

Minutes

PECS-Planning, Economic Development & Community Services  
Committee

*Commissioner Nicole Massiah (Chairperson)*

*Commissioner Michelle Long Spears*

*Commissioner Robert Patrick*

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Tuesday, May 26, 2026

3:30 PM

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Meeting Started At: 3:33 pm

Attendees: Commissioners Massiah, Long Spears, Patrick, Terry

**Present**      3 - Chairperson Nicole Massiah, Commissioner Michelle Long Spears,  
and Commissioner Robert Patrick

I. MINUTES

**2026-0933**      Commission District(s): ALL  
Minutes for May 12, 2026, Planning, Economic Development, and  
Community Services Committee Meeting,  
**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Michelle  
Long Spears, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion  
carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Massiah, Commissioner Long Spears, and  
Commissioner Patrick**

II. APPOINTMENTS

[2026-0756](#)      Commission District(s): All Commission Districts  
Appoint Dr. Jeremy Cole, Ph.D., to Post 9 of the Fulton-DeKalb  
Hospital Authority  
**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by  
Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be Recommended for  
approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on  
6/9/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Massiah, Commissioner Long Spears, and  
Commissioner Patrick**

*Committee conducted an interview of Dr. Jeremy Cole*

*-MLS: Motion to Approve*

2026-0757

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts  
Appoint Mr. Jerome Edmondson to Post 3 of the DeKalb County  
Housing Authority

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by  
Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be Recommended for  
approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 6/9/2026.  
The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Massiah, Commissioner Long Spears, and  
Commissioner Patrick**

*Committee conducted an interview of Mr. Jerome Edmondson*

*-MLS: Motion to Approve*

### III. DISCUSSION

TAD Financials Update - VP Tiffany Wills

*Presentation provided by VP Tiffany Wills*

*Q MLS: will the BNDH TAD funding in the Tax Commissioner's Office be able to merge, under Decide DeKalb*

*TW: yes, we are working with the Tax Commissioner and OMB*

*Q MLS: What is the timeline on that?*

*TW: we had a conversation last week but I'd have to defer to OMB or President DeBarr for finalization.*

*Q MLS: what is the minimum number of years you'd recommended for the Pay-go option*

*Response provided by VP Tiffany Wills*

*Q TT: Regarding Kensington TAD; what are your thoughts about closing the TAD this year and starting redevelopment plan with a larger area?*

*TW: we are exploring that option right now, for Kensington and Avondale. We also want to ensure the timeline for closing and reopening the TAD area do not have delay. Additional details provided*

*Q TT: Will you all be engaging the school system in reference to future TAD growth?*

*TW: yes they are a stakeholder. Additional details provided.*

*RP: there is a small area plan in district 1 that include a lot of vacant office space, I'd like to connect with you all to help spark redevelopment in that area.*

*TW: absolutely.*

*Q NM: I want to confirm its possible to end and combine TADS?*

*TW: Correct*

*Q NM: and something like that could come online at the beginning of 2027?*

*TW: yes the fastest we've created a TAD is 6 months. So if the board was serious we would need to act fast to meet a December deadline.*

#### IV. AGENDA ITEM

##### *New Agenda Items*

##### **Human Services**

[2026-0457](#)

Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 5 to Contract No. 1226949 Meal Services for Seniors. For use by the Department of Human Services (HS) to obtain Congregate & Shelf-Stable Meals for Senior Centers (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew). Seeking to extend the expiration date through October 31, 2026, and to ratify a previously provided term increase. Awarded to Meals On Wheels Atlanta, Inc.  
CONTRACT TERM INCREASE ONLY.

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 6/9/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Massiah, Commissioner Long Spears, and Commissioner Patrick**

*Information provided by Damon Scott, Human Services*

*Director Q RP: How many meals are being provided?*

*DS: About 120,000 annual, we also provide emergency meals*

*Q RP: can you provide a breakdown?*

*NM: Please send that data to all commissioners*

*-MLS: Motion to Approve*

**Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs**

2026-0487

Commission District(s): ALL

LB - Invitation to Bid No. 2025-134-ITB Landscape Maintenance Services for County Parks (3 Year Multiyear Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA). Consists of providing landscape maintenance services for County parks. Recommend award to the most responsive and responsible bidders: The Simmons Group LLC, Grand Landscapes LLC, and Universal Landscaping Services LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$573,576.00.

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 6/9/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 2 - Commissioner Long Spears, and Commissioner Patrick**

**No: 1 - Chairperson Massiah**

*Information provided by Christopher Bass, RPCA Director*

*Q RP: How is this contract different than the previous contract?*

*CB: that one was specific to sports fields and this one is landscaping*

*Q NM: Have we done business with the Simmons Group before?*

*CB We've used them as a subcontractor*

*Q NM: do you recall the other contract about?*

*CB: yes, around \$368,000 for the current. I can get th other information to you*

*Q NM yes please do, and the invitation to bid, and how long the simmons group has been in use. I want that additional information first before I feel comfortable supporting this item.*

*-RP: Motion to Approve*

*Previously Heard Items*

**Board of Commissioners - District 3**

[2026-0550](#)

Commission District(s): District 3

To Adopt an Ordinance to Amend the Code of DeKalb County to Address Public Safety, Vagrancy, Unauthorized Camping and Certain Public Nuisance Behaviors

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be Recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 6/9/2026.**

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Massiah, Commissioner Long Spears, and Commissioner Patrick**

*Information provided by Commissioner Massiah*

*Q MLS: I have a transparency issue, the materials were never placed into our Legistar system and unavailable to the public. I would request the a deferral of the item to ensure it becomes available to the public for their review and feedback.*

*Response provided by Commissioner Massiah*

*Q MLS : were you able to look at DeKalb cities and see what their ordinances say?*

*NM: yes we engaged with city of Tucker and reviewed Chattam County, Georgia*

*Q MLS: Can we ensure no heavy equipment can be used to clean up encampments*

*NM: I would defer to operations*

*COO: This doesn't seem to speak directly to encampments more than individual. We do all that we can to ensure no one is put in danger. If this passed and we found ourselves in that situation we will consult with partners to ensure safest action possible.*

*Q TT: section F takes about removal - would it be possible for Director Mitchell or Law provide a written protocol for how we would respond to situations that arise. It might not be relevant to the ordinance but I want to make sure the enforcement aspect is clear*

*COO: We typically, review and adopt SOPS after enactment to ensure the final language is considered in any ordinance. As I ready the proposed language I'm picturing the blocking of businesses and sidewalks, and other public property. IF we start talking about wooded areas or underpasses that may require different approaches.*

*RP: I do support engagement with cities, I also want to highlight this board did pass a resolution last year saying we would not jail people for homelessness so I would like to ensure this does not undo that. Finally, when the day shelter opens up, would it be a resources to help address the concerns of this ordinance*

*COO: the intention of the day center is to bring willing individuals and provide resources.*

*Q RP: what is the different between drifting and vergency?*

*MP: There is a legal definition of Vagrancy we follow.*

*-MLS: motion to defer for 2 weeks*

#### **Board of Commissioners - District 6**

2025-0015

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

An Ordinance to Amend The Code of DeKalb County, Georgia Chapter 16 Pertaining To Regulation Of Sound And For Other Purposes.

**This agenda item was Recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners due back on 6/9/2026 .**

*TT: Law will bring back language specific to decimal levels.*

*-MLS: motion to defer for 2 weeks*

[2025-0017](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution to Create an Electric Landscape Maintenance Device Rebate Program, to Encourage Switching from Gas-Powered Landscape Maintenance Devices, and for Other Lawful Purposes.

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be Recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 6/9/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Massiah, Commissioner Long Spears, and Commissioner Patrick**

*-MLS: motion to defer for 2 weeks*

Meeting Concluded At: 5:09 PM

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be Adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Massiah, Commissioner Long Spears, and Commissioner Patrick**

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Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC