

Draft -Minutes

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

Commissioner Nicole Massiah (Chairperson)

Commissioner Michelle Long Spears

Commissioner Robert Patrick

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

3:30 PM

Meeting Started At: 3:36 PM

Attendees: Commissioners Massiah, Patrick, Terry

Present 2 - Chairperson Nicole Massiah, and Commissioner Robert Patrick
Absent 1 - Commissioner Michelle Long Spears

I. MINUTES

2026-1169 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for June 9, 2026, Planning, Economic Development, and
Community Services Committee Meeting,
**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole
Massiah, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

II. APPOINTMENT

[2026-1127](#) Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
Appoint Shelly Bishop to Post 2 of the DeKalb County Board of
Family and Children Services.
**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole
Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval.
to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The
motion carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Committee conducted an interview of Ms. Shelly Bishop

-RP: motion to approve

2026-1128

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
Appoint Aprille Moore to Post 5 of the DeKalb County Board of
Family and Children Services.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Committee conducted an interview of Ms. Aprille Moore

-RP: motion to approve

III. AGENDA ITEM

New Agenda Items

Chief Executive Office

2026-1132

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
Consent to the sublease and modification of portions of the
Kirkwood Mental Health Center, Clifton Springs Mental Health
Center and Winn Way Mental Health Center under Contract No.
13-800971 with DeKalb Community Service Board, d.b.a. Claratel
Behavioral Health, to Genoa Healthcare LLC for use as pharmacies.
MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Information provided by COO Williams

Q NM: do they currently provide pharmacy services to the County?

COO: I believe so

Additional information provided by Claratel Staff

-RP: motion to approve

Planning and Sustainability

2026-1190

Commission District(s): All Districts

Application of the Director of Planning & Sustainability to Request that the Board of Commissioners Approve a Resolution for Renewal of the Service Delivery Strategy for DeKalb County, Georgia.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval upon receipt of additional information to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Presentation provided by Rachel Bragg, Deputy Director Planning & Sustainability

Q RP : Under public safety it outlines police basic and non basic, what is the difference?

COO: One includes additional services like helicopter and SWAT and we can get you additional details

Q RP: is there time for us to hold for now for review? I'd personally like to connect via zoom to discuss further

RB: yes we can accommodate a cycle deferral

Q TT: I'd like to get a better breakdown of how the mileage effects this

-RP: motion to approve pending additional information

Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs

2026-0974

Commission District(s): Districts 3 and 6

To Fund the Operation of the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials ("CHaRM"), a Recycling Program, with Live Thrive, Inc. Located at 1225 (Rear) Columbia Drive, Decatur, GA 30032, Parcel ID 15-200-02-001.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

-information provided by Paige Singer, RPCA

-Question NM: has anything changed regarding the contract?

-response provided by Ms. Singer

-Question TT: why has the contract not been switched over to the Sanitation Department?

-response provided by COO Williams

-Q TT: is it possible that under the next budget cycle the funding source is moved? If Charm is staying as a hard to recycle facility then it would be beneficial for sanitation to also use.

Response by COO Williams

-RP: motion to approve

2026-1175

Commission District(s): Districts 1,3,5,6 and 7

A Resolution to Commit to the Implementation of Park Improvement Projects for the Purpose of , and to Authorize Submission of, Applications for Grant Funds to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and for the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP); Lake and Dam Renovation Projects at Exchange Park located at 2775 Columbia Drive, Decatur, Ga 30034, parcel 15 103 01 001, Chapel Hill Park located at 4002 Lehigh Boulevard, Decatur, GA 30034, parcel 15 035 08 005, and Davidson Arabia Nature Preserve located at 7162 South Goddard Road, Stonecrest, GA 30038, parcel 16 143 01 004 and Pleasantdale Park Improvement Project located at 3650 Pleasantdale Road, Doraville, GA 30340, parcel 16,143 01 013.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

-information provided by Paige Singer, RPCA

Q NM: can you provide more context for the dam projects

Additional details provided by Paige Singer, RPCA

Q RP: why are dam maintains managed by Parks

PS: Its because they are within parks but we work with Watershed as well

Q TT: are these all federal funds?

PS: Correct - this approves us applying for the grant and the designated match funds

-RP: motion to approve substitute

2026-1179

Commission District(s): Districts 4 & 6

A Resolution to Commit to the Implementation of an Outdoor Recreation Project for the Purpose of, and to Authorize the Submission of an Application for an Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grant through the Land and Water Conservation Fund for Improvements to Tobie Grant Park Located at 593 Parkdale Drive, Scottdale, GA 30079, parcel 18 046 01 049.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

-information provided by Paige Singer, RPCA

-RP: motion to approve

Board of Commissioners - District 3

2026-1216

Commission District(s): District 3

Budget Amendment to Increase the General Fund for Recreation Parks & Cultural Affairs - Sugar Creek Tennis & Golf to Address the Lighting and Retention Wall for the 3rd Tennis Court. An Amount not to exceed \$800,000.00

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Information provided by COO Williams & RPCA Director Bass

-RP: motion to approve

2026-1219

Commission District(s): District 3

Budget Amendment to increase the General Fund for Recreation Parks & Cultural Affairs - Porter Sanford Performing Arts & Community Center to Address Required Equipment Improvements. An Amount not to exceed \$79,000.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

-information provided by Paige Singer, RPCA

-RP: motion to approve substitute

Previously Heard Items

Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs

2026-0844

Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract Nos.: 2000038, 2000039, 2000040, and 2000045; Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 2000041; and Change Order No. 3 to Contract No. 2000037

Architectural and Engineering Services for Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA) (Multiyear). For use by the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA) to obtain on-call architectural and engineering design services. Seeking increase in contract funds. Awarded to American Engineers, Inc., Columbia Engineering & Services Inc., Foresite Group LLC, Jericho Design Group LLC, Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., and WSP USA Environment & Infrastructure Inc.: Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$3,297,250.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

-information provided by Paige Singer, RPCA

-RP: motion to approve substitute

GIS Department

2026-0802

Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No.: 1347014 Geographical Information Systems Enterprise License Agreement (Sole Source). For use by the Department of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to obtain the use of proprietary software that allows the County the capability to create publicly accessible GIS Apps/Dashboards/Maps, deploy software, and is fully integrated into other departmental workflows and business systems. Seeking increase in contract funds and term through November 13, 2029. Awarded to: Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$3,900,000.00

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

*-information provided by Stacy Grear, GIS
-RP: motion to approve substitute*

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, Drifting, Unauthorized Camping and Certain Public Nuisance Behaviors.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval upon receipt of additional information to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Information provided by Commissioner Massiah

Comments provided by Chief Padrick

Comments provided by Commissioner Patrick

Q TT: Is there an SOP currently on arresting someone who is camping in a public space? Can you provide some logistical and operational detail if this ordinance was authorized, what's not clear to me is how section E and F will be actualized.

Chief: we have diversion policies in place, arrest is always the last resort for us. Currently with this ordinance we would have to write something more specific to these instances

TT: I think it would be important to have that already before the ordinance is passed. I would want to see that before I support the ordinance.

RP: If we advance the item with a reference with the joint statement that was previously passed by the board, who that help alleviate some of your concerns?

NM: I am in support on that.

Q TT: I'm concerned about the 1013 situations, I'd still like to know how this fits into our goals of strengthening diversion policies. Now if someone is simply refusing to leave then I guess it's another story. I'm looking for options here. If we pass this before our homelessness supports are off the ground then the police could say incarceration is the only option.

Comments provided by Commissioner Massiah

TP: the law department can work to add that additional language before the next BOC Meeting

RP: please provide us a copy of that statement

-RP: motion to approve with language referencing the joint policy statement previously passed by the board of commissioners

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 holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 8/25/2026 .

Information provided by Commissioner Terry & Micheal Petty, Law Department

RP: I'm more comfortable with the decimal reader version moving forward.

TT: I think enforceability will be easier with the decimal reader version for police and code compliance.

COO: Staff will implement whatever version however staff is in support of the plainly audible

NM: I'd like to see the plainly auditable resolution to move forward. I think the costs for purchasing and then to maintain of them will be burdensome

RP: My recommendation for now is to hold this in committee till Commissioner Long Spears is present.

TT: I'd like to have a committee decision on this so I am comfortable waiting

Holding in committee

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.

This agenda item was Recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 8/25/2026 .

TT: this item is related to the other item so we can hold it for now.

Holding in committee

2026-0244

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution Requiring an Independent, Third-Party Health and Environmental Study of Data Centers and Their Possible Impact on DeKalb County and Board of Commissioners Review of the Study Before DeKalb County's Data Center Moratorium Can Be Lifted.

This agenda item was Recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 8/25/2026 .

Information provided by Commissioner Terry

TT: I'm happy to tweak some of the language in section 2 and add whatever language purchasing would seek to include. If the resolution was approved how would you move forward?

COO: Our first thought t would be to look at universities, if that did not bear fruit then maybe an RFQ, but working with purchasing for best avenue.

RP: First I'd like to hold this item to get Commissioner Spears feedback and secondly rather than focused solely on data centers making this a baseline study of the health outcomes in DeKalb. Additional comments provided

NM: My goal would be meeting the needs of our residents

Holding in committee

[2026-0982](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution Urging The Administration Implement The Specific Recommendations Outlined In The DeKalb County Racial Equity Study As Adopted In 2025.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Recommended for withdrawal to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/25/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Information provided by COO Williams

COO: the administration is doing the work and do not think this resolution is necessary. We will be happy to bring forward quarterly updates to this committee and board.

-RP: motion to withdraw

Meeting Concluded At: 5:55pm

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be Adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chairperson Massiah, and Commissioner Patrick

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC