to see if Dr. Holland was able to come back online. So, sir, I do not—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “--he can follow up; that’s fine—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--I’ll have to follow up. He is a panelist, I’m not sure if the moderator—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—okay—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--can understand why he is not eligible, but; hopefully, if he does get in before we end this question and answer, certainly—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—that’s fine—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—we’ll get back to you, sir.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Yeah, and one last question Mr. Chair. The – on going back to the vaccination stuff and this is something I, I personally experienced and then also I’ve heard from other people: publicly, we’re stating that you got have an appointment to get a vaccine. The - that site and that system I have continued to hear people frustrated with that. I had personally frustration with it as well. I couldn’t figure it out; so, I [Inaudible.] and I walked in and got it. Do we need to continue to - given what we got in terms of availability, do we need to continue to have an appointment process or can we advertise that we are open to walk-ins?”

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: “So, much to Mr. Anderson’s chagrin, I’ve been the person pushing appointments and we have added appointments at Northpoint when we sold out. I would love to give it one more week, especially since with a new posture after the first of the year, and we’ve switched around a little bit, but if we stay below our Max capacities, we are going to very seriously consider doing that. But we just, we just especially with what we have going on at 4700, we would be overwhelmed there because we do sell out there just about every day.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Okay. I just put that out there because I mean, there’s – it’s some sort of dichotomy we’re pushing it and we’re asking I don’t know we’re giving cash incentives in one hand, but yet then we’re forcing people to go through the arduous appointment process on the other hand. So, I get it, but it's not -- I don’t think it’s ideal right now; so.”

DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI: “I would love to do that and that’s our goal to get to that point.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “And sir, before you relinquish the floor, Dr. Holland, have you been able to get online? We did see you on the screen for one second.”

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: “Now that I’m unmuted—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—we could hear you very faintly, Dr. Holland; I’m not sure if the moderator can control your volume or not.”

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: “—okay. I can talk louder—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—there you go—”

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: “--okay. Can you please repeat the question that I was supposed to answer?”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “So, the general question is given that we're doing a lot of the testing outdoors, and we're entering into a period where there's going to be a lot of lower temperatures do lower temperatures decrease the credibility of the tests or implicate you know kind of the quality of the testing that we're doing, or the reliability of it.”

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: “No, sir. Test samples actually have to be kept on ice once they're obtained; so actually, the cold temperatures are better.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Okay. Good. I just wanted to – I’ve had people ask me that question; I wanted to have somebody go on record with it. Thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: “Thank you, Chairman. First and foremost, I want to publicly thank you all, County Manager, as well as what you all have done with your response. I know that we manage it to the best of our ability, but I know as I have been out not only in my district, and other districts - there's an over whelming response. I'm getting to Dr. Roshell -- I'm getting so many calls about - and inboxes about the test kit. And so, anything that we can do for that test kit, I think we as a Body really need to move on that. I know with my colleagues at the Fulton County school Board system, they were trying to manage that with the home test kits to be preemptive if it came if the child was filling a certain way or whatever; but to make a long story short, there is a

really great need across the board for that home test kit. So, I want to commend you all to getting above the curve, so to speak in that. Two things I want to publicly state: Our test sites are safe. Nobody is being attacked. Nobody is being threatened. A lot of times, I just ride around. I don't -- a lot of times, people don't even know I'm an elected official. I ride around just to see how they're being greeted, how fast or how long the line is, what is the reception of the individuals that have been through the line, and outside of it just being a great demand, people have been safe. And so, I know in the media, it's out there and some constituents have reached out to me with concerns. And I explained to them that these are not test sites that we have control over, so to speak. That they're seeing some problems that because I know for a fact, all of our testing sites are very, very safe. And so, I just wanted to go on record assuring the public. Sometimes you're going to have this problem, tempers flare, and people are scared. And like you said, if people would pack their patience, I think that would be a great thing. I'm not sure if this is the juncture for it, but I did want to put it out there; Fulton County jail and the number of rising COVID concerns there -- I'm not sure what we need to do as a Body, but I have so many calls from employees, I have so many calls from constituents who have an inmate in a Fulton County jail. And we really need to see what we can do to make sure that we are trying -- here again to work with our partners to make sure that we try to get this thing under control. Because there is a lot of misinformation, there is a lot of fear; and I just want to make sure that one, we're moving not only collectively in trying to get a hold of this, but also that we're working proactively with our partners. The last thing that I will say is that if we can have more nighttime, and more trying to do mobile and taking it, especially in District Six. I can only speak unequivocally for my District is that individuals that want to be tested, and individuals that need vaccinations don't have transportation to the places they need to get it from. That's a reality. Aviation is great, but they don't have transportation there. Stonewall Tell is great -- they don't have transportation there. And so, I would -- I guess, County Manager, if we can try to maybe look in addition with the team may be doing some -- and here again, you are the expert, I'm not. I'm just letting you know what my constituents -- kind of a pop shop type mentality thing. Because it's individuals that will come out and get vaccinated and they'll do it at the very last minute. And I know it's hard to regulate and logistically that can be a nightmare. And I know that. But I just want to say that if there's something we can do given our present situation, to do may be a couple of things -- a couple of test sites or whatever, vaccination sites where they're on that kind of pop shop type mentality, and we know that the people are going to be there, we know that it draws the people there; we can do it. I really -- in my District, I know it will help because of the conversations I have been having with not only the community leaders, but some of the school board members as well. But here again, in the ask, I always want to say that I appreciate the great job you all are doing and I

know this is unprecedented times; but I think you all have risen to the occasion. It may just take a little thinking outside the box or something you know some area special in my ZIP Codes, but I appreciate the work that you all are doing. Thank you.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “Thank you, ma'am. We'll take that as guidance. We'll go back and try to work on that.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Vice Chair, please.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Good morning, gentlemen.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “Good morning.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “How are y'all doing?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “Doing well; happy new year.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Before I start, again, we all appreciate very much the work y'all are doing especially with vaccinations. I think we have shown that we have put a lot of effort into the preventative side of this and the community recognizes it and we appreciate it. But this is a moving target. I mean, every day something new is recommended of how people conduct themselves. So, you know, it's very confusing. I – that's the calls I get, right? Right now, it's what am I really supposed to do? I've been exposed to this family member you know is it five days, ten days, is it two days before you know how long do I isolate? I'm looking at the latest CDC recommendation and it says on the very first line this came out last night at 7:25, the updated recommendations do not advise a test for isolated people, but they offer guidance on how these people should respond to a test result if they choose to take one. Well, I think everybody is isolating right now just based on traffic coming in this morning. You know what normally takes an hour is 30 minutes with zero traffic. So, a lot of folks must be isolating but I don't think they're isolating by choice. I think they're just, their kids are home from school or whatever the reason might be. But people do need to understand you know how to act right now what to do how to keep their family safe. So, I just feel like that the message is muddled still and I don't know what we can do to try to provide some clarity to that, but it's really important. I mean this says, you're supposed to avoid places where people can't wear a mask, such as a restaurant or a gym, and to avoid eating around others until day ten; well, when is day one? I don't think people know when day one is; so, I don't know what to do to clear this up any, and I know that on the Mayors' call last week that Dr. Paxton was struggling with how to explain it. But I'm just, you know, Jessica I don't know what we can do to really try and make this is as clear as possible to people; and I know it changes and you're going to have to update it a lot, but you know I heard this morning that the majority of cases right now are people that have

been vaccinated. I don't know if that's true or not. It was on the today show I believe, so, you know, I just - I think the average person is struggling -- we're very educated on all this and I'm confused. So, you know, I'm looking at you; and you look like you share that confusion."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "Well, I think there's times there's been some frustration regarding the guidance. Dr. Holland, is our Chief Clinical Officer, will step in here to do his interpretive dance, I guess you could say, of what the current guidance is. I know a lot of work has gone into probably simplifying it the best we can for the people that we serve. Jessica Corbitt working with Dr. Paxton, Dr. Holland tried to put together a one table slide that could make it a little simpler for people to understand the various guidance that's out there, but I agree with you it is very confusing at times especially to a clinical officer. So, it - we will continue to strive to make sure the message is clear for the people that we serve. And Dr. Holland, I'd like to see if there's anything you'd like to add to that point regarding the Commissioner's concern?"

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: NO RESPONSE

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "--we may have lost him--"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—I guess he may have moved on—"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "—yeah. And I think there's some confusion about the testing—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—okay—"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "--the accuracy of the rapid test versus the need to actually get a PCR test. What's the current information on that?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "I think have Dr. Holland back. Did you hear the question, sir?"

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: "I did."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—okay—"

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: "First of all backing up to the what is day one? Day one is the -- if you have no symptoms, it's the day after your test; that's day one. If you have symptoms, fever or something like that, day one is the day after all that resolves and start counting from there. And as for the test, the PCR test is very, very sensitive and alone as a single test is more sensitive than the rapid test, but

can also remain positive for a long time. So, it doesn't necessarily tell you, like if it's - well it stays positive for a long time. The rapid tests though are - a single negative test is not sufficient to rule out COVID. You have to do two 24-to-48 hours apart. But if you – and that's why there's two in the box. So, if you and I'm sorry - there's a little echo here—I'm hearing everything I'm saying so that's why it's a little hard for me to talk. But – AUDIO LOST --“

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—okay, we can't hear you—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—I believe what Dr. Holland – she cannot hear you, sir. The home test kit is normally paired with a PCR based process; so, even though you have signs and symptoms, if you do test negative on the home test kit, the recommendation is still to go get a PCR test to ensure that you really are negative in that regard. False negatives do happen on the home test kit process, but false positives are not something you'll have. So, if you do have the home test kit and you do turn - does it indicate that you are positive for COVID, you can trust that particular result.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Yeah, I so, I mean, I think you know we're deliberating here about these home kits and you know they're somewhat accurate, but they're not the standard I guess is what I'm hearing you say right now—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--in a medical profession, the PCR test will always be the standard—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—all right—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—so, what we're looking at now is how could we get more individuals to be able to change their social behavior if they feel sick they take a quick test, it does turn positive immediately they isolate instead of thinking – oh here we go Dr. Holland is waving his arms; go ahead, sir—”

DR. DAVID HOLLAND, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER: NO RESPONSE

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--no, you're not; so, I'll continue to go ahead and speak until we can check for your voice. So, it's still – it's still something that can help people modify their behavior, especially if they don't feel well. They can merely pull out one of those test kits and they determine if that's something they should do or isolate and not continue to infect others or just say, well, I'm busy today – I'll wait til tomorrow; it's probably just allergies and the next think you know, another two or three days, they're—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—yeah—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “— actually shedding virus —”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—well again, I just think the public shouldn’t understand exactly if the home test is not necessarily going to be as accurate and that they probably do need to go ahead if they really are concerned about having it - get a PCR test. How long is it taking right now for us to get results?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “It depends on our particular vendor. (Laughter.) We'd love to stop, Dr. Holland. I understand your frustration, but we cannot hear you, so. (Laughter.) Hopefully you’re not--”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--let's hope not—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—words to describe how you feel about me right now, sir? (Laughter.) I’m sorry ma’am. Once again, your question—”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “—well, we'll work with Jessica and the good doctor to clarify this—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—okay. So, we think we’re going to get our shipment by the end of the month? Is that what our estimate is?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “For the home test kits, ma’am?”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Yes.”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “The Board of health allocation, it should be within the next week. We’re running into a problem, once again, it’s the ports on the West Coast. Every time that the truck gets in line, to be able to be the day that they get that container put onto the truck, they’re turned away at the end of the day.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “They just need to come to Savannah—” (Laughter.)

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--I think a lot of us who wish there was an additional port we could have taken advantage of.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Yeah, okay. So, and I understand the requirements of the grant. We have to, of course, follow those guidelines. I’m looking at the percentage based on our city breakdown that we've gotten here and all over the county, we’ve got really high numbers. So, that is a factor; is that correct?”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Yes, ma'am. So, for the Board of Health test kits that are purchased with federal dollars, they do have some specific guidelines they must follow. But with the Fulton County ARPA purchased test kits, we

will ensure that we are distributing the test kits across the County with some special emphasis on low vaccine communities. But with the COVID test kits for Board of Health, will also have a broad distribution.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Okay. Are you keeping up with how many PCR tests are happening at each location?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “Yes, ma'am.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Is that going to be part of your formula if you can see there's a high demand in one area that perhaps the test kits could mirror that?”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Yes. We're looking at several types of data to determine the best impact for the test kits—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—okay—”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “--and will again ensure that we have access points countywide. So right now, we're looking at every health center and some partnerships with the libraries as well as some of our CSP partners across Fulton County from Milton down to Palmetto.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Okay. I have seen on some of our neighbors that they've had drive-up test distribution operations are we considering anything like that?”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “So, we've looked at that as an option for some of the locations depending on the footprint of that location if it would support a drive-up option so we want to provide as many types of options as possible to get these tests kits out quickly and efficiently.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Well, it looks like it worked pretty well, I believe it was Dekalb County. I saw that and it looked like they were using you know a shopping center that wasn't in use—”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “—yes—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--temporarily. So, I know there's multiple locations around that would fit that bill. So, I don't know if y'all are looking at anything like that -- I mean the test kits need to be out in the community, obviously. Are we working with the school systems? I, too, am getting calls from school personnel that are trying to get test kits in their locations.”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “So, I know in previous allocations for test kits, the schools were a part of the process and I’m sure that we will continue to work with the school system throughout this dissemination.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Okay. All right. I know you’re going to do that. I just think the public needs to know that. And then you know I keep asking about the treatment piece of this. I understand that you know the prevention has been our focus, but like any other disease, if you work to prevent it, and you still get something, you’re going to get treated by what’s available. I see that Georgia has gotten a shipment of the Pfizer pills that’s come in. Unbelievably though, nothing in Fulton County. I’m looking at the list here. There’s some Peachtree Streets listed; but one, they’re in Cuthbert, Georgia and you know, nowhere Jessup, Georgia, but not in Atlanta, Georgia or you know anywhere up in Fulton County. So, I’m curious -- do you have any idea why we are not receiving any of those treatments?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “That allocation model was not determined by us.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Who is determining it?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “I believe, the state department of public health is, but we--”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--are we not a part of the state department of public health?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—I’m sorry ma’am?”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—aren’t we apart of the state department of public health now—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—not our particular office, but, yes. I - ultimately, the guidance does derive from them - I believe our district health director, and Dr. Holland, did voice some concerns regarding the list that you’re seeing and the lack thereof. I do not know where that is currently regarding the concerns, and it was voiced. Not sure if Dr. Holland had his audio taken care of yet, but, that is something we noticed as well last week, and we voiced that concern.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Well, I certainly hope we’re communicating that that’s not workable in the largest County in the state that the state should supply us with a population-based if nothing else portion of what they’re getting. So, I hope that we are strongly communicating that that they can’t omit Fulton County in the distribution of this treatment option. Do you know if it’s going to hospitals as well, or is it just going to—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—the hospitals didn’t make the request, ma’am. I don’t know what, how much they are going to get allocation wise; but, they did make the request. They had a meeting with the Governor last week Tuesday, I believe, all the major CEOs of hospitals in the region. During that meeting, it was discussed not only the need for those medications to help continue to treat people in the hospitals, but also the need for healthcare providers. So, a lot of resource requests have come in to us through our hospital partners and we’ve passed it onto the state for allocation in the forms of clinical as well as nonclinical type of roles. So, there’s a huge need for nurses, respiratory therapists, just like the last time we had a spike like this and you know those thousands of requests from just our footprint coupled with everything else is what’s being asked for the state Department of Public Health and the Governor to try to go ahead and cover at this time.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “So, I know our goal is to keep people out of the hospital—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--yes, ma’am—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--so, if in fact the majority of cases are folks that are vaccinated you know, and they’ve done everything they can do not to get it; and they still get it, I certainly hope that there’s a treatment available for them and the unvaccinated folks. And so, I hope that we are strongly communicating that to our state partners and just reminding them to not—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “Yes Dr. Holland-“

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “-- forget the largest County in the states—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—is actually texting me his comments right now; so, he did say that he confirmed that that concern was raised to DPH. He has not received an answer to that point yet; but he will go ahead and push again for a response.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: ‘Yeah, let me suggest he remind him again.’”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “Yes, ma’am.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Commissioner Hall.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Thank you, thank you, everyone, for the great work that you’re doing with the vaccinations, the testing, the sites and everything. It is you know, it’s very hard right now for a lot of people. Number 1 because unfortunately a lot of

people thought that just because they were vaccinated and boosted that they would not be able to catch COVID and that's an unfortunate misconception. 95 percent of the people I know who have or had COVID are fully vaccinated and boosted and wondering why they have COVID. And I think that we need to be very, very clear on our messaging and we need to be very clear on how people can get it. So, my first question that has come from a constituent is how is COVID transmitted from person to person? We know that we've gone through several different variants, and now we have omicron. But also, there is a new variant that is being talked about in the media that they're saying has been detected in France. So, how is COVID transmitted from person to person? Can someone answer that, please."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "It's still a respiratory virus. Of course, it happens when we're having casual conversations or you're singing at church if you're just having individuals assembling together for an extended period of time, there's that possibility unless everyone is masked, there's going to be the transmission of the virus. This particular variant is actually showing that it reproduces faster and more in the upper airway of individuals as opposed to the lower airway. It's a smart virus. It's realized that if it does that a greater ability to spread to others and be able to transmit and continue to survive as a virus. So, we need to make sure that we are cognizant of that, and do the things that we can to mitigate the threat which is masking and making sure that we socially distance where appropriate."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. So, it's still transmitted through saliva and—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "—it's in air droplets—"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "—air droplets and all that and also is it transmitted from touch?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "I have not seen any science to that affect. All of the science that I have seen thus far, I wish Dr. Holland could go ahead, an infectious disease physician, weigh in on this topic. But it's all been through air--"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "—so, if someone coughs in their hands and touches something, there is no probability of transmission that way?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "I do not know of anything that says that is one of the higher transmission routes. Once again, the highest transmission route of concern is at respiratory."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Respiratory, okay. So then that being said, one of the reasons why I keep my mask on when I am talking on a microphone behind people is

because if you've ever watched that scientific video that shows people talking, you see the saliva and everything just flying out in the air and getting all over everyone and everything. And so, it was, you know when I look at people talking on the microphone without their masks, that's what I actually, visually see is that scientific video of the saliva and spit just flying all over the mic and I don't take my mask off because of that because I'm like we just came behind that. So, you're saying that it is transmitted in that manner and that's why I'm like it doesn't make sense to take your mask off in that situation. And then we have talked a lot about testing and I looked at the message -- the surge message and it says 'mask up, vax up, boost up'. And I think that it should also say 'and test', because if testing was not important, we would not be having these long discussions about testing and getting test kits and all of that. So, I would offer that we add 'testing' to that message because it has become very important. Now, I want to move onto the employees because I've received a lot of questions from the employees. And the first one is, how are the at home positive results being counted? If people are doing these themselves, I don't see a message telling them to report their tests anywhere in particular or requiring them to report those tests back. So, how are the at-home positive results being counted?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "So, when it comes to employees, I'll actually defer to the Chief Human Resource Officer --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "—and that question for me, I would change it to 'period; not just for employees. So, you can answer for employees and then if someone can answer for the general public."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF, HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER: "All right. Good morning, Commissioners'. Happy new year. Kenneth Hermon, Chief HR Officer. What we've instructed employees is we want to know whether you're positive; whether it's a PCR test or at-home test. Once you get the confirmation that you're positive, let us know. So that we can track it in the tracker and show whether it's, you know, 153 or more that are positive based on these various examinations."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. Thank you. And for the general public—"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: "--there is no process at this time or way that the Department of Public Health can receive those test results from home antigen test kits. So, what they're saying is that, they would love for you to notify your local health department. In lieu of that, make sure you isolate, follow the guidance that's there in place, and continue to go forward with that particular process. So, we know that we are being -- our numbers are not as high because they could because we

are unable to capture those home test-kit results unless an individual is following up in a couple days, excuse me, with a PCR-based tests or something else—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “—yes—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—so, limitations in the system.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “So yes, ‘cause I received a lot of calls and texts about people wanting access to those test kits, and so the next question is will employees get access to the tests as they come in and how can they -- how can every County Department receive tests for their employees so that maybe, maybe we deliver a certain amount of those tests to every department so employees can know they can pick them up from their own department? Is there any plan for that? I see Dr. Roshell—”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Good morning. Thank you for that question, Commissioner. We did discuss use of the employee wellness fund to perhaps purchase employee specific kits on top of the quantity that would be purchased for the public.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “That's good. And, you know, having it being reported just now that the PCR test is the standard and it is the most accurate although it can be inaccurate and I'll tell you how I know that. But we know that these test -- these at-home test kits sometimes will more often than -- more often can be not accurate and the PCR test is what we're asking people to do. We, we really need to make sure that we have enough tests for our employees. They are concerned because as we just heard through your report, the positivity rate amongst our County employees has significantly increased. So, we want to make sure that we have those tests readily available for them as well. And that leads me to my next question of, do employees need to test negative before returning to work after testing positive?”

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF, HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER: “Commissioner—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “--yes, sir—”

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF, HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER: “--I think Dr. Holland spoke to this earlier as well; so, there's no testing requirement to report back to work. We're following the CDC guideline that talks about the 5 days of isolation, and then going to come back to work and have to wear your mask for five days. We've also committed that to the HR liaisons and the department heads based on the new CDC guidance. So, there's no testing requirement -- there's no negative test requirement to report back to work.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “So that being said, we were – it was just discussed earlier that you know people can test up to 90 days positive. So, are we putting people at risk by saying that you don’t have to test? You know, if -- because let me tell you my own experience: I got sick over the holiday, the week of the 20th and I had one day of flu-like symptoms, I never had a fever, I had one day of flu-like symptoms and then after that, I was hoarse and most of you who were on the zoom, you could tell I was hoarse, and if I talked too much, I got really dry, I might cough a little bit, and the whole time I tested negative and I used the PCR test. Not a personal one, I literally went to a PCR test site to test and I was negative the entire time that I had flu-like and cold-like symptoms. Then when I became 100 percent well, because I’m very diligent about making sure that I keep everyone safe because everyone who knows me knows I am out and about and I was feeding people during the height of COVID. And so, I’m never going to stop serving the people, but I will always do everything in my power to protect them. So, I tested again even after I was well and that is when I tested positive when I had no symptoms whatsoever. So, that’s why I’m asking these questions about trying to keep people safe and what is the testing procedure because I just think we need to be a little more diligent about testing. So, the next question is, will the County HR accept home test kits as part of the policy?”

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF, HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER: “Commissioner, our stance on the home test kits is no. We are still only accepting the PCR test as proof of testing for those employees who have not provided proof that they are vaccinated in accordance with the Board of Commissioners policies.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “All right. Thank you for – thank you for that response. Now, my next question is, are we testing to identify which variant of COVID people have because you said earlier that the majority of the positives were from the omicron variant? And so, how do we know that?”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “Every test can detect the omicron variant. They send a percentage of all tests to the lab and so that’s how they come up with the national numbers. So, there is a lab that’s doing the testing for omicron not every test is done that way but they, the way they do it, they feel pretty confident with their numbers.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “So, not every test is testing for omicron; you’re just confident that it’s omicron because so many people are getting COVID, right now; is that what you’re saying?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “Just to clarify—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “—okay—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “--yes, a test is going to tell you if you are impacted by COVID, yes or no. What portion of those test that’s sent to the state Department of Public Health lab for further analysis to determine what particular variant that is from there they go ahead and make a determination of that what percentage of the population actually has that particular variant of it. So, every test will go ahead and determine without a doubt if you have COVID or don't have COVID. The particular variant will only be a subsection of the total samples collected--”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “--only a subsection--”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFECMA: “—it would be sent for further analysis [Inaudible.]—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “—it would be sent for further analysis, but you don't know what percentage that would be—”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “—it’s a sample size that - that the federal government, CDC, has set forth for the states to collect; so, that the sample size is representative of the entire population. So--”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “—oh, okay, what is the sample size, what’s that number—”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “--I can get that information and get back to you—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “—okay, please do—”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “—they increased it by the way – they feel even more confident in the numbers today.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Okay. Great. I would love to know that number and so would the listening and viewing public. And then there have been requests that came into my office by churches and locations to be test sites and I’ve just forwarded the e-mails to Dr. Paxton and Dr. Holland. Is there -- is there a message that we can send to people or a brochure or something that we can give to people who - that direct them on how to become a test site?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: “I’m trying to get Dr. Holland, I’m sorry—”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “--to answer that question, we all are getting those type of things and there's plenty of vendors out there. We're developing a list of vendors that we're vetting a little bit that we'll be able to share where they can setup their own through the vendor site.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Okay, okay—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: “—the one thing, though ma’am, that we’re running into a problem with - it’s actually happening in your District as well, there’s so many individuals that are opening these testing sites, but they do not have a traffic management plan which is actually impacting the community around it. So, in your particular area, Atlanta police department’s had some concern and frustration about some particular areas that have popped up as a testing site, and no one has taken the due-diligence to work with the local law enforcement partner to ensure that they have a traffic plan as well as other safety and security plans. So, what I can say in general is if there’s a business that is looking to do that in a vacant property, make sure you reach out to your local law enforcement agency. Make yourself known. Ensure that you have a plan so that you don’t further impact the community that maybe opening one of these sites.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Okay. So that being said, is the Board of Health offering any assistance to these test sites so, that they don’t encounter these issues that makes me think about what Commissioner Abdur-Rahman said earlier about it’s not the Fulton County sites that are having, you know, negative problems; it’s sites that are non-Fulton County. So, are we helping these sites—”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: “—obviously, we don’t even know about - we find about it when others concerned about elected officials has passed on by a constituent. We try to reach out to these individuals to develop a partnership or relationship; sometimes they fly beneath the radar. We actually would love to make sure that they’re part of the bigger effort and that they are coordinating with us, in that regard, but to our chagrin, we have not been able to find a single state agency that oversees that. So that’s what the hopes is, is that there be some way that we could actually have that so that there could be a way they could work closer with us.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Okay, and thank you. And, let me see, I think the last thing is, we have been told over the past two years, ever since the vaccination started that the vaccination is not 100 percent when you initially receive it, it’s not a hundred percent. And that over time, it becomes - the ability for it to protect us against the virus starts to decrease, and that is why everyone now needs a booster to boost it back up. And so, with the booster, how much is the percentage of protection after a person gets the booster?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: “So, what they’re saying at this point, if you’ve had your first and second dose, you have a fifty percent chance of protecting yourself from infection.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “You said 50 percent?”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: “For this current variant; if you had a booster, it takes you up to 75 percent protection.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Okay. Wait. The two shots you are at 50 percent protection. The booster puts you up at seventy-five —”

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA: “--five percent; once again, you’ve got to remember, the vaccine’s sole mission is to keep you out of the mortuary and to keep you out of an ICU. And it’s doing its function in that regard.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Wait a minute—”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “--see the efficacy at the beginning was 95% against the original variant, it has waned and especially waned against this particular variant. So it has now been raised from 50 to 75.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “I don’t even know—”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “—you don’t know what to ask—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “I’m sorry, okay. I’m done. Thank you.”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “—I’m sorry, ma’am.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Other questions or comments? Vice Chair Hausmann.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “That was eye-opening, your answer just now; and I think that’s another thing that folks don’t recognize. And it explains why so many people that are vaccinated are getting this new variant. I would hope we would also communicate that. I think it might help people take an added level of protection that they may not think they need—”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “--yes, ma’am.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Okay. Thank you.”

DOUG SCHUESTER, EMSI: “Thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “All right. Other questions or comments? All right. Mr. Manager, the reopening.”

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: “Yes, sir, if we could go to page 24 and when we get there, you’ll see that of our three reopening indicators obviously the cases

downward trajectory is now in the red. Vax or test, we can still meet and equipment; certainly we do. If you go to the next page 25, this is the number that I quoted earlier the number of new cases in this reporting period is at an all-time high; and you can see some of the double-digits in department's indicated – library, juvenile court, Superior Court clerk, Superior Court general, public works, public defender's office, and the Tax Commissioner -- if you go to the next chart 26, it really dramatically shows in this -- excuse me - how different this is. Visa vie, where we have been over the last year and a half so this is the ultimate hockey stick chart as people would call it. Go to 27 you would see again across the entirety of the pandemic the number of employee impacts that we have had. Next page, 28; again, references the success that we've had. I think with vaccination rates, 82 percent now approved and then page 29 shows the careful management of the other side of the vaccination or test program, where Ken Hermon takes a great deal personal responsibility to contact employees that are facing either suspension or dismissal and you can see there at the bottom that's still a relatively low number. The chart that I think we would want to ensure that we have your agreement on is the next chart, page 30, which is essentially that we would continue in the status quo, until at least the next Board of Commissioners Meeting, so, you can again read these; but senior services would remain in the current status without centers being open. The library will continue as is; Behavioral Health with both in-person as well as developmental disabilities with virtual services and wellness check. As I mentioned earlier administrative services we are encouraging our employees to use teleworking; and our department heads, where ever possible and the only change in the Tax Commissioner's office has been the closure -- temporary closure of South Annex and no difference in that, as I've said here today, I think folks are being directed to utilize Greenbrier and we're working with the landlord there for that additional space that we'll be opening soon there at Greenbrier to accommodate any -- any additional traffic. So, Mr. Chairman those are the current recommendations that we'd just like to ensure that there's no issue from the Board's perspective on it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, good report, Mr. Manager. Now, on page 30, that's key. Any objections to the plan that's outlined on page 30?"

COMMISSIONERS: "NO RESPONSE."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Status quo until our next meeting which is January 19th. Any objections? That'll be the direction. No objections? Okay. Vice Chair has a question."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "No, I have no problem with trying to protect our seniors. The virtual programming piece - do we have seniors or any seniors that are unable that would like to participate in that but can't because they don't have the right technology; are we checking on that?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “So, all seniors -- seniors that may be experiencing some virtual challenge the department of senior services partners with the library to provide a device if one is available for that senior to participate if they would like to. As of yesterday, we had 412 seniors participate in virtual programming. We completed wellness checks on 1618 seniors, and we provided 650 meals to seniors in our adult day neighborhood senior centers and multipurpose.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Wonderful. Do we have seniors that are utilizing our technology offerings?”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “That are?”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Are.”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Yes. Yes, we have 412 seniors participate in virtual programs.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Right. But are they using their own equipment, or are we providing that equipment?”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “I can get that break down for you, Vice Chair.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “I’m just curious. We hear a lot about the digital divide and those types of things. I think this is a kind of a microscopic test case of what’s really going on in our community in that regard. So, I think that’d be useful for us going forward.”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Yes, ma'am.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: “Thank you, Chairman. Dr. Roshell, I just want to take this time to publicly thank you all. I remember when we were on the Mayors’ meeting and I did ask about the wellness checks. And so, I did want to say some of the seniors that I have talked to that was actually part of the wellness checks, they appreciate it, and they reached out to my office. And so County Manager, I thank you all for being so responsive and it is working. Because like I said before, we try to mitigate this and you now look at their physical health but also looking at their mental health. And so, to have some seniors reach out to me and say that they got a wellness check, you know, I’m not sure how you all do it, but the fact that they got it and they

wanted to let me know that they did. I want to commend you all and please keep up with the good work.”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Thank you, Commissioner.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Anything else? All right, now one more time on page 30; There’s specific recommendation that the Manager’s asking for and there are no objections to the recommendations that are outlined on page 30. All right. You have your marching orders, Mr. Manager.”

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: “Yes, sir.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “All right, continue sir.”

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: “And then lastly on page 32 and 3, I’ll just ask Dr. Roshell to give you a brief update on emergency rental assistance.”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “We are continuing to administer the emergency rental assistance program. We are coming to the end of the additional \$4 million that the Board generously approved for the continuation of the program. As the County Manager indicated, we have received the positive signal that our reallocation request from the Department of Community Affairs has been approved. We have not gotten a specific date as to when we will receive the allocation or the specific amount if it will be the \$25 million that we requested or not. We will continue to keep the Board apprised of that development when we receive the dollars and when we will have the opportunity to continue adjudicating applications and paying them against the 25 million. As the County Manager also indicated, we have not received any definitive information about the beginning of the mortgage assistance program, but we will definitely keep the Board apprised of that development as well.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Okay, questions or comments? Vice Chair.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Yes, and thank you for your work on this area as well. I’m curious if we have any sort of geographical heat map of where these might be concentrated that you can provide us? Again, I think that this type of data would be helpful to us going forward.”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Yes, ma’am. I’ll work with the Strategy Team to provide that information for you.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Thank you. Thank you very much.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Okay. Anything else, Mr. Manager?”

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Unless there are any questions on the financial review which have not changed significantly from the last meeting, that concludes our report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. I just would encourage you though, once the 46,000 kits are in from the Department of Public Health, that we actually don't wait until those have been exhausted, but we – 'we' - using our money, buy another 46,000 while we're waiting for our pro rata share of the 500 million that should be coming at some point in the future."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. We get - I think we got clear direction today to proceed with that; so, we'll do so post haste."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you for your report."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Mr. Chair?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I just have one remark on the expenditures and so forth and I just want to clarify something from the Manager. When you made the remark that we had spent over a hundred million in funds or somebody made that remark; you referred in total, but the funds we had spent from specifically from the American Rescue Act were only 51.8—"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "—yes, sir. That's correct—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—okay—"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "—I'm referring to page 38 and the sum total of a hundred--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—yeah, I just wanted to just point that out; just you know for listening purposes that you know we are -- that is a multiyear plan. It wasn't like we you know spent half that money in the first year. We spent that traunch of money it is 216.9; we've spent 51.8—"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "--yes, sir—"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--okay, thanks."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Hall -- Hausmann."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “The names are similar. Just, just briefly. When we're talking about the distribution of the test kits, I know Atlanta has done a lot of these things on their own. Are we going to distribute them outside of the city of Atlanta or will Atlanta be included in the distribution?”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “Vice Chair Hausmann, yes, Atlanta would be included in the distribution as well as an access point for all 15 cities.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “So, this is different than our normal operation where they have their own resources to address COVID?”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “So, the Board of Health grant that they received through the federal government does not exclude the city of Atlanta. If it is, the will of the Board with the ARPA funding that we are going to use to purchase the Fulton County test kits -- if you would like to see us do something more in alignment with how we have allocated resources in the past, we're happy to do that.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “In my opinion, that's consistent with how we have done everything else. I think if we start making exceptions, then it really muddies the water—”

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: “--yes, ma'am.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “So, I understand the other one is different; but that would be my suggestion.”

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: “Of course, just a reminder, every city has received ARPA funds. So, really every city could contribute to additional purchase of test kits. Not just Atlanta, every city.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “The cities are not paying for vaccinations; are they?”

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: “Well, not unless they're paying some private provider.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “I mean I've seen that there's vaccinations happening in some of our cities. I saw something on Facebook about Milton doing it at their fire stations. So, I don't know who's doing what, and who's paying for it.

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: “We're doing vaccinations in Atlanta on Boulevard.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Yeah, I don't know I just think we should be consistent. And so, I'm just asking that we make sure that we're consistent whenever possible. Maybe that's a discussion topic at our meeting on Friday.”

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: “That’d be fine.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: Thank you, Chairman. With all due respect, Vice Chair, I think in this particular case with what we're dealing with, I think one it -- we need to be careful because we are talking about individuals in a pandemic and the numbers are out of control, and I can - I understand your desire to be consistent but if the actual situation deems that we need to do something more so then we would regularly do, I think this warrants further conversation. I agree with you. You don't want to set precedence. You don't want to start doing things differently. You would like to be consistent; however, when we look at where we were in January of 2021 versus where we are in of January 2022, it may behoove us to make sure that we include Atlanta because we're still trying to get a hold of this. And sometimes and things that we operate as a Body, we have to step up and sometimes be the leader. We have to sometimes step up and be the individuals that other cities look at to try to replicate. And so, not trying to -- and I want to you know openly say this – not trying to say that I disagree with you, what I'm saying is this is a conversation if it's the will of the Board, Chairman, that requires further review just so we can try to get a hold of this and more importantly that we don't disenfranchise, or leave individuals out that need our help in trying to combat this. That's the only thing that I'm asking. Thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “All right. Commissioner Arrington.”

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON JR.: “Yeah, I think this would be a good topic for discussion on Friday. You know, COVID doesn't care what city or county you live in. And so, I think we’ve got to be a little more responsive. I certainly agree, Commissioner Hausmann, that you know, we need to maintain consistency but as we you know look at these numbers -- these rising numbers, and people driving in and out of the County and in and out of the cities, I think it definitely deserves further discussion on Friday as we talk and meet with our mayors about how we address this.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Okay. All right, Commissioner Hall.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “I just want to say if anyone attended or watched the inauguration of our new 61st Mayor of Atlanta, Andre Dickens, then they would have heard him say that he is definitely going to work with Fulton County and DeKalb County and our health departments to address every aspect of what is happening with our citizens and COVID. So, I believe we definitely need to work with Atlanta and all of our mayors as we have been doing and continue to help in any area that we can. We can't say that we don't have the ability to do that because this is not like receiving federal

funding from HUD that says specifically in the law that you cannot double dip and if Atlanta has money from the federal government and HUD, and Fulton County has money from the federal government and HUD, you can't use the money in both areas. It's not like that. We need to help each other as we have been doing.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: All right. Further comments? If not, Madam Clerk.”

CLERK GRIER: “Continuing on page 5, **22-0017**, Finance. Review and approval of the fiscal year 2022 final adopted budget and budget resolution.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: So, let me – may I make a quick suggestion here. There's an item on page -- where is it – 6, 22-0023, it's a presentation of the Georgia Music Accord feasibility study which could have some budgetary implications. And the two presenters have been here since this morning. So, I'd like to recommend that we hear what they have to say before we get to the budget. It's about 12 - what is that 12:19 – yeah, 12:19. I thought we'd be gone by now; but we're still here. So, any, any objections to – I mean we can officially amend the Agenda, if we need to. Commissioner Vice Chair.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Yeah, I was going to move that we amend the Agenda—”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: ‘--all right is there a second—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—but I was also going to suggest—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “—second—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--that we break for lunch After the presentation; and then do the budget after lunch.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “That's fine. That's fine.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “I second it.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Yeah, motion by—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Can you correct that, please? Madam Clerk, thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Do what?”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “She needs to correct the screen.”

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: “No problem, [Inaudible.]”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Oh, okay. Motion to approve to rather to amend the Agenda by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote, please.”

CLERK GRIER: “And the vote is open to amend the agenda. And passes unanimously.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Okay. Mr. Olecki. And by way of introduction, you will recall that oh a couple years ago maybe a year and a half ago we, Fulton County appropriated \$250,000 – the state of Georgia appropriated \$250,000 for a study that Mr. Olecki is going to speak about today.”

BRAD OLECKI: “Yes, thank you very much, and please allow me to introduce my, my partner in this, Mrs. Tammy Hurt. Tammy has also done something you ought to be very, very proud of; Tammy is only the second elected board chair of the recording Academy Board of Directors from Georgia and here in Fulton County. So we're very, very excited to have her involved.”

TAMMY HURT: “Good afternoon, everyone.”

BRAD OLECKI: “A big thank you to all of you. Hopefully you can hear me, okay; please let me know if you cannot. But we are not here without y'all's involvement. Fulton County gave us the opportunity to tell this story and we really greatly appreciate all that you all have done, matching the states contribution to show you this study. So, we're going to share with you little bit of detail, the high levels of it and share with you the opportunity that exists ahead of us. Can we go to the next slide, please. So, we created a 501C3 organization called the Georgia Music Accord. Really the purpose of this organization was to complete a series of due-diligence to focus on bringing a Grammy experience in all of the amazing educational community impacts that it could bring to the table. And so, we've created a series of work that was done. You'll see here, we developed an overall master plan to build that Grammy experience within Fulton County. We did an economic impact study, feasibility study, created a business model, ran a music ecosystem strategy and action plan that was presented to you all on September 16th of 2020. And then we also ran a fundraising feasibility study with CoxeCurry here in Fulton County. Next slide, please. What we learned was that we needed to build a facility and an overall experience based on four key pillars: Those pillars being education, economic impact, workforce development, which includes industry infrastructure which we'll talk more about, and the celebration of our vast and diverse musical heritage here in Fulton County, the city of Atlanta, and of course, across the state of Georgia. Since that time, since we ran the study, we've faced this pandemic that we just spent the last hour and plus talking about. We decided to add an element to it and really focus on unity and togetherness. Any of you who got

quarantined in the early days or have turned to music to help sooth yourself, to share with others, to host a block party when people were singing from their balconies in Midtown, or heard from some of our artists who work to unite us. It's obviously another key component. So, those are the five key things that this project is focused on and will deliver. What we could build is a 60 plus thousand square foot facility. Now, again, this report shows what's possible; not what is guaranteed, not what the final verdict would be, but what is possible. And to be able to look at a 60 plus thousand, square-foot facility which incorporates a tremendous amount of exciting things here in Fulton County. We'll talk a little bit more about that. The experience would include a interactive museum that will be focused on sharing educational initiatives, unique programs, drive tourism, event business here into the County for conventions, and what not. It would incorporate entertainment infrastructure which would include a scoring stage, a recording studio, post production audio facility for growth and sustainability of not just the music industry here in Fulton County; but film TV, as well as e-gaming. Those of you that have watched a movie over the holidays, you didn't watch it without a soundtrack. You didn't watch it without an original score. You didn't watch it without any people talking unless you were watching an old black and white film. Music touches all aspects of the entertainment industry. We've all seen the amazing footage and films here for TV and movies here in our County, and we also know that Fulton County and Atlanta, and the Metro Atlanta area is really growing to become the epicenter of the E-gaming space. We'll talk more about that in just a second—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—the what space—”

BRAD OLECKI: “--the E-gaming – I asked the same question when I first heard it, Vice Chair. Congratulations by the way.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Through your mask it sounded like you said e-dating—”
(Laughter.)

BRAD OLECKI: “I’d like to say that’s how I met my wife, but it was not. I’ve got two kids who eat game though. The key component for us is the educational programs and initiative. Focus on K-12 that will be steam related not just arts related as well as partnering with our higher education institutions here in the County and beyond. We will focus on multiple community impact initiatives creating a unique Council that aligns our artists with our elected officials, with our corporate leaders to create a very unique experience in those programs and make sure they are truly speaking to all aspects, to all citizens from the northern part of the County to the southern, border to border, throughout the state. Of course, we want to incorporate premium meeting, and event space, focus on continuing to drive and rebuild Atlanta and the Fulton County area as the destination for conventions and then a performance theatre as well. Next slide.

Next slide, please. The economic impact was pretty significant. We broke it down by the state, the County, and the city; you will see that here. If we look over the ten-year period of a couple key components, I want to preface this by saying our feasibility study showed anywhere from 250,000 at our low to 400,000 at our mid-range and attendance figures. It's important to note that because we want to build a self-sustaining, self-reliant experience with all of those programs so by building our performance and our business model at the minimum and lowest attendance, it allows us a greater chance for success and sustainability. The 250,000 is our low and is on par with several of the other attractions and experiences around the county. I had the good fortune of working on the leadership team with the College Football Hall of Fame during the same time the National Center for Civil and Human Rights was being built and this is I'm lucky to say what I think is the next version of bringing some of those amazing experiences to the County, but also broadening that out to our educational initiatives which we'll again talk more about. Looking at having 395 million to 533 million dollars of economic impact over the next ten years; pretty significant. We've also as we'll show you have the state and the city impact there. This is countywide. This is specific to the county. This is not a city of Atlanta project. This is a County project and you know Commissioners you all have led the way. You all have given us the opportunity to tell this story and we're so very appreciative of being able to do that and being brave enough to go out and lead the charge with us. And we continue to have Fulton County front and center in all of our conversations with our corporate leaders and as we work to collaborate with other elected officials. We will create 405 new jobs through construction. That's if we build this just as a stand-alone facility. There's an opportunity to do much more and create a much bigger district and entertainment center, which will drive those numbers up. Through the operation and the tourism specifically, there will be a range of 273 to 405 jobs, and the direct tax revenue impacts for the County would be about 800,000 a year for a total of 7.9 to 11.6 million over that ten-year period. Next slide, please. What all could this do? What could it bring? If we have an amazing facility that is a bricks and mortar hub and has spokes extending from there, the programs are limitless. The engagement with our youth is limitless. The engagement with our entertainers and overall creative industries is limitless, and we want to drive new business and growth here to Fulton County, and we'll talk more about that. The stem and arts which makes up steam educational initiatives is our top priority. Being able to align with Atlanta Public Schools and Fulton County Schools to be able to create curriculum for those educators to utilize in their classrooms. If they come across the threshold of the GRAMMY Museum – great. But no one will be denied accessibility because they're not able to come through the door of the facility. If we provide a title I free admission program, that would be great. Everyone could come, free of charge from title I schools. But if they can't afford to get on a bus, or bring a lunch -- we still want to be able to go to

them. So key component is the mobile nature of the experience getting out into the schools and making sure everyone in the County, K-12 has the opportunity to experience this incredible opportunity. Community programs whether that be breaking the trap, providing an opportunity for kids to come and record, to experience what it's like working with the professionals becoming the next TI or Ludacris or Luke Bryan or Zach Brown or their band becoming the next REM. They'll have an opportunity to work with some of the industry's best. The new and permanent jobs, we've talked a lot about that -- really, really focused for us to be a specific job force and workforce development initiative that earmarks jobs for our front-line workers, for our staff in the museum, in the experience earmarked for underserved communities. We want to make sure that everyone that is a part of this experience, that works for this experience, reflects the diversity of the music industry here in Fulton County; very, very important part. I'll backup one quick thing, and make a mention of something -- we have already started implementing unique programs and partnerships that allow us to give back to the county. Tammy, in her expertise, was the executive producer in partnership with the Grady Healthcare Foundation. We created a program called 'music heals' which raised over a million dollars for the Grady Healthcare fund back in October. Eight different artists from all different genres came together for free to perform for a show that was broadcast for an hour on a Sunday night on WSB and it raised over a million dollars for Grady. Those are the types of initiatives and programs that we will be able to unite our entertainers of all different genres to be able to come and see and prove all things here in the County. The infrastructure for the gaming and entertainment industry is a key component. Quick story: Nashville has currently the largest scoring stage outside of California with a space called Ocean Way. When they opened Ocean Way as a scoring stage, electronic arts and Sony moved in to utilize the scoring and the professional artist therefore e-gaming -- maybe e-dating, but e-gaming music production. Those are the types of new businesses that we want to drive to Fulton County. And this infrastructure will allow us to do that."

TAMMY HURT: "I do want to add one thing or two. We have a 28th time Grammy Award Winning Symphony Orchestra, right here in Atlanta. They don't record scores right now. We need a place for them to record the next score, for the next Marvel movie that's being shot here in the County."

BRAD OLECKI: "As we learned in the ecosystem study Fulton County has more recording studios per capita than any other county in the country. And Georgia has more professional orchestras per capita than any other state in the country. We have artists and creators here. We have not taken it upon ourselves as a County, a city, or a state to drive that through for economic growth and we believe this could be a vehicle to do that. And particularly as much as you all have continued to support the arts as a

Board, we thank you for that leadership. We thank you and appreciate you recognizing and noticing the importance of that here in the County. Key partnerships are a major focus. Working with the Atlanta University Center and our historically Black Colleges and Universities with organizations like Georgia state even getting in to other parts of the County and working specifically with higher education institutions to bring the GRAMMY affiliate programs to those schools and then of course develop you know, I think the key component for us is to develop a very important public-private partnership with all three areas of government led by the County, incorporating the state, and the city as well. Next slide, please. What's next? We're going to continue to determine site possibilities for this, again stress within Fulton County feasibility study showed us to be the most effective we obviously we'll need to be around a tourist destination of Centennial Park, but that's why those programs and that mobile accessibility would allow us to get to all aspects of the County. With the bricks and mortar hub being right here, near Centennial Park. We looked at the west side, we looked at Summer Hill neighborhood and others. But we will continue to find the best site possible for us right here. We're going to be launching the capitol campaign with a public-private partnership support. We anticipate this being an opportunity for a very strong three-legged stool of public, with those three entities that I mentioned. Again, thank you all for continuing to be a major part of that initiative. We're going to launch those educational programs, and those community initiatives, and continue to give back like we did with the music heals initiative at Grady. All that being said, tired of speaking through this mask. Any questions, and thank you again."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you for the presentation. Most of you know that I serve on this Board and I've been involved in this project for some time, but this is a great opportunity for us to ask some questions. I want to ask one that will have a couple components to it. Specifically, what do you need from us now? And, as a part of that question, where is the city of Atlanta, 'if we're the lead dog, have been and we'll continue to be, where is the state of Georgia, and where is the private sector?"

BRAD OLECKI: "Great question. One, we are looking for financial support spread out over the next couple of years from all three areas of government. We would love for Fulton County to be again that continued lead dog in this hunt. If we could secure upwards of three million dollars, we have the opportunity to secure space and to tell a really unique story by doing more than just building this museum experience. But really diving into a larger entertainment development which we are you know continuing to progress towards with other developers and those opportunities are significant. In order to showcase for them that this project is a viable option to be a tenant within those - that bigger development and to bring a much larger development here to the county, we need to be able to show them that we have the support of both public and private.

We've been very fortunate in the emotional support and the verbal support that former Mayor Bottoms had shared. We continue to work with Invest Atlanta to identify opportunities for the city to support these efforts, and we've had great -- very brief early discussions and look forward to sitting down with Mayor Dickens in the very near future to get Atlanta's support and engagement. From the state standpoint, they've obviously already stepped up and led the charge with you all to make all of this possible and we plan on using this legislative session to go back to them to share and highlight the opportunity that exists in front of us to get their support as well. From a corporate standpoint: We really have had tremendous amount of support from some of our corporate leaders. We have developed a very fantastic Board of Directors which is led by Joel Katz, the entertainment lawyer who could have built his entertainment empire anywhere, but he built it right here in Fulton County and Ludacris, Chris Bridges, obviously a homegrown boy here in Fulton County who is excited about this and has become so much more than just a music entertainer. As a philanthropist, and of course as his film and TV career that continues to grow. As well as led by folks like Sam Cooper and others we have verbal commitments from several corporations who we hope with this first domino to fall. Whoever can be willing to step up with us, showcase of this opportunity is real and that we can move forward. Our feasibility study from CoxeCurry so that we can raise the necessary funds and we think the only thing we're missing right now is one leader who can get those corporations to step up and to commit. We hope organizations like Coca-Cola and others who have been so receptive to this will be, you know, right there with us along the way."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I want to commend you all for this. Unfortunately, I was not a sitting Commissioner when this was brought in front of us, so I would like as much information as possible. Having raised two violin players in my home that are adults now, it was at that time, I had to travel from one end of town to the other. And so, I'm excited when you're talking about scores. When you're talking about the impact, when you're talking about engaging underserved communities. I am so excited. I would like to lend my voice to this and any additional information that you can please provide my office with, I will be so happy. Thank you."

BRAD OLECKI: "Absolutely, it will be our pleasure. And one of the most exciting things is that we learned about - everyone has a musical bone; everyone has a child who played. You know, Tammy is a product of the Cobb County school system. I don't deserve to hold an instrument, and I don't even sing in the shower, but I know how to do this and I know how we'll create a tremendous opportunity for young, up-and-coming artists to see that you don't even have to play an instrument, you don't have to be the

best rapper or singer. There are jobs within our industry right here in Fulton County for you to stay, live, and work. One additional thing you know Georgia Tech right here in our County has one of the top doctorate of sound technology degrees in the world. And those students are getting jobs and leaving Fulton County and the state of Georgia before they ever graduate. Let's find ways to keep them here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Morris."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Well I'll be brief. I thank you Mr. Chairman for your leadership on this. It's been -- I've been interested in it ever since I first heard about it from you and I think it would be a tremendous asset to our County, our city and our state. And following up on the Chairman's question, what you're looking for from us: I assume when you talk about the dominoes that you're looking possibly for us to be the first domino. And if so, how big of domino are you looking for? And then I'll have a follow-up when you answer that question—"

BRAD OLECKI: "—absolutely, well thank you for that question. One, we are -- we would love for Fulton County to continue to lead the charge. So, if you could be the first domino, that would be great. We think we need probably around \$3 million to get started to show the full commitment to bring the right developer in to build this larger facility; and we look forward to sharing more details as it relates to what developers are interested in the start really working towards getting value. I'm excited at what Fulton County has to offer from an industry standpoint and we're talking about a mixed-use facility that would be the home of the Grammy Museum as the anchor. We think there's other opportunities from there with you know again unique hotels potentially market rate residential et cetera more retail and whatnot."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Right. And I'd had some discussions with other folks that might be involved a little bit in this. You talked about the need for governments to show some good-faith interest in this as part of this domino. The 3 million, is that a combination of state, city, and County, or is that the first domino from the County? That's a big domino."

BRAD OLECKI: "—that would be a big domino; but it would be ideal if that was the first domino in support of the County. We would then utilize that to go get that matched plus from the city and the state. We believe you know we probably need to get somewhere between ten and \$12 million from the public sector in the form of different grants and whatnot. Over the series of our construction development period—"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "—which will be two to three years—"

BRAD OLECKI: “—about three years. We need to be able to show the commitment to those developers now so that they see we're ready to move forward. And then we will start to have other dogs join the hunt if you will—”

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: “—right—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—to move forward.”

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: “And the follow-up question, you mentioned Invest Atlanta. I serve on the Invest Atlanta board and the Invest Atlanta board has a lot of tools aside from bonds for title which really wouldn't apply here, I assume—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—yes—”

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: “--any discussions with the Development Authority of Fulton County?”

BRAD OLECKI: “We have had the opportunity to sit down with several members of the board of the Development Authority and we look forward to working with them and hopefully even partnering with you and we believe there's an opportunity for them to partner with Invest Atlanta as well. Eloisa and her team has been fantastic and working to try to find ways and we think sitting down with Mayor Dickens here early in his administration will allow us to identify how quickly they can be involved. Again, letting them know and understand that Fulton County was you know the reason that we have this opportunity, leading the hunt.”

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: “Well, Mr. Chairman and colleagues, I think it would be a great thing if the Development Authority and Invest Atlanta and the County and the city work together on this. Historically, we've been a little bit in competition from time to time, and this is one of those cases where it would be great if we collaborated a little bit. So—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—just like a musical score, working together.”

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: “Great. That's it. Thank you very much.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “All right. Commissioner Hall.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Thank you, Mr. Chair. So let me make sure I heard this correctly. You need about \$3 million from Fulton County and you're going to be asking for funding from the state, the city, and the public sector; is that correct?”

BRAD OLECKI: “—correct; those three public entities and then of course, the corporate sector and the philanthropic sector here that supports initiatives like this across the Metro area.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “But you need to do this over a three-year period?”

BRAD OLECKI: “The three-year period is the construction phase. Ideally, we would have the commitment up front to use a proper process in which those funds would be spent; but to have the full commitment up front for use in 2022 if necessary working with you all to determine what steps need to be done contingent upon us bringing a developer to the table who wants to build this facility. This is just simply showing them the County's commitment. We would use that again to find other public and corporate leaders who would follow suit and support the effort as well.”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “Well, Fulton County has always been the largest government funder of the arts; although we don't often get recognized by those nonprofit organizations that we fund as being the largest funder through our contract for services grant program. And I think that this is a great opportunity for us to again be that leader. This is a monumental thing -- everything that you put in here speaks to community engagement, community service, human services – I even want to commend you on the K-12 education programs and curriculum and higher education collaboration because that is absolutely needed. You always hear people say you know we need to work on making sure that our youth stay in Atlanta. That once they become educated, they remain here. But in order for them to be able to remain here, there are some things that we need to do as elected officials to ensure that it is an environment that's conducive for them to stay in. And this is one of the ways ensuring they have the education and connectivity, and the backing to be prepared to go into the industries that are here to be prepared to get the income necessary to live here. And so, I'm really pleased to see these bullet points in here. So, knowing that you need money, the next thing that I did was looked at this fiscal year 2022 revised proposed budget to see if there was anything indicated in here addressing this need because as you may or may not know, we are – we have not voted on the budget yet; but we are in the process of moving forward with that. We generally do that during the second meeting in January. So, we have to know what's going to be in this budget. And I see on the last page of this document called the FY 2022 revised proposed budget, on the last page number 16, there is something on here on line 39 that says nonagency GRAMMYs Museum allocation, but it has a bunch of question marks. So, I don't know do we need to make a motion to add the dollar amount or can we just—”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “—what—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “—I’m sorry—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--we talked about that in the budget conversation perhaps—”

COMMISSIONER HALL: “--yes. Absolutely. So, we need to add a dollar - the three million-dollar dollar amount on this in replace of those question marks. So, that's – that’s all I have. Thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Thank you. Okay, Vice Chair Hausmann.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Great presentation. Good to see you. Your rendering is beautiful. I don't know if that would be the final product, but it’s beautiful—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—thank you—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--I can envision it in downtown around Centennial Park perhaps somewhere. I think it will be a great addition to everything else that's there. And I love the educational component. That's really what appeals to me. The fact that you know we’re training a lot of our kids in this industry, but they don't have jobs here and they move somewhere else and that’s just one of the missing pieces of our entertainment industry in my opinion that this would greatly enhance and serve. So, very positive about what you're trying to accomplish. That being said this is a beautiful PowerPoint and there's not a lot of meat here about what you're really asking for. I’d heard a different figure than 3 million when you and I spoke a few weeks ago. It was higher. So, I'm not sure why you reduced it. I know everything is more expensive right now. So, for you to come in and ask for less is kind of a surprise and you know we haven't been provided with the CoxeCurry study which might help us determine you know how, how we can get involved in this. I share the sentiments that have been raised that we are a leader in arts funding. We're very proud of that and we want to make sure that we're recognized should we you know participate in this because it is very much been a focus of Fulton County's efforts forever. And we are going to continue that in some way or another, I’m sure. So, I just feel like this is a great start, but you know for an ask of this magnitude, we need to have a little more information of the big picture you know what our investment would mean to you and to make sure that our money is used you know it’s not doesn’t go to waste and then on the fence; but if we make an investment that the rest of the project is going to get funded—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—absolutely—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—so, that's what I need to see in order to support a financial investment is just your budget, your projections from what it's going to cost --

really cost for you to build this and the likelihood of the partners and what they would bring and that kind of thing. I also feel like it's really important that all of the government entities are involved from the beginning—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—yes, ma’am--”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “--you know whether we commit to do something, reserve money, wait for you to get an answer from the state some sort of arrangement like that might be something that you know we could talk about but anyway in my opinion we just need a little more real information about the ask and what the return on that investment would be. And then, too, I really appreciate Commissioner Morris’ comments about partnering with the Fulton Development Authority. It would be wonderful if we could partner financially with them as well.”

BRAD OLECKI: “Well, thank you for your comments. Just to address a couple of those things, we can provide a full scope of all reports in details that you need to answer all those questions; and I’m happy to sit with you each and talk through them more specifically, if necessary given the limited time that we have here. We do – we do need more. We want to continue the start of the effort, but we wanted to make sure that we provided a doable number that got us started and allowed us to go secure and more formalize and better formalize the other verbal commitments that we’ve gotten from corporate leaders as well as go back to our other elected officials in the city and the state government and ask for their support. So, you know, we went down to three hoping that that could be the first thing that we could do this year in this budget, knowing that we’ll have tremendous amount of progress and hope that we don’t ever need more public support; that would be our goal.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Well, again, if you’re ask is more than that, we need to know your full ask. You know I mean it’s not a kind of thing where you know we’re going to invest and then next year you say oh, well, we’ve got to have more, or the money is not going to go to the intended purpose so that’s not a situation that I think would work for us—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—okay. The original ask, the original model was looking for \$5 million from each of the public entities to get to 15 total which would allow us to then go get another you know 45 or 50 million from the private sector in both corporations and foundations.”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “Again, I think we need to see that in writing—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—you got it—”

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: “—okay, thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Okay, Commissioner Ellis.”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “Yeah, just real brief. Following up on some of Commissioner Vice Chair Hausmann's comments, which I concur with. Who did the study for you and maybe you can give us a little bit more detail? The presentation is – there's numbers up there, but you know, there's not a lot of detail behind them and you know when you're certainly looking at any sort of development projects, you - I think it's fair for anybody particularly that's going to invest in something, to look at them with somewhat of a skeptical eye about projections. So, you know, I'd like - I'd be interested in any of the detail behind the projection numbers that you threw up there; as well as the – do we have a CoxeCurry study about you know feasibility of what you can raise and that sort of stuff - I'd, I would want to see that. And if I - I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I did – what I heard from you, I just want to verify that at current point in time, you - you have no corporate or individual financial commitments at the present point in time?”

BRAD OLECKI: “We have no checks that have been cashed from any of those entities. But we have some verbal commitments and are working towards final numbers from each of them. So, we have some corporations who are working through similar—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—but they haven't had - nobody has formerly given you a dollar commitment yet at this point in time—”

BRAD OLECKI: “—correct, sir—”

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: “—okay. I just want to confirm. Okay, thank you.”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “Okay. Any further questions? What I would recommend, because I know some of the information is sensitive and I would recommend that you speak with each Commissioner privately to go over some of this stuff that should not be made public at this point. But you need to do that quickly. So, thank you very much for the presentation—”

BRAD OLECKI: “--thank you all very much, again, thank you for your leadership—”

TAMMY HURT: “—thank you so much. Happy new year; thank you—”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: “—happy new year. All right. It's approaching 1:00 I'll entertain a motion that we go in to recess for lunch and executive session items of personnel, real estate, - what's the other one—”

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: “—litigation—”

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--litigation. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Vice Chair Hausmann. Let's vote, please."

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

(Executive session starts at 1:00 p.m.)

CALL TO ORDER AT 3:16 P.M.

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, Chairman Pitts. Is there a motion to approve the request for representation set forth in item number 2 of the Executive Session Agenda?"

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other items?"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Are you done, Ms. Attorney?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, there are no other items."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "All right, thank you. Yes, I move that we approve the amended resignation letter of Richard Barron of December 17, 2021, to be effective, April 1st, 2022."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I got a second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman would like to be heard."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I want to go on record with the public that, you know, we just need to, as a Body, just -- I think sometimes the

communication needs to be a little bit better as a Body. And I want to go on record, for the public to know that the communication as elected officials needs to be better in order for us to make informed decisions. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Go ahead. Anybody else want to be heard?"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Any other comments or questions, Commissioners? All right. I would just like to say that we are -- I'm making this motion at the request of the Board of Registrations and Elections. Any other comments?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah. So, I made public statements about this situation for some time now. I've probably been as -- probably more involved in this than I should have. I spent a lot of time. And this is -- elections is complicated. And what's before us, is a resignation of Richard Barron, effective April 1. And that, in large part, is contingent upon -- not contingent upon, but for an effective elections going forward. The hope is, the expectation is, is that we would have his replacement, permanent replacement, in place by that time. And it's been my experience with search firms that that's an almost impossible task. That, on top of the fact that the primary elections this year are May 24th. So, if this person, his replacement, Barron's replacement is not in place by April the 1st, then we could have a problem. And I'm looking for another -- and I want to emphasize this, another smooth election in Fulton County. Elections in Fulton County this year are going to be watched by every soul in this country because of the Senate race, the Governor's race, in particular. All in preparation, in my opinion, for 2024. That's why I think we need to be as careful and as cautious as we possibly can. That's also, we've heard again this morning from a group of informed, concerned citizens talking about, in detail, at every meeting about the Happy Faces contract and slash Richard Barron. The Manager is prepared to make a report to us on elections at our next meeting, as well as the Happy Faces contract; and all of this is tied together. So, I say all of that to say that I'm just really not comfortable in accepting this letter today. And the final act would be for this Body to accept the actions of the Board of Registrations and Elections. And I'm just not prepared to do that today. Vice Chair -- Commissioner Hall, followed by Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm glad you mentioned the speakers from this morning from the community, because the speakers made it very clear that they were too, also confused about what is going on with the Board of Registrations and Elections, the Department of Registrations and Elections Director's position, and who had the authority to do what, and who did what. And so, I haven't heard anyone make it clear. So, I just want to make it clear to our listening and watching audience that what you saw in the news about the three-month extension of the Director of the Department of Registrations and Elections was not done by this Board of Commissioners. It was

done by a vote of 3-0 of the Board of Registrations and Elections. And now, what is before us is the ratification of that new resignation from Richard Barron, that now has an April 1st date. So that is -- we are now addressing that issue. We did not start the issue. That recommendation came from the Board of Registrations and Elections, not the BOC. It is now before the BOC. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis followed by Commissioner - Vice Chair Hausmann."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Just to be brief on this subject, the Board of Registrations and Elections, they met, this was their recommendation, they discussed their personnel matters in Executive Session, they came out, they made this recommendation. The Director chose to acknowledge that and unlike what we did earlier, I do last year or whenever that was, I would hope that we would respect this decision and the will of this particular Board and ratify the action, which they have requested us to do, and move forward. I think it's important that we observe some protocol, respect the will of this Board, and allow the decisions related to leadership to be accelerated and move forward. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Hausmann."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Yes. Just a few more comments other than that have already been made. The reason that we are having to take this action is because of some personnel regulations that require, apparently, that the Board of Commissioners officially accept the resignation of this individual, just as we were required to accept the previous decision or not. And that's what we're doing here now, just to follow Fulton County policies. This has been a situation that has gone on far too long. And we have spent a lot of time on it. And for the good of the department and at the request of the Chair of the Board to honor the letter, that's what we're doing today. And we're going to do everything we can to expedite and assist the Board in getting a search firm in place, finding a suitable candidate. We have been assured that they can name an interim to assist during the transition. The Chair seems very confident that they will be able to handle it. And we will do everything we can to support them during this time of transition."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I don't want to belabor this point. But I do want the listening audience to know where this Commissioner sits on this issue. I think we do a disservice when correct information is not relayed. And when the Chair of the Board of Registration and Elections says, she made the initial

decision based on the understanding that she had at that time, that she would -- we would be expeditious in having a search firm, she made that decision based on that. There is no search firm in place today. So, to me, and this is here again, everybody has their own lens; but we've come to these meetings, we hear people say what they say about Happy Faces, we hear people say what they say about Richard Barron. But you want to come -- you want me to come here, make a decision on something that you just said to me on incorrect information that you had to clear up, with no search firm in place today. I will not support any action and we have not put the search firm in place. If we can get the search firm in place by the next meeting, I'll be more than happy to support this. But I am extremely uncomfortable, and I know I'm new to this, or at least some of us think I'm new to this. But I know when communication is not being given in a timely or correct fashion. And as an elected official, if I have questions and concerns that I want to look over and check for myself, I should be given that opportunity. I will support this; I will not support this today. It was just put in front of me and I would be more a proponent of this and in support of this if we already have a search firm in place for a new Director of Elections. Richard Barron needs to go, I'm the very first person -- and it's not that he's not capable, but I think we get too much of a bruised eye, people keep saying there was fraud, and there was no fraud. And so, we need a new Elections Director. I am on the page with that. But to do it in such a haphazardly fashion, you are not solving the problem. And so, I want to be on record, crystal clear, as to why I object to this. And I object to this because there are questions, there are concerns. This was just handed to me and we do not have a search firm in place. I want to be crystal clear to the listening audience that the things that we are accusing Richard Barron of doing it, this Body is doing it itself. And other individuals are doing it and it's trickling down to this Body. And so unfortunately, as it stands today, I cannot support this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah. I just want to read this letter of resignation into the record that we are voting to ratify. I'm not going to offer any conjecture on said individual that's being discussed performance. That's not germane to the question. We have a resignation letter in hand. People resign from organizations all the time. Our Personnel policy requires us to ratify this. The resignation letter reads as follows: 'December 17, 2021, Richard Barron, Fulton County Director of Registration and Elections. Dear Chairman -- Chairwoman Woolard and the Fulton County Board of Registrations and Elections. On 3 November -- on November 3, 2021, I submitted my resignation to the Board of Registrations and Elections, effective December 31st, 2021. On December 17, 2021, the Board of Registrations and Elections voted three to zero to request that I extend my effective date for resigning to April 1, 2022. In the interest of a smooth transition to a new Director of this department, and interest in continuing public

service to the Fulton County Board of Registrations and Elections, for directing operations to prepare for the May General Primary Election, and my commitment to provide stability and direction to the staff of Fulton County Department Registration and Elections, I'm rescinding my original registration date and extending it to be effective April 1, 2022. Sincerely, Richard Barron. CC: Fulton County Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, Robb Pitts.' This is what we are voting to ratify. I offer no opinion on anything else other than what is before us. And I understand that based on the Personnel regs, it's our requirement to ratify or approve -- ratify this particular resignation letter. Is that correct?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "It's correct that our Personnel policy requires resignations to be accepted by the appointed authority in writing."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "And this would constitute that said approval, it'll meet the requirement?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. The question that I have at this point is, what happens if this doesn't get approved today? What happens with the resignation that has already been voted on by the Board of Registrations and Elections? What happens with the position of Director of the Department of Registrations and Elections? Madam County Attorney, can you speak to that?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I think because the Personnel policy does not contemplate that a resignation submitted would not be accepted, it's unclear what would happen. At a minimum, the resignation would not be accepted. And there's an argument that it would be invalid because it is not accepted, per the policy of Fulton County."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And Mr. Hermon, can you provide any insight into what happens with the position or -- because that was the second part of the question?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF, HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. If the resignation is not accepted, I presume based on the County Attorney's guidance, that, I guess, Richard Barron could continue in that role, correct, Madam Attorney?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "It is conceivable he could continue if he changed his intent from his stated date of resignation. The resignation would not be effective at that point."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So the resignation would not be effective. And he could just continue to work in his capacity as Director of the Department of Registrations and Elections for whatever length of time that he choose to continue to work?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "That he would not be precluded from doing that by virtue of the resignation until it becomes effective."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So is that a, yes, or a, no that he would just continue to work in his position of Director of the Department."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We can't speculate what if he would do, but --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "If he so choose to --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "He would not be prevented by his resignation until it's effective."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. Got you, thank you. So, one of the main problems I have is that the contract is not in place. And also, there was -- there's a question of a lapse between the April 1st date and the fact that we have an election in May and what would actually be taken place? Who would be in place? Who could cover that length of time? And we do not want to put our elections in a bad situation with a gap that no one can address between April 1st and the May election. So, I can't support it. We need a lot more information. We need closure on all this stuff. We shouldn't have any gaps in what is going to happen with our elections. We shouldn't be putting our elections in jeopardy like that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis again."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I want to follow up on sort of this line of questioning. If indeed, this weren't ratified today, and then a person is deemed not to be resigned, can a contract be executed with a search firm to go find a replacement for someone who hasn't resigned?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF, HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER: "Commissioner, I would say at that point, no, because technically, the position is not vacant or slated to be vacant. So, I think we would be in a quandary."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right. I mean, we've all got our personal views on this. Some of us would have seen, you know, wish this would happened several months ago. Some of us may wish that it not happened. But we have a resignation letter, the Board of Registrations and Elections has requested us to acknowledge that and to do everything in our power to help them accelerate moving forward with a search to find a new Director. This is the process. It's prescribed by our rules. You know, I -- I'm putting a lot of my own personal feelings aside about what I'm interjecting into this conversation. And I would hope that the rest of us do as well and act on what's before us. I mean, it's the proper protocol and the proper policy to allow us to move forward with a transition of leadership. If we don't, we -- we put ourselves -- we talked about at risk, we put ourselves further at risk by not acting upon this today."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chair. My question to the County Attorney is this, this being held and done at the next session, does that bar us from not ratifying the contract -- I mean the acceptance of the resignation?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So your question is, if this -- if the acceptance of the resignation is held until the next Recess Meeting?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Would you be prevented from considering it at the next meeting?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Presuming that the amendment were not rescinded by the employee, there -- you would not -- you could consider it at the Recess Meeting."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So let me make sure that you and I are on the same page. What I need to know today, if this were to be held, and we came back at the Recess Meeting, we could vote to ratify this resignation, nothing precludes us from not doing that?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Presuming it is still the recommendation --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Other than if he --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Ultimately, you could vote to accept the resignation at the next meeting of the Board."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. My next question, County Attorney, is this, if we vote today and this fails, is it done? If we do not ratify it today, what happens?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "It can be brought back at the next meeting for consideration."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. That's what I needed. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Morris."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Mr. Chairman, I move to call the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is there a second? All right. I'll second. Let's vote on calling the question. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: (Off of microphone.) "The motion on the floor is to call the question?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "This is on the calling the question."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion to call the question passes; four yeas, one nay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Now back to the main motion, which was to approve by Commissioner—"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "—Hausmann—"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Let's vote, please."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion fails; three yeas, one nay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Back on page 5, **22-0017**, Finance, review and approval of the Fiscal Year 2022 final adopted budget and budget resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Question, colleagues, this is the budget. You want to -- would you -- you want to finish the budget today or finish everything else and take up the budget at the next meeting? We have until one more meeting --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--we'll take it today."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's your pleasure? Today?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "My preference would be to take it up today."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: INAUDIBLE

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. You're saying, what--"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--next meeting, that's my --"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "--I would say we could discuss it. I don't know that we could may -- take any action today with not having a full Body here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. We can discuss it. All right. We'll -- Mr. Manager, Madam CFO."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "—Mr. Chairman, while we're—"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm sorry. Commissioner Ellis has a question."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I mean, if we're not prepared to take action on this today, my preference would be that we take action on the action items that we need to. And then discuss it at the end. I mean, I'd rather have it as an understanding as a Body as we're going into this. Are we going to take action on this today or is this going to be a discussion?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We got three discussions now, so --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Discussion."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "I have some questions on a few things."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I'd move we amend the agenda, such that we take care of the action items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's see what -- let's proceed as it's printed and see what happens."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "All right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Opening remarks. The budget presented by the CFO and the Manager was based upon three things, the 9.33 millage rate, the 16.76 -- 16.76 fund balance percentage, and a 96 percent collection rate. That yielded a certain amount of revenue. And the budget that they presented was based upon that revenue, that number. A couple meetings ago, I'd asked for any enhancements that were going to be brought forward by Commissioners; that if you had an enhancement, you identify its cost as well as the source of funding. And we talked about that. I proposed two, I still have two. First one would be that 7 percent cost-of-living that Vice Chair -- then Vice Chair Hall and I proposed that 7 percent COLA. And that would be funded out of the 24, 25, or 26 million that was already set aside for employees. Is that doable, Madam CFO or Mr. Manager?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Do you want to answer it?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "No."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you. Yes, Mr. Chairman, in the document that we've prepared and presented to the Board, we did include sufficient funding to cover that 7 percent COLA."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. The second item was a -- we have a very-needed long-needed department within DREAM, called the -- I'm not sure what the exact name is, but it's sustainability. All of our clean air, all of that, one person, no staff, no nothing, not even supplies. And I have recommended that we fund that to the tune of \$550,000 since that department is within DREAM that that 550,000 would come out of a line item in DREAM, which I believe you've identified as well; is that correct, close to being correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Mr. Chairman, I think our approach would be to look at the sustainability projects that have been presented by DREAM. Many of which include some cost offsets elsewhere in the budget. And that we would plan to fund sustainability items out of those savings, if you will. So, we really haven't identified a specific line item for it. But we do think that we have a way in which to achieve what you're looking to do."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Thank you. That's acceptable. Commissioner Morris."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "A couple of questions. First of all, we were assuming, as the Chairman indicated, a 96 percent collection rate this year. And we ended up a percent short of that, if I understood your materials, the new materials."

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

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "And so what that's doing is throwing a little more revenue into 2022 as a result, assuming that 1 percent gets collected. Is there any -- I guess, the bills went out on a timely basis. I'm not sure why we ended up a little short. Is there any prospect of some collectability issues given COVID, COVID's impact on property values and homeowners who might not be able to pay. And I know -- I know the Tax Commissioner can sell the tax liens and so on and collect it ultimately. But is there any doubt about that or do we know why we ended up a little short?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We've not -- I've -- we've not had the opportunity yet to have a conversation with the Tax Commissioner himself on that issue. But he has not given any indication otherwise that he believes there's a collectability issue for the remainder of the digest. Typically, you know, he collects about 99 --"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Right."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- you know, percent of whatever gets billed. It may take a little bit of time for it, you know, to ultimately all come in. But typically, his collection rate is in the 99 percentile."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Right. And that's why I was just wondering why we ended up shy of whether there was some problems with some people just not being able to pay their bill. And whether that might cause a collectability problem down the road. Again, with the understanding that he can sell the tax lien, and ultimately get it. But the answer is, you really haven't had that discussion with him to know. I guess my second question is, as I understand your revised proposed budget, it's like you've set aside seven and a half million dollars for all of my colleagues' wish list that we've talked about with the idea that we might be doing them this year -- now, in this year, 2022. And maybe deciding on a case-by-case basis midyear or otherwise during this year. Is that the concept? We sort of set aside this pot of money, with the idea we're going to make these decisions, one at a time, down the road?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, sir. Given the -- what we're seeing currently with the Omicron variant, the increased need for testing, and quite honestly, the fact that we did not fully fund what the Board of Registration and Elections requested for the election budget. This year, we felt like if we have this reserve of funds available, it could be used to address either of those two issues. And if we don't need it for that, then as we get into midyear, it, and any other resources that might be available from other underruns that we would not need to pledge towards

either of those other issues, could then be used to fund some of the items that have been addressed by the Board."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Like, my pet project, and that is a reduction in the millage rate."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That could be one item as well, yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "I don't know that I'll ever get four votes for that. Okay, I understand. I understand the proposal. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Hausmann."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we sat down, there was a copy of the Power Point at our desk, and then another one was handed out. Are there any differences between the two?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "There should not be."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Okay. So, I just wanted to make sure I was looking at the right one."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Let me ask just a process question. Would you like to have the material presented? Because it answers some of these questions."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "It might be helpful, yes."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Right."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Thank you for that --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So we could, Mr. Chairman, we could -- we are prepared to present the Power Point that was handed out."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Thank you very much."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Okay. Next slide, please. Members of the Board, I think the first thing that we wanted to do in the presentation is to just sort of level set for our 2021 actual results. This slide shows you that as part of our mid-year projection and what was presented to you in the proposed budget for 2022, we were expecting to end 2020 year -- 2021 with 736 million in revenues, 720 million in expenditures, and an ending fund balance of 243 million. We did perform a

little better than expected. And we ended with 750 million in revenue, 727 million in expenditures. And a \$250 million fund balance. Next slide, please. The areas, specifically, the areas that these changes were driven by on the revenue side, we saw some increase in what we had originally projected in the commission on tax collections with an offset for the credit card fee waiver that we have in place. We ended up outperforming our projection by about six and half million dollars. In addition to that, court and law enforcement revenues were slightly better than projected by 1.5 million. And our indirect cost recovery was also better by 1.5 million. And then there's a number of different categories where we saw revenues combined together that are about three and a half million better. The flip side of that is, we had some areas that didn't perform as well as expected. One of which being, the current year property tax collection that we just talked about, where we came in about 95 percent versus 96. So that means we collected less this year. But we have more to carry forward in prior-year collections for next year. We also experienced a tiny difference on our current-year utility tax collections. This one is actually an improvement on what we had in our midyear projection by about 4 million. And that too, will carry forward into 2021. And then again another -- lots of different revenue lines that we expected to collect in -- either in 2020 and did not and collected them in 2021 greater than what we had originally included in the projection. But there's no impact of those revenues carrying forward. An example of this, I think, is the animal control revenue that we see -- we receive from all of the cities. There were some past due amounts that were paid over in 2021 that won't, of course, carry forward and have an effect on 2022. Next slide, please. On the expenditure side, we ended up spending about \$7 million more than what we had originally projected in our -- our midyear projection. And that's mostly due to some capital transfers that we made at the end of the year."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Excuse me, we need to move the slide."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah. Next slide, please. Next slide, please. Okay, thank you. On the expenditures side, we did have a few -- about \$7 million more in expenses than what we originally had projected. Those tied to some transfers that we made at the end of the year out of some of our justice system partners' requests for use of savings to fund some capital-related projects, as well as funding the upfront costs associated with the warehouse consolidation. Those costs that are above the TI that's included in the warehouse lease agreement. Next slide. So, moving into the 2022 revised proposed budget, the total proposed budget for all funds this year is 1 billion, I mean, \$1,257.7 billion. The largest portion of which, of course, is associated with the general fund at 857.2 million. Followed by the Airport Fund at 7.6, the Water Revenue Fund at 159.3 million, Water Renewal Fund at 100.1 million, the Fulton Industrial District 28.2. Our 911 Emergency Fund 8.6, the Bond

Fund, General Obligations Bonds 15.6 million. Our Risk Management Fund 64.2 million. Our Special Appropriation Funds at 17 million. Next slide, please. As far as the changes that we've recommended that are included in the booklet that you were provided as well, it's on page 13 of the booklet for the general fund. We've tried to summarize these changes in a narrative form. On the revenues, we've asked for a total increase in revenue of 4.8 million. This is the result of needing to increase by about \$3 million, the commission collections and credit card fee waiver offset accounts. This is now based on a full year of activity. And in that particular revenue stream and sort of right sizing it for what we saw happened in 2021. We also have a couple items that are related to timing differences. One of which is the increase in current-year property tax collections of \$6 million that were expected to be collected in 2021 and were not. And so were bringing those forward to 2022; and that is offset by a \$4 million reduction in our current-year public utility property tax collections because we collected more in 2021 than we expected against that billing. Next slide, please. On the expenditures side, we have a total of \$12.2 million in expenditure recommendations. The first of which is a \$31,000 adjustment to the District 6 budget. This was for an item that was originally requested as part of the budget process and was overlooked by the staff. So, this was a staff correction. And I believe that was the case with the second item as well. A \$54,000 adjustment to the District 4 budget. At the last Board Meeting, I believe the Board acted on a salary adjustment for the County Auditor. This \$40,000 is necessary, a necessary increase in his budget to address that particular action item. Next slide, please. We did include an additional \$2.8 million in the general fund budget to be able to fully support the cost-of-living increase at 7 percent for all employees, as well as, we made sure that within the Non-Agency budget, we have the 21,000 that was requested by the Clerk's office for the Municode. And then once we have fully resolved the funding level needed for that, we'll transfer those funds to Clerk's budget, in addition to what they already have to support Municode. We also then increased the Non-Agency budget by seven and a half million in what we identified as an appropriated reserve that can be used for the purpose that was discussed with Commissioner Morris just a few minutes ago. And then lastly, we needed to use about 1.7 million to keep our fund balance reserve at the 16.67 percent balance. Next slide, please. This next slide simply explains our reasoning and rationale around the establishment of the seven and a half million dollar reserve. And our recommendation is that we would hold those resources in reserve until we get to a midyear point and we see what our needs are going to be for the continued pandemic response, as well as, ensure that we have sufficiently funded the Midterm Elections. Next slide, please. And then this is last slide simply shows you the numbers in a form where you can see how it all nets out and shows that with all of the additional resources that were available, they have all been taken into consideration in the document that is before you. It is balanced. It does meet

the fund balance reserve requirement for the General Fund. Next slide, please. These next couple of slides are included to just sort of round out the changes that we needed to make in some other funds as well. In the Fulton Industrial District, we provided an additional \$120,000 for the Police Department for some additional vehicles and corresponding equipment for the vehicles. And then we also needed to reduce the Non-Agency portion of the budget to reflect actual year-end results. There was an asset purchase that happened at the end of the year that we thought would not be closed until the beginning of 2022. So, this is cleaning up that issue. And then in the Risk Fund, we also needed to adjust the expenditure budget downward by 2.3 million. Which is the result of higher expenses in that fund through the end of the year as originally anticipated, as well as, providing for an additional 224,000 for the County Attorney's office to fund an additional Attorney III, and an Admin Coordinator. Next slide, please. And then this last slide, Commissioners, is simply the next step slide that we typically provide to show you all of the various actions that we've taken during the budget cycle and where we're at today. And so today, we are able to, if it's the Boards desire, to adopt the budget because we've met all of the legal requirements for it. Otherwise, we are prepared for the adoption to happen on the second meeting, on January 19th."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Yes, thank you. Okay. So, thank you for that presentation. That's very helpful. We had public comment today asking for detail on certain things. I'm sure you heard that. One, being the Department of Registrations and Elections. Do you have a breakdown of what the increase would cover, and can you explain? I know that it was stated that in 2021, we only had, I believe, the comment was 18 million. We all know that it was 40 or so million, 44 million, if I recall. And we've had the conversation about making sure that's clear on the website. And I would say, honestly, I have not looked myself to make sure that's happened. I hope that's happened. But could someone just please speak to the process and the way that the budget is presented for the Registrations and Elections during a General Election year."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Commissioner Hausmann, the Registrations and Elections actually submitted a request for closer to 42 million in resources. Or I think it was maybe 47, 42 million of which was related to, specifically, to the election cycles and an additional five or 6 million that was related to equipment requests. So, what we did when we funded this budget is, we essentially funded three out of the four election cycles that they requested. They requested for the Primary, they -- the Primary in May, they requested 10.4 million. They also requested 9.1 for a Runoff associated with that. For the General Election in November, they requested 12.4 million. And an additional 9.8 million for the General Runoff associated -- for the Runoff

that could be associated with the General Election. So, we funded three out of the four and made the decision that we would look to underruns in the budget through the first half of the year, if we actually are required to fund that fourth election cycle. So that's the premise behind how we structured the funding that we included in the budget. As for the specific details of their asks, we do have their detailed requests that lay out the positions that they're requesting for each one of these cycles, the period of time that they're requesting for each position, all of the ancillary costs associated with each election cycle. So, we do have their detailed budgets, as well, to support those requests."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "And where would we access that information?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The detailed budgets are not yet -- because in the financial system, we have it all sitting in contingency. So, the detailed budgets are not yet available in a public form. We can certainly make that happen. Right now, they're in spreadsheet form."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "I think it would be helpful for this Body to have a clear -- since we're getting so much --"

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

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "-- questions about it, to know exactly what is in the budget request. And then has it been updated on the website, what we did in 2020 as far as the expenses related to the Election?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Hakeem, do you know? Did we put -- I know we prepared the responses and sent that to the Board of Commissioners. I'm not certain, Commissioner Hausmann, if it's been put on the website. If not, we can make that happen today."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Yeah, I just think, you know, we're never going to get past the questions unless we provide the information. And I know we're all ready to move forward. And so, I think the way to do that is to just get the information out there."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We can make -- we can get that uploaded today. I'll make sure that we work with Jessica to make that happen."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "All right. And then I hope that we are looking at our expenses from the Municipal Elections. The turnout, the ratios of what we had for staffing versus the turnout. So that we are accurately projecting what we really need in staffing for the up -- this upcoming cycle. I know that the District -- I mean, the precincts that I visited, you know, a lot of times there is far more workers than there are voters

because we have such a robust early voting system. So, while, of course, we don't want anyone waiting in line longer than the law allows, which is an hour. I don't think we want anyone waiting 30 minutes to vote. I do think we have to make sure that, you know, that we are using our limited resources. And we've got 14 million in requests here, and you've offered seven and a half. So, I just think that, you know, we need to be realistic about what we're allocating in every area including elections. So, I hope that the comments that were made about the requests for equipment versus what is required and all of those factors are being looked at and considered as you make the recommendation for what is needed in that department, especially that department, because it does get so much attention. And then secondarily, I'm just curious to the Body here, we've got this list. Mr. Chairman, what sort of process do you want to have to go through. Do we want to go through these line by line? I know, you mentioned the two that you are proposing. I've got a few, everybody's got a few. How do you want to go about talking about this?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, now what I suggested that we do is that we -- if you have an enhancement that you identify the costs, as well as the source of funding."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Okay. Well I've got the mic, so --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "If we're going to do that today, we're going to wait until -- or just go through everything today and make some final decisions at the next meeting, because two things -- I mean, I sort of set the parameters. And when I did that initially a couple weeks ago, there were no objections, meaning, no millage rate increase. Millage rate 9.33, fund balance 16.67, 96 percent collection rate."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Well, you know, I support all three of those -- well, the collection rate is a variable. We never really can know exactly how that's going to end up. But the other two -- all right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let me add one other before you begin, they -- what they -- that seven point -- was it 7.4 that they have not found, but that is set aside for --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "--7.5—"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--7.5 for enhancements, we can, you know, either chip away at that, but not, certainly not go beyond that. But I support what they're recommending because there's so many uncertainties out there that --"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "--well, I mean, we always know we have overruns and underruns. And that we always know that, you know, budget is a guesstimate in a lot of respects. So -- and as far as I -- historically, there is a recommendation that's made."

But it's up to us to decide exactly what recommendations to accept and what to modify or change. So, I just would like -- the one thing that is on my wish list for the Library System has been identified the funding source through the TAD. So, I hope that that is not included in the 7.5 million. And that that is already allocated."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Which number is that?"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "The million dollars, it's item number 2."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Number 2. That's the one you've been talking about, right?"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "It's the library books."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Right."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "A million dollars. And it's funded out of the TAD --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--yeah--"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "--fund. And then the only other item I personally asked for is the 150 for the Public Art Project, which hopefully there'd be room in this 7.4 to fund that one. With that being said, you know, what I just requested, as far as an analysis of the true needs in the Registrations and Elections Department, I don't know if y'all have done that or not. So, you know, to me it's still a question if the number that's recommended is really, you know, what's really needed, or if it's maybe a little more there. Just seems like, with our -- the way we operate with our early voting, it's so popular that on Election Day, I feel like that we could get by with a little less staffing on those days, which would save some money, and a little less equipment. There's never any lines anymore on Election Day. So, I just would hope that we're really taking a hard look at that."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Well, remember on elections, we reduced it by a fourth to start with. So, from what they asked to what is in the budget, has been reduced by 25 percent. So, then the question is, can we operate over three cycles at, let's say, 75 percent of what their original estimate was, then there's plenty of money for the fourth. If we cannot operate at that level, then that's another matter. But we've already taken an action, really in the spirit of what you're saying, in this budget submission."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Okay, well I mean, I appreciate that. And I know you have extremely great skills at budgeting. All of y'all do. Without seeing it in writing, I'm at a loss at how to even respond to that. So, that's why I was asking for the information. Again, I just think that any area where, you know, when we have way more needs than

we have resources for, we need to make sure that what's allocated in each area, is really, truly what's needed."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I hear you."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "That's my only point."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So I think, we ought to provide the detailed budget for Elections to each Commissioner. And then what we -- which was originally requested, then the reduction. And you can take a look at the line item detail that we did."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "And then I'm looking at all these things for seniors. I mean, they all look like things we should do. I'm kind of taking that out of context too without knowing exactly what's already included. So, some of these where there's a lot of requests, seems like we should have a little more idea of what's happening in those departments so that we can make wise choices here with what we select to include or not include. So, I mean, I'm happy to sit down with Hakeem or whoever, and you know, talk about this in detail outside of this meeting. I don't know if anyone else wants to do that, but that would be helpful to me."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Okay, so first, let's look at the Fiscal Year 2022 Revised Proposed Budget. And I believe Vice Chair Hausmann, this is what you were just speaking to, because you did point out that the library books were on here on line number 2, and a couple of other things. I want to speak to the fact that this particular spreadsheet is showing us the amounts of the requests that were made for enhancements through the BOC. And then the -- which ones are actually included already in the fiscal year 2022 budget, which I'm so happy to see, Mr. Chair, the additional funding so that our employees can have that 7 percent cost-of-living adjustment. I'm happy to see that it's already -- it's been included in the fiscal year 2022 budget. And so, I know our employees are jumping for joy that it's already in that -- the budget that we will be approving, hopefully at our next meeting. A couple of other things, the District Attorney's Legal Assistants that she was trying to ensure that they were no longer the working poor by increasing their salaries. And also, by enhancing her staff levels to what she needed them to be. I'm glad to see that those amount -- that amount is included in the FY 2022 budget. And then it goes on from there, the Municode that we had a discussion about for the Clerk's office, is also included already in the fiscal year 2022 budget. I'm glad to see that you've done that. And then my

additional position in my office that needed to be created, and additional personnel in other Commission District offices. Also, you have on here the funded -- things that are funded through other means. And one of those was what Vice Chair Hausmann spoke on about the library e-books, glad to see that. Glad to see the Social Services Coordinators at the four Senior Multipurpose Centers because they need those Social Service Coordinators bad. And happy to see the \$2 million for the East Point Library funded through the library bond. And then what's left, a lot of these things came from the fact that I had initially requested this spreadsheet from the Finance Department, which is called the FY2022 General Fund Operational Requests, funded and unfunded. And I was a little concerned when I saw -- well, I was very concerned when I saw many of these items that were not funded on this list. And when I talked to the various justice partners, other elected offices about their needs, they didn't even realize that they had not been funded, and then some things for senior services. But I'm happy to say that those -- a lot of those things are -- have been resolved. And a lot of them are already on this BOC enhancement request sheet under the field that says, requests that can be funded with the 7.5 million or midyear, they're all in here. You have the senior services alternative, senior transportation services increase. You have the operating funds to cover the in-home repairs for seniors. The Administrative Clerk that's needed in senior services, the Serve Track, web hosting software. All of the things that I pulled off of this unfunded list and put on the BOC enhancement request list, I'm so proud and happy to see the County Manager and the county executives, Madam COO, who is unfortunately -- well, it's good for her and for us. She is -- she's moved on to her position at ARC. But she had -- she played a significant role in helping to get all of these things done. But so much of what I asked you about from that unfunded list, I see it has been done. And so, this lets me know that, you know, that based on the unfunded spreadsheet and the things that were requested by those departments, that you had the ability to really look at the overall picture of what was needed and select those things that could be funded through the 7.5 million. And I commend you for that. This is awesome. There's one correction that I see that needs to be made. And what I realize is that, when you're pulling from a spreadsheet and trying to paste into another spreadsheet, sometimes it misses the text. And so, on line 29, where it says Community Development, and it says, Requested Funding for Summit for Annual CEOs of Tomorrow, it's actually, CEOs of Tomorrow and Empowering Young Men to Excel, which are the two youth conferences that I do on an annual basis that include all of the APS and Fulton County Schools and nonprofit organizations that deal with youth. And the amount that should be where the question marks is, it for those two, is the usual 70,000. That's what has been funded in the years past. So, if that correction could be made, that's the only thing I see that needs to be correct. I'm questioning though, QLS, I heard and I agree that QLS should be treated as another senior center of ours. They serve our seniors so

well. But it's on here, but it has dashes. It has no amount allocated or even, you know, identified for it. So, my question on that is, what exactly, you know, what -- why is it on here? What are we doing with that particular entry?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "Commissioner, that item was mentioned by Commissioner Arrington at the last meeting. But no dollar amount was actually identified or mentioned. So that's why we put it on the list so that, you know, we can get direction from the Board as to how much to fund that item."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. So, Commissioner Arrington, he raised it, but there was never any identification of an amount?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "Yeah, no. We didn't write any amount down for it. He just mentioned it."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "And I'm not sure that we knew what the implications of that are. Is it to -- is it for us to staff QLS like we would a senior center? Is it to reimburse QLS for their staffing as if they are -- in other words, it was not defined. Now what we have done, and correct me if I'm wrong in terms of the amount that's now in there for direct support for QLS. Do you remember off the top your head? 150?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "Yeah."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Which if -- I don't know if you recall, Commissioner Hall, but that's been a number that I think it would - had been 50. And then Ms. Richardson asked for an additional hundred, and we did it during 2021. And then this was basically, in this budget, was to standardize that as the support level. Which I think is what she's been asking for. Now, if you go beyond that, it probably requires a lot more thoughtful effort working with them to determine exactly what model are we talking about. And then what funding implication does that bring along. So, I'm not sure what, other than we were trying to recognize the Commissioner brought it up, what to put in that -- in that slot."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. But we did -- we -- or should I say, we do already have the \$150,000 --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "--yes, ma'am--"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "--in the budget for QLS--"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "--yes, ma'am--"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "--okay. So that just goes to that fact that we do need to discuss this further when we have Commissioner Arrington here at the next BOC meeting. And maybe somebody can touch base with him in the interim before then and get some more information on exactly what he meant when he raised this. And then I see that the food insecurity funding is -- can be taken from the ARPA funds. And so, is there a plan for that? I know we discussed it before. Is that Dr. Roshell?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: "So, Commissioner Hall--"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "--yes--"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: "The use case for food insecurity is outlined and includes funding for seniors as well as some other types of food programs. And so that is the reference here."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS: "I can get you the specific amount that is available for 2022."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. That's good. Thank you so much. And just -- so we are moving forward with the creation of the Office of Sustainability for 500,000. I'm glad to see that, you know, that is part of the 7.5 million. And do we have a team that's already working on a plan of how we do that?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes. We'll be working with Joe Davis and his key person, I believe is Alex Trachtenberg out of DREAM, that we'll be working with on implementing the sustainability projects."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Great, great. Thank you. And so, Mr. Chair, I see the GRAMMY Museum on here. I'm willing to support the GRAMMY Museum. I think that it will add a whole nother level of human services and community outreach and economic development and so much more in bringing our arts community, our creative industries together. So, I look forward to seeing that added into this, yeah, yes. Because I think that if we can support our citizens with all of these great human services that is in addition -- that's going to be a great addition to it. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "...this happens to be in an important District, right--"

COMMISSIONER HALL: INAUDIBLE

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Oh, Commissioner Khadijah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, I'm sorry, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chair. County Manager, just -- because I just got about three inboxes on my cellphone. QLS, we are -- we are actually, you know, I just want to state this for the record. We are actually doing the level support that we regularly did from the previous year. What's on the budget that Commissioner Hall was talking about was an additional ask, correct?"

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I'm not sure we have an additional ask from QLS."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yeah."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "We've met that ask --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly, that's what I -- that's what --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- because it was a little confusion. And I said, well, let me -- because my phone went off three times with the text messages. The asks that you have already in the budget for QLS, it's in there, this, it was just an additional ask, not from them, but it was an ask, but you didn't get the amount. But it had nothing to do with the amount that's already allocated?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "No."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's what I -- yeah."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "We met their ask --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "And I think, Commissioner Arrington -- and I think that's what deserves more conversation is, what really is he implying by, treat them as other senior centers."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, gotcha."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "That may be a complete different model than we have today."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly. It was a little confusion."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I just wanted to make sure that we actually just clear that up just for the viewing -- the listening audience. The -- but I do have a question to ask you. With the GRAMMY Museum, that \$3 million ask, is that in this budget or that's something that we're going to look at down the road?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "No, ma'am. That would have to be in this list of items that could be funded."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Out of the 7.5 million and additional underruns that will accrue between now and midyear."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, okay, all right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah, just a couple remarks. I'll go back to this sort of -- and I said this I think when we've had two or three other discussions on this budget. I do think, you know, they're I think, 29 or so items that are -- fall in this bucket of things that could be looked at, you know, or funded with this seven and half for the midyear, plus the stuff that you've already noted that we got to have to weigh in and under consideration. You know, I think the vast majority of these in terms of numerical -- from a numerical perspective are the types of things that really shouldn't be enhancements, but they're things that can be addressed in sort of due course. And you know, natural underruns in a budget and they shouldn't be necessarily noted as enhancements, per se. And I think that's probably part of the reason why you formulated and presented this budget to us originally the way you did. I hope that's the kind of, you know, kind of thought that y'all are going through when you presented the budget to us. The other thing I'll say is, you know, I think that there are certainly a lot of sort of hard things on here that are clear in terms of things that we have in that particular category of things that we can weigh out and make some value decisions around that are pretty clear and have been flushed out. And there are some other things in here which really bear a lot more study before hard dollars are put to. I think, including, you know, kind of to what level and to what extent, you know, we might desire to fund something like, you know, the museum, you know. So, I think, structurally, the way that this is presented, is a great -- it's a great budget. And it's a great way for us to, you know, go into the year, knowing what the headwinds that we're facing and some of the unknowns that we're

facing. And still at the same time, you know, dig into some of these individual things that individual Commissioners have brought forward and validate those and likely fund, you know, probably a pretty significant number of these, you know, once we look back and have completed 2022. So, you know, I'm -- I realize we may not vote on this today, but I'm certainly supportive of the budget as it's been recommended and presented to us by the County Management Team."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall. I'm sorry, Vice Chair Hausmann."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "You keep confusing us. Yeah. Let's talk a little bit about the GRAMMY Museum. I haven't heard anyone say anything negative about the concept of doing it, okay. I think though, that we do have -- still have some outstanding questions about what our level of commitment is, what we're going to get for that level of commitment? Who else is going to participate? How it's going to be structured? Who's going to own it? You know, there's just a host of questions associated with it. But that doesn't mean that it's not a worth-while project and we shouldn't still talk about it. You know, since I've been here, we've tried to help with various capital things that are not our property. And there's been legal issues associated with that. Most recently I recall, when we were looking to support the capital campaign and improvements at the Chattahoochee Nature Center, we were advised that we could not do that because we did not, you know, it wasn't our property, it wasn't our facility. Well, it is our property. It's a long-term lease. So, they manage the property. So, I just want to make sure, County Attorney, that before we go down this path that our processes, policies allow us to do that, to support a capital project that is not one of our buildings. So, I don't need an answer right now. But, you know, we were told that years ago when we were looking to do something at the Nature Center. So, I just want to make sure that, you know, we're following all of our processes, and policies and procedures. And if it's something that we do want to do, what we would need to do legally to allow that to happen before we make any financial commitments one way or the other."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Vice Chair Hausmann, we will prepare a response to that and have that for you so that you can consider that before your next meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you for that. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Vice Chair Hausmann for that, we definitely need that information. And when Brad Olecki met with me to talk about the GRAMMY Museum, that's one of the requests that I asked of him, is some details on what are we committing to. And also, the fact that we have been the leaders. So how are we being recognized as the leaders of helping the

GRAMMY Museum. But my question that -- that I'm raising now is, I'm very, like I said, I'm very happy to see this 7 percent COLA for the employees. But I do have to raise the question about our retirees. Will our retirees be receiving the COLA? I know we have two different retirement systems. We have the old pension, and we have the new 401. And so can -- Mr. Hermon -- oh, who are you pointing at?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF, HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER: "Sorry, that was Hakeem."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Madam CFO was he pointing at you?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah, thank you. The defined benefit retirement plan has a built-in COLA for it. And the Board, the Retirement Board has already approved that COLA. There is a group of retirees in that plan that are covered under the old defined benefit plan, who are not eligible for the automatic COLA. And we do have resources in the budget to cover the same COLA that the other retirees will be receiving. As for defined contribution plan retirees, their benefit is pulled from their personal plan assets. So, there is no cost-of-living type increase that goes into those plans; because their benefit pulls directly from the value of their plan."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. Thank you for explaining that. I appreciate it."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR: "Just to add to what the CFO said on those -- the small group that is not part of the automatic increase on the DB plan, we will bring a resolution to the Board at some point down the road, you know, that are based on a recommendation of the defined benefit pension board. And, you know, I will bring the resolution for BOC approval."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. I'll look forward to that. Thank you so much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other comments today regarding the proposed 2022 budget? All right. Let's continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 5, **22-0018**, Registration and Elections, request approval of qualifying fees for Fulton County offices to be filed by the 2022 Primary or Nonpartisan Election."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, and seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "22-0019, Human Resources Management, request approval to modify the classification section of the classification and compensation plan."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6 under Health and Human Services, 22-0020, Public Works, request approval of a resolution expressing Fulton County support and approval of a MOU regarding the funding and collaboration by and between Fulton County, the Atlanta Region Transit Link Authority, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, Cobb County, Gwinnett, DeKalb, and the Department of Transportation, and the Atlanta Regional Commission."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. This is awesome. If I remember correctly from the drawing, these are express lanes that are going to go over the top of 285; is that correct? In the center. This is great. My only question is, as I read through this, there were no details on what part does Fulton County play? Can someone speak to that?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So as you know, this has been discussed for some period of time."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: The implementation of bus rapid transit inside the managed lanes that you're referring to. And the role that we would play, I think, would be twofold. Number 1, it is a part of our overall transit plan, which spans all of Fulton County, and a very important part. And then secondly, this memorandum of understanding really knits together the interests of multiple jurisdictions, counties specifically, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, and Cobb, since it spans that entire area. But also, there have been mayors and cities along that route that have been participants in this study. So, we will then be a part of, by signing this agreement, a part of a policy governance committee set up to advise and counsel. And as you recall, some of the discussions around both South Fulton Parkway and Georgia 400 in the early stages of,

where would with the stations be placed, I would anticipate that will be some robust discussions about where these stations will placed. And since we have about 5.7 miles of that route, it'll be critically important that we're represented in that policy group to determine that one of those stations, for sure, is in Fulton County. But also to see the totality of this overall project come to fruition."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. And you said there are about 5.7 miles of that that's in Fulton County?"

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Will there be any cost to Fulton County?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So the good news is, not as a part of this study. If you'll recall when Jeff Parker presented in the last meeting, as a consequence of the Board approving the 14th Amendment with MARTA, a part of that penny will fund this study. So, there's no incremental cost to Fulton County for this study effort."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Hausmann."

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "Yes. And Commissioner Hall, one of the really exciting parts of this effort is for the first time, Cobb and Gwinnett are agreeing to partner on a transit issue with MARTA—"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "—yes—"

VICE CHAIR HAUSMANN: "--and so hopefully, that will lead to those counties joining the system and really providing some regional relief through the transit agency that is all-in-one one effort. So, it's a big step, really big step."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, I agree. Thank you for that additional information, Commissioner Vice Chair Hausmann."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Morris."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "I just wanted to point out that the entire stretch of this is in Commission District 3."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner's Full Board Appointments. Both appointments are for the South Fulton Community Improvement District Board. **22-0021**, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has nominated Jim Sams for a Full Board appointment."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**22-0022**, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has nominated Kent Mason for a Full Board reappointment."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "And we have the add-on item **22-0028**, Request approval of a resolution in observance of the 93rd birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. No further matters to come before us today. And without objection, we are adjourned. Thank you."

Adjournment 4:41 p.m.