

Minutes - Draft

**PECS-Planning, Economic Development & Community Services
Committee**

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

2:00 PM

This meeting will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Simultaneous public access to the meeting will be available

(1) via live stream on DCTV's webpage,

(2) on DCTVChannel23.TV

Meeting Started At: 2:00PM

Attendees: Commissioners Johnson, Rader, Davis Johnson, Cochran-Johnson, Terry

Present 3 - Commissioner Larry Johnson, Commissioner Jeff Rader, and
Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson

I. MINUTES

2022-2306 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the October 3, 2022 Special Called Planning, Economic
Development, and Community Services Committee Meeting
**MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Larry
Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Rader

Not Present: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

2022-2327 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the October 4, 2022 Special Called Planning, Economic Development, and Community Services Committee Meeting
MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Rader

Not Present: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

II. AGENDA ITEM

Planning & Sustainability

2022-2066 COMMISSION DISTRICT(S): 5 & 7
Request for deviation from the Requirements of Section 14-191 (b) Improvements, Right-of-Way Dedication at 2700 Turner Hill Road, Lithonia, GA 30058
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Jeff Rader, that this agenda item be recommended for denial to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Zoning Manager Brandon White

-Question MDJ: what would be the added expense? Could Planning provide information on this?

-response provided by Brandon White

-MDJ: I'm not for the variance on this

2022-2068 COMMISSION DISTRICT(S): 3 & 7
Request for deviation from the Requirements of Section 14-190 (Street Classification and Right-of-Way Width) at/near 2425 Mellville Avenue, Decatur, GA 30032
MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Zoning Manager Brandon White, Deputy Director Rick Cunningham

Chief Executive Office

2022-2133 Commission District(s): All
To Appropriate \$1,880,934 from the Tourist Product Development CIP Account to Fund Various Projects
MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval upon receipt of additional information to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-substitute for this agenda item has been circulated to the Board, and is listed at \$1,590,000

-information provided by Director Sigler

-JR: I have a proposal circulated to you to add to this list. Presentation provided by Commissioner Rader

-JR: request for \$270,000 to be added to the proposal for the Tourist Product Development CIP

-Question LJ: Director Ellis why was this not recommended?

-response provided by Director Ellis?

-LJ: since we're discussing the project list we'll come back for a motion on this

-Question TT: I think the project list looks good, and what Commissioner Rader brought forward makes sense to me. I would like an additional notation regarding PATH repairs and rehabilitation. Last year I brought forward an assessment of the 13 miles of Stone Mountain Trail and worked with staff to identify safety repairs. The intent was to fund those repairs; within this \$690,000, would the committee allocate \$250,000 for the Stone Mountain Trail

-additional information provided by Director Ellis

-TT: Since Stone Mountain is part of this, I would ask that we note that in the budget for it

-Z Williams: we will make sure that it will be expressly stated. Additional information provided by COO Williams

-MDJ: I just want to make sure that this is something that Parks is in support of

-C Ellis: we are

-Question LJ: what makes this different where the funding can't be fully done through SPLOST?

-response provided by Director Ellis

-JR: motion to approve this list of projects to be funded through the Tourist Product Development Fund, with the addition of the Callandwolde Winter Terrace program as described in a Feb 2 proposal, and PATH funding to include the Stone Mountain Trail

2022-2324 Commission District(s): All
Approve Amendment No. 5 to the Emergency Agreement for Provision of Professional Services with Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc., for assistance with the Tenant Landlord Assistance Coalition.
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Jeff Rader, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by COO Williams

-LJ: we need information on how many families have been helped, the outcomes, etc. I want everyone to see the work they are doing. Also, we've seen that there is funding available for mortgage assistance due to the paperwork that is very arduous to fill out. I've asked you to get a letter to the State to assist with the mortgage assistance

-Question MDJ: is this ready for us to move forward today?

Z Williams: yes ma'am

-Question TT: regarding this agreement, do we know that we can expend ERA money past 2022?

Z Williams: for ERA 1 through the end of 2022; we are aggressively moving to get it spent or encumbered. ERA 2 the additional funds will continue

-TT: regarding mortgage assistance, it's important that we look at the updated numbers from the State regarding money that has not been applied for. The process looks extremely complicated; the issues that are experienced by renters on the TLAC end are here for homeowners as well due to lack of representation. Let's help our citizens have more applications in; if we increase applications through a DeKalb navigator program, it would help more DeKalb residents

-LJ: COO Williams if you can find a company to assist in this effort that would be something that can come to PECS. We don't need to leave any money on the table

-MDJ: people also don't know about it; it would be good if all the commissioners that choose to do so can get that information and share with constituents. Those that are informed and need assistance can take advantage right now. The first thing is to get the information out so all know that the help exists

-TT: knowing and being able to navigate are two different things. If residents are sent to a portal they don't know how to use, then their time is wasted. Case management process to assist residents, just like Atlanta Legal Aid, would help

-Question JR: based on this discussion will you bring back a proposal to make sure we help people get the money? Could you confirm Commissioner Terry's comments and bring back a report on any additional resources that may be necessary to assist?

LJ: I've asked Zach to bring that back to us. Please bring us back something in 2 weeks

2022-2321

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

To enter into a Second Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement between DeKalb County and the City of Doraville for Economic Development Purposes.

MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-LJ: we'll defer this for 2 weeks and hear back in committee

-JR: I would suggest a report back on Doraville's performance on the existing commitments made to us on the Tax Allocation District. There's a project advisory board that has not met in some time. It's a great time to get an update on the Doraville TAD, the documents in place are still valid, and work with Doraville to ensure this continues to be a positive mechanism. When Mr. Williams brings it back to give a comprehensive report. I think it would be great for our independent auditors to review as well. When does the term of this IGA expire?

-Z Williams: I believe 20 years or so I believe 2037

-LJ: it'll be great to have a presentation on this

Board of Commissioners - District 3

[2022-2308](#) Commission District(s): District 3
Senator Emmanuel Jones to Request the Senate Appropriations Committee for Inclusion in the Bonding Projects for the State of Georgia in the Amount of \$2 Million for Improvements and Pathway forward to Restore the South DeKalb Y to Vibrancy for the Community.

MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval upon receipt of additional information to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Commissioner Johnson

-Question JR: the agenda item does reference a resolution. Has that been prepared? Given the resolution is under development I would move that we approve it pending a resolution

-Question MDJ: to Law, can we have this resolution before our next meeting?

-M Welch: certainly Commissioner; we can work with the Commissioner on getting the information ready

-LJ: we can approve it based on having the resolution

Previously Heard Agenda Items:

Board of Commissioners - District 1

[2021-2851](#) Commission District(s): All
A Request to Consider Establishing an Annual Traffic Count Program
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Jeff Rader, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Pelton

-LJ: we'll defer; if you can get the substitute to Commissioner Patrick and we'll review at our next PECS meeting

Board of Commissioners - District 6

2022-2060

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
A Resolution Supporting the Creation of a Task Force to Honor the Life of Reverend Dr. Hosea Lorenzo Williams, Sr., and Recognizing His Accomplishments as Worth of an Enduring Memorial

MOTION was made by Jeff Rader, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Commissioner Terry

-TT: I am working on a substitute for this item; if we could have a 2 week deferral

III. STATUS UPDATE

ARP Funding - Parks Stormwater Projects

-presentation provided by Director Ellis, Paige Singer

-JR: I'd appreciate a copy of the presentation

-additional comments provided by Commissioner Terry

-responses provided by Paige Singer

Meeting Ended At: 3:05PM

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Jeff Rader, that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC