



BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SCHEDULED MEETING

January 9, 2025

4:30 PM

Memorial Drive Auditorium

DCTV's UStream channel: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/xUJgKs6n2VW>

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. December 9, 2024 Scheduled Meeting
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
 - A. Director's Report
 - B. Legislative Updates
- 6. ITEMS FOR DECISION**
 - A. Precinct Boundary Changes & Polling Place Consolidations
 - B. Polling Place Change
- 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- 8. BOARD COMMENTS**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections

Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2024
Start Time: 12:07 p.m.
End Time: 12:54 p.m.

Board Attendees: Karli Swift, Chair
Vasu Abhiraman, Vice-Chair
Anthony Lewis
Susan Motter

Other Attendees: Keisha Smith, Executive Director
Terry Phillips, Deputy County Attorney
Shelley Momo, Supervising Attorney
Michael Petty, Assistant County Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Swift called the Board of Registration and Elections meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Ms. Austin read the roll by calling each board member by name. A quorum was met.

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Motter, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Motter, to approve the minutes of the November 7 special called meeting, November 12 scheduled meeting, and December 6 special called meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Austin read the rules for public comment:

Public comments may be made in person or submitted by sending an email of one printed page or less at a minimum font of 12 to electionspubliccmnt@dekalbcountyga.gov which must be received between 35 and 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting. The body of your email must include your first and last name. By submitting an email for public comment, you agree to have your name and the email broadcast on the UStream and entered into the record and minutes. The DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections reserves the right, at the DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections' sole discretion, to (1) add your email to the record/minutes without reading any of it into the broadcast or (2) read all or a portion of your email into the record/minutes. All public comments will be limited to 2 minutes. Abusive, profane, or derogatory language, holding up signs, clapping, yelling, standing or laying in the aisles to show support for or opposition to a speaker will not be permitted, but a show of hands or quietly standing in place will be permitted to show support for or opposition to a speaker's position.

The following citizens provided public comment:

- Elizabeth Shackelford
- Gail Lee
- Cheryl Dudley
- Janet Grant
- Michael Beach

ITEMS FOR DECISION

A) Certification of the December General/Special Election Runoff

Director Smith began by presenting the post-election report. She provided statistics on turnout stating that of the 503,763 active registered voters, overall turnout was 3.56 % with 10,963 electors voting on Election Day (61%), 4,597 electors voting during the advance voting period (26%), 2,369 electors voted via absentee by mail (13%), and 10 electors voting provisionally (0.06%). She stated that Election Day turnout was experiencing a rebound to pre-COVID numbers. She then went on to report on absentee, UOCAVA and provisional ballot statistics, advance voting turnout, election day sites, poll workers, and equipment deployed. Director Smith expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the county partners that worked alongside VRE, the poll workers, the VRE staff, the Board, the poll watchers, and the community. She then presented the election summary report for certification.

Vice-Chair Abhiraman asked for the total number of active registered voters who were eligible to vote in one of the runoff races and for the turnout percentage based on that. Director Smith replied that this was how the information has always been presented based on the output of the system, but that the information requested could be pulled and provided. Vice-Chair Abhiraman also asked what data the Election Day turnout information was based on to show a rebound and if it was apples to apples. Director Smith proposed to follow up with Vice-Chair Abhiraman offline and he agreed.

Mr. Lewis asked for further details on Election Day turnout. Director Smith responded and stated that going forward, more data, including precinct specific detail would be added to the post-election report.

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Mr. Lewis to certify the results of the December 3 General/Special Election Runoff.

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Mr. Lewis to enter recess to sign the necessary certification documents. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Mr. Lewis to end recess and resume the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

B) 2025 Meeting Calendar

Chair Swift asked the Board if they had any questions on the 2025 meeting calendar and there were none.

Director Smith mentioned that according to O.C.G.A 21-2-540 there was the potential for special elections to be called in March and September. She said that known election dates were in June with a potential runoff in July and November with a potential runoff in December. She further stated that if a special election was called, the Board would be informed and the meeting date and time would be revised accordingly.

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman to approve the 2025 meeting calendar. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A) Director's Report

Chair Swift stated that Director Smith already provided her update with respect to the election so this item could be skipped, and a larger report would be covered in January's meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Lewis thanked the staff and the numerous county departments that assisted VRE throughout the election. He expressed gratitude to DCTV for their flexibility, and highlighted the increased number of attorneys present at the meetings compared to when he first joined the Board and attributed that to the increased amount of work required by the legal team to conduct elections. Mr. Lewis said he appreciated the comments from the public and the variety of opinions shows the variety of thinking in the county. He thanked the Board for their work and referenced an old US Congress meeting stating that although they have disagreed on some issues, he was thankful that no Board member took their cane to another. He thanked Director Smith for the changes she has made in the department, including increasing staffing. He said he hopes everyone has a wonderful holiday season and that he looks forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

Ms. Motter echoed many of Mr. Lewis's comments and highlighted the poll workers for their repeated service to the community. She stated that the poll workers still must do the setup, open up the polls, and do all the records reconciliation at the end of the day, regardless of the number of voters that come so she very much appreciates them. Ms. Motter said she will have comments to share after the department looks into what worked and what did not work for this election and hopes to have a future retreat to continue on the upward trajectory to being the best county in election administration.

Vice-Chair Abhiraman also echoed his fellow Board members and thanked everyone who worked tirelessly on the election. He shared that he was able to observe the advance voting return process for the November election and it was incredible to witness the dedication from so many people in the department. Vice-Chair Abhiraman also recognized the workload on this county for the runoff and noted that it was probably the highest in the State by far as no other county had 113 polling locations open for the runoff. He stated that he hoped everyone involved in elections policy making, including legislators, the Governor, the Secretary of State's office, and the State Election Board would make a concerted effort to make running elections easier and noted what an inefficient burden it is to have to administer runoff elections. He closed by wishing everyone a happy holiday.

Chair Swift thanked the community for their attendance at the meeting and said it was great to have so many people at the meetings that provide comments and feedback. She echoed Mr. Lewis's comments stating that it was important to hear from everyone and that the Board takes their feedback wholeheartedly and tries to implement their suggestions as they could. She thanked Director Smith and the staff and said that there were so many elections and so many new rules that had to be abided by and in spite of that, VRE did an excellent job on administering efficient and fair elections this year. She thanked the thousands of poll workers that come out to participate in the election experience. Chair Swift further stated that as the Board prepares for next year, they would be putting together another Board retreat like they did at the beginning of the year, to come together and plan out the year. She also said that she planned to meet with CEO-elect Cochran-Johnson to keep this department at the forefront of the county. She acknowledged that

this meeting was Ms. Momo's last meeting and thanked her for her guidance and wished her the best in her future endeavors.

Ms. Momo said she knows how hard the department works and it has been great to be part of it. She said it was a pleasure working with everyone.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

DRAFT

Director's Report

January 9, 2024

Keisha L. Smith, MPA

Executive Director

Voter Registration and Elections (VRE)

Topic 1: General Operations Updates

- ❖ Registration
 - Total number of Registered Voters as of January 6: 592,020
 - Total number of Active Registered Voters: 501,494
 - Total number of Inactive Registered Voters: 90,526
 - Total updates/applications escalated due to contact date issues: 6,448
 - Total updates/applications received since the VR October 7th deadline: 37,986
 - DDS: 29,825
 - OLVR: 5,259
 - MVP: 2,902
 - Handwritten: 937
 - Manual Voter Registration Cancellations for 2024: 1,510
- ❖ Election Activities
- ❖ Notes:

Topic 2: Administrative/Finance Updates

- ❖ Personnel | Facilities
- ❖ Notes:

Topic 3: Stakeholder Engagement Updates

- ❖ General Communications
- ❖ Notes:

**Office of the Secretary of State
Elections Division**



2025 ELECTION CALENDAR AND HIGHLIGHTS

While comprehensive, not all events are listed. The purpose of this calendar is to provide information on deadlines for election activities. When the last day for the exercise of any privilege or discharge of any duty fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the next succeeding business day shall be the last day to exercise such duty. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-14.

Click the link to access [O.C.G.A. TITLE 21 – ELECTION CODE](#)

ELECTION	ELECTION DATE	ADVANCE VOTING DATES	REGISTRATION DEADLINE
Special Election	March 18, 2025	February 24 – March 14	2/17/2025
Special Election Runoff	April 15, 2025	As soon as possible, but no later than April 7 – April 11	2/17/2025
Special Primary Public Service Commissioner (PSC) /Special Election	June 17, 2025	May 26 – June 13	5/19/2025
Special Primary Runoff Public Service Commissioner (PSC)/Special Election Runoff	July 15, 2025	As soon as possible, but no later than July 7 – July 11	5/19/2025
Special Election	September 16, 2025	August 25 – September 12	8/18/2025
Special Election Runoff	October 14, 2025	As soon as possible, but no later than October 6 – October 10	8/18/2025
Municipal General /Special Election – Public Service Commissioner (PSC)	November 4, 2025	October 13 – October 31	10/6/2025
Municipal General /Special Election Runoff – Public Service Commissioner (PSC)	December 2, 2025	As soon as possible, but no later than November 24 – November 28	10/6/2025



BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

Regular meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 PM (subject to change in months with elections.)

Meetings are streamed on DCTV's UStream channel: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/xUJgKs6n2VW>

Thursday, January 9	Scheduled Meeting - 4:30 PM
Thursday, February 13	Scheduled Meeting - 4:30 PM
Thursday, March 13	Scheduled Meeting – 4:30 PM
Thursday, April 10	Scheduled Meeting - 4:30 PM
Thursday, May 8	Scheduled Meeting – 4:30 PM
Monday, June 23**	Scheduled Meeting – 12:00 PM
Monday, July 21**	Scheduled Meeting - 12:00 PM
Thursday, August 14	Scheduled Meeting - 4:30 PM
Thursday, September 11	Scheduled Meeting - 4:30 PM
Thursday, October 9	Scheduled Meeting - 4:30 PM
Monday, November 10**	Scheduled Meeting – 12:00 PM
Monday, December 8**	Scheduled Meeting – 12:00 PM

**** Date Changed Due to Election**

KEISHA L. SMITH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
VOTER REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS
(404) 298-4020
FAX (404) 298-4038



BOARD MEMBERS
VASU ABHIRAMAN
NANCY JESTER
ANTHONY LEWIS
SUSAN MOTTER
KARLI SWIFT

Board of Registration and Elections
4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300
Decatur, Georgia 30032

Proposed Precinct Boundary Changes & Polling Place Consolidations

Below is the proposal for precinct boundary changes and polling place consolidations.

	Current	Proposal	Gwinnett	Cobb
Polling Places	167	148	152	146
Active Voters	503,000	503,000	583,711	523,370
Area (sq mi)	271	271	437	340
People per Poll	3,012	3,399	3,840	3,585
Area per Poll	1.62	1.83	2.87	2.33

Polling Place Size by Electors

Size	Current	Proposed
0-999	1	1
1000-1999	29	14
2000-2999	62	49
3000-3999	46	43
4000-4999	21	25
5000-5999	5	8
6000-6999	2	6
7000-7999	1	2
8000-8999	0	0
Total	167	148

Proposed precincts to combine:

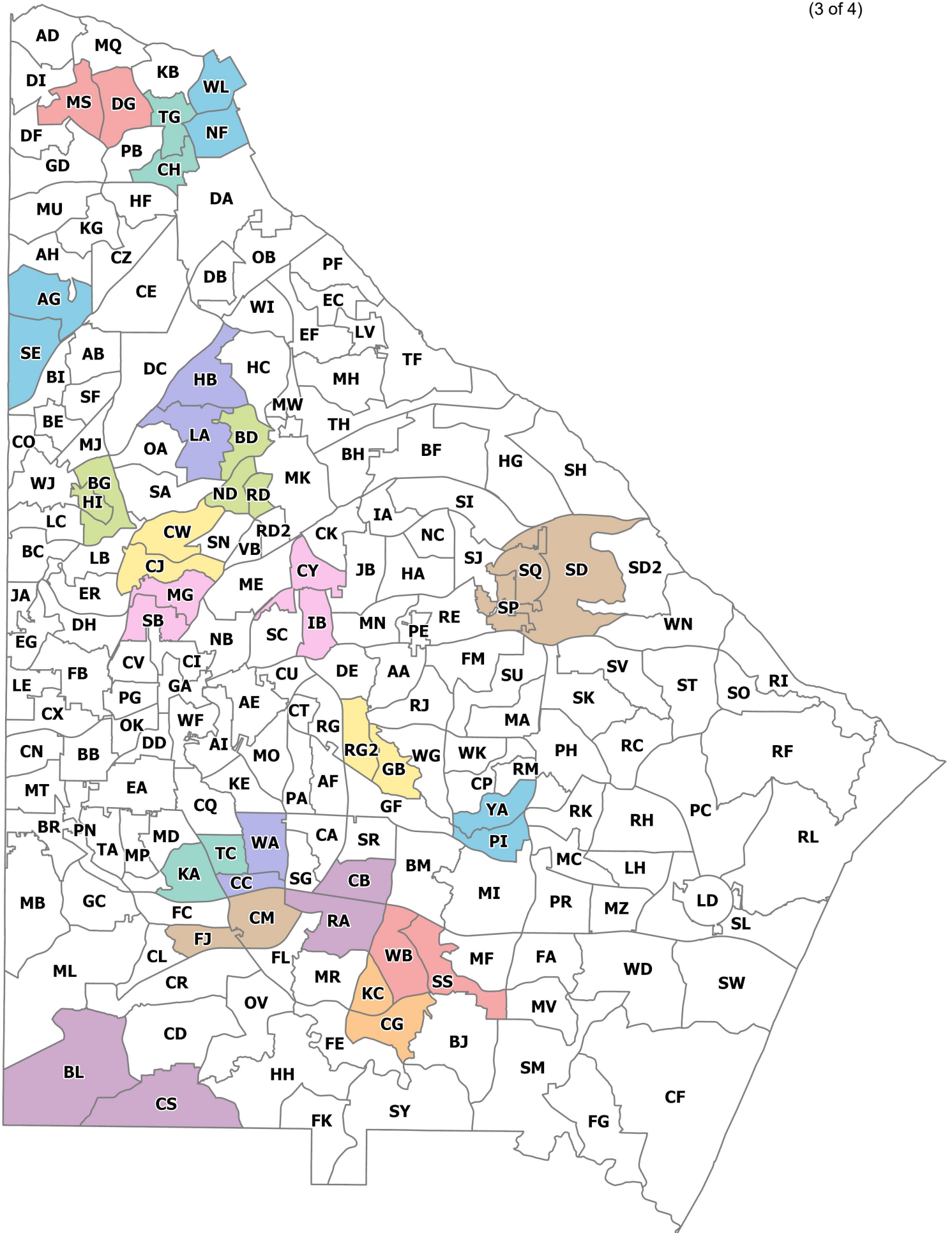
PID	Precinct Name	Combine With
SE	Silver Lake	Ashford Dunwoody Rd
GD	Georgetown Sq	Peachtree Middle
CM	Columbia Middle	Flat Shoals
SD	Stone Mountain Elem	Stone Mtn
HB	Hawthorne Elem	Lakeside High
CB	Canby Lane Elem	Rainbow Elem
BD	Briarlake Elem	Northlake
RD	Rehoboth	Northlake
EC	Embry Hills	Evansdale Elem
SS	Snapfinger Road S	Wesley Chapel Library
IB	Indian Creek	Clarkston Community Center
GB	Glenhaven	Rowland Elem
CH	Chesnut Elem	Tilly Mill Road
TC	Toney Elem	Kelley Lake Elem
WL	Winters Chapel	North Peachtree
HI	Harris-Margaret Harris Ed	Briarcliff
KC	Kelley Chapel Road	Chapel Hill Elem
CC	Columbia Elem	Wadsworth
PI	Panola Way Elem	Young Road

Precincts that are already combined but which we want to move somewhere else to reduce the voters' distance to their polling place and/or improve the facility:

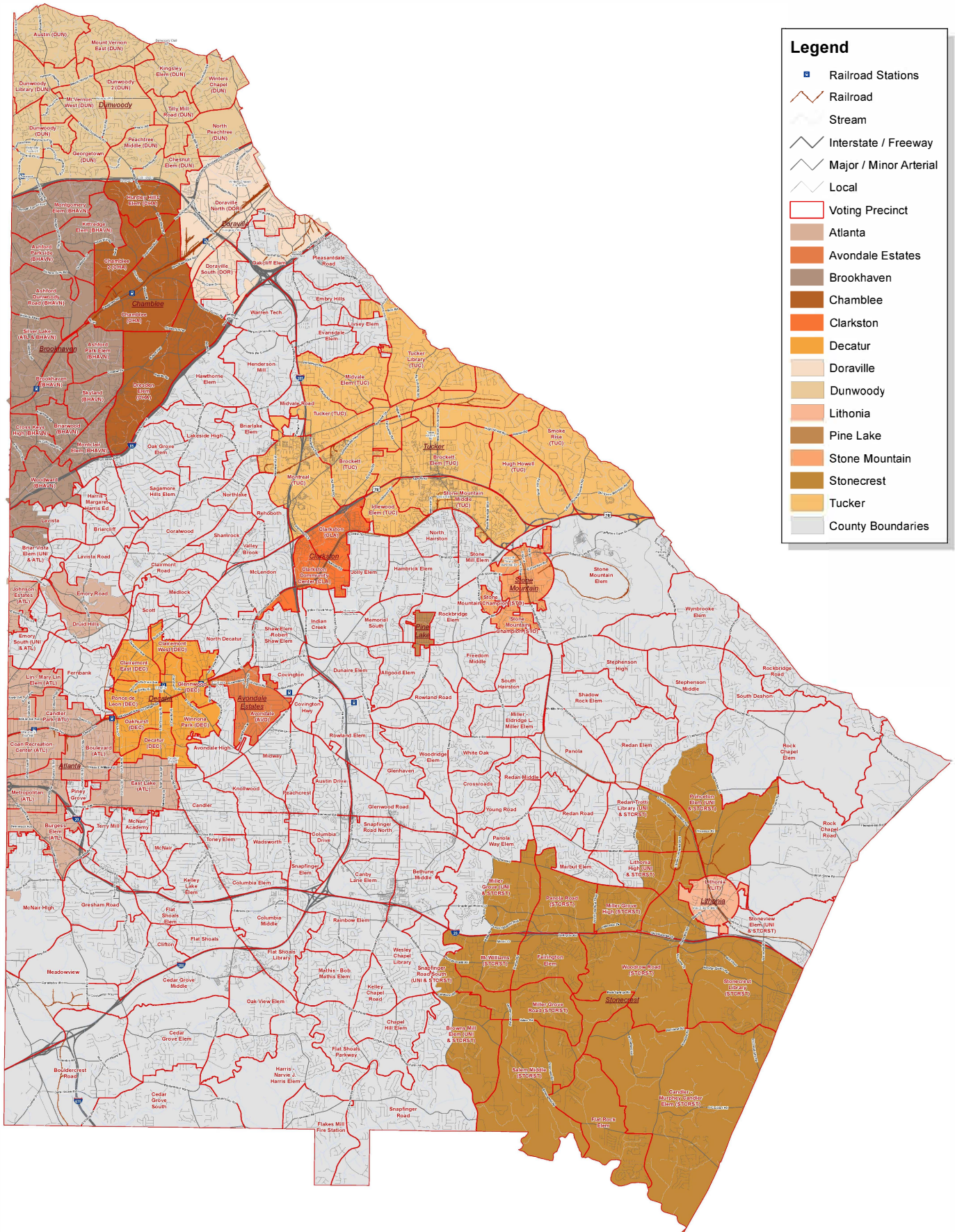
PID	Precinct Name	Combine With
CW	Coralwood	Clairmont Road
BL	Bouldercrest Road	Cedar Grove South
DG	Dunwoody 2	Mount Vernon West
SB	Scott	Medlock


Changes to precinct boundaries either because of annexations or to reduce the voters' distance to their polling place:


PID	Precinct Name	Alteration
SD	Stone Mountain Elem	Remove east half of precinct and add to wynbrooke elem.
RG	Rowland Elem	Remove west half of precinct and add to austin drive.
RD	Rehoboth	Remove south half of precinct and add to valley brook.
BG	Briarcliff	Remove cliff valley way annexation and add to woodward.
PN, TA	Piney Grove/Terry Mill	Remove bouldercrest road annexation from piney grove/terry mill and add to burgess. Merge piney grove and terry mill to prevent piney grove from being cut in half.
AI	Avondale High	Remove dalerose ave annexation and add to avondale.



- ### Legend
- Railroad Stations
 - Railroad
 - Stream
 - Interstate / Freeway
 - Major / Minor Arterial
 - Local
 - Voting Precinct
 - Atlanta
 - Avondale Estates
 - Brookhaven
 - Chamblee
 - Clarkston
 - Decatur
 - Doraville
 - Dunwoody
 - Lithonia
 - Pine Lake
 - Stone Mountain
 - Stonecrest
 - Tucker
 - County Boundaries




Voting Precincts
DeKalb County, GA
 Geographic Information Systems Department



Map produced by the GIS Department

DeKalb County GIS Disclaimer: The user and data contained on DeKalb County's Geographic Information System (GIS) are subject to accident change. The user and data contained on DeKalb County's Geographic Information System (GIS) are subject to accident change. The user and data contained on DeKalb County's Geographic Information System (GIS) are subject to accident change. The user and data contained on DeKalb County's Geographic Information System (GIS) are subject to accident change. The user and data contained on DeKalb County's Geographic Information System (GIS) are subject to accident change.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED POLLING PLACE CHANGES

The DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections (the BRE) hereby gives notice to the voters of DeKalb County that it is considering the following polling place change for the June 17, 2025, Special Election Primary. This change will become effective following the second publication of this notice unless the BRE receives public comment in opposition to such changes, in which case the BRE will hold a special called meeting to consider public comments received and further action on the proposed changes.

The Board proposes moving the Doraville North (DA) and Doraville South (DB) precincts from Doraville Civic Center to Forest Fleming Arena, 3037 Pleasant Valley Dr, Doraville, GA 30340.

A complete list of polling locations can be found at <https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/voter-registration-elections/election-day>. Any comments on the proposed changes may be directed to the DeKalb County Board of Registration & Elections at 4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, Decatur, GA 30032-1239 or via email at Voterreg@dekalbcountyga.gov.

This 16th day of January 2025,

Keisha L. Smith
Executive Director
DeKalb County Voter Registration & Elections

Publish: 1/16/2024 and 1/23/2024