ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

2011 Annual Performance Report

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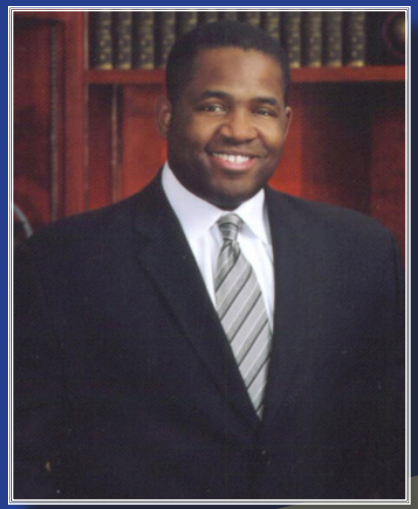
ATLANTA, GA.



President's Message

The President of the Council presides at meetings of the Atlanta City Council and votes only in the case of a tie vote of the Council. He or she is charged with appointing the members and chairpersons of Council standing committees and exercises all powers and discharge all duties of the mayor in the case of a vacancy in the office of mayor or during the disability of the mayor.

Ceasar C. Mitchell
President

Greetings,

Fiscal accountability and enhanced quality of life were the framework for the accomplishments made by Atlanta City Council in 2011. The citizens of Atlanta have elected a dynamic group of individuals whose organic leadership has lead to some of the ground-breaking activities undertaken over the course of the year. We boldly tackled many of the issues that, if left untouched, would have adversely affected the city of generations to come. Through raising tough questions, and making often tough decisions, we not only realigned the city's finances to reflect the changing economy, we also made changes to many of the city's codes and ordinances to enhance the quality of life for our citizens and allocated more funds to public safety initiatives.

Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of this sitting Council was the overhaul of the City's pension system. While the pension reform conversation was long and tedious, it was the right thing to do at the right time. The new system is fair to our hard working employees and their families. But equally as important, it is fair to our citizens and it ensures the city maintains the resources needed to deliver services to the public which we serve.

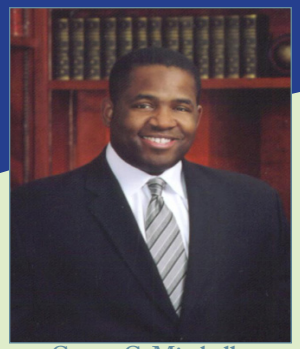
The comprehensive pension reform plan created tangible cost savings the first year. The measure is projected to save the city millions of dollars over 30 years.

While pension reform will likely become this Council's greatest accomplishment of 2011, it is certainly only one of the many achievements made by this body of leaders. Throughout the year, the Council focused on many of the issues that citizens comment about when we are in the community, or when you call our offices. To that end, we passed an ordinance requiring certain vacant properties to be registered with the city; made allowances for local farmers markets; protected the integrity of our historic neighborhoods; and, enhanced our neighborhoods through access to public art.

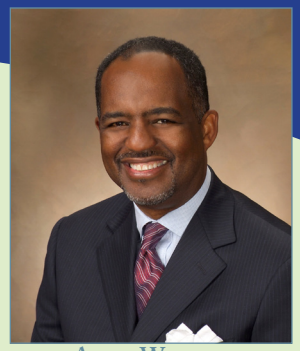
Of course, these are only highlights from 2011. Your Atlanta City Council had many more achievements over the course of the year, and we will continue our work into 2012 and beyond, in an effort to make the city of Atlanta a model city in which to live, work and raise a family.

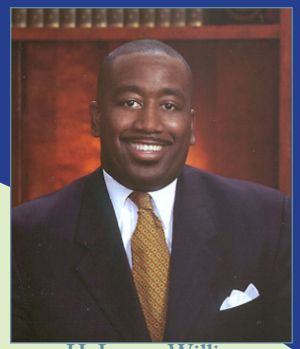
For Our Atlanta,

Atlanta City Council


Ceasar C. Mitchell
President

Michael Julian Bond
Post 1 At-Large


Aaron Watson
Post 2 At-Large


H. Lamar Willis
Post 3 At-Large

Carla Smith
District 1

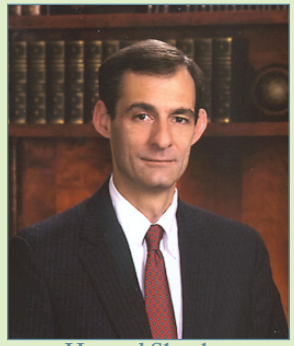
Kwanza Hall
District 2

Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
District 3

Cleta Winslow
District 4

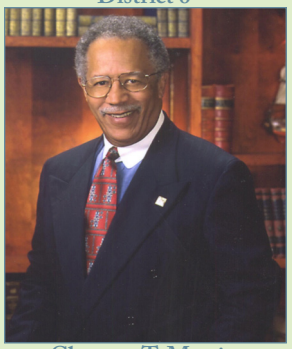
Natalyn Mosby Archibong
District 5

Alex Wan
District 6


Howard Shook
District 7

Yolanda Adrean
District 8

Felicia A. Moore
District 9


Clarence T. Martin
District 10

Keisha Lance Bottoms
District 11

Joyce M. Sheperd
District 12

Atlanta City Council

Our Mission

Dedicated to Government Oversight and Quality Constituent Services

The City Council is the chief policy making body for the City of Atlanta. The Council's mission is to ensure that Atlanta is lead by a ground-breaking, strong, and capable group of leaders that work for the good of all citizens across the city. As a legislative body, the council's main role is to make laws. In addition, the Council has oversight of multiple agencies, boards, and commissions. The Atlanta City Council is comprised of 15 members and is led by Council President Ceasar C. Mitchell. Each member of the Atlanta City Council tirelessly works to improve the lives of Atlanta's citizens. Together, they work to ensure safer and cleaner streets, bolster Atlanta's economy, and institute many community-based programs. Working hand in hand with Atlanta's mayor and the members of the executive branch, the Council plays a key part in the budget process and financial well being of Atlanta.

Government Oversight

In addition to legislation, the Atlanta City Council works hard to ensure that city government works for its citizens. Through the various Council Committees the council assesses various government programs and agencies. Each year, the Council is in charge of holding budget hearings in which the City's budget, recommended by the Mayor, is strictly reviewed prior to being voted on by the Council.

Constituent Services

The Atlanta City Council prides itself on being responsive to its citizens. Each Councilmember employs a professional staff to address questions and concerns of Atlanta's citizens. To contact your Council representative, call us at (404) 330-6030.

How Your City Council Works

The legislative body, comprised of the Council, makes the laws that govern the city. It is responsible for the development of policies which serve as operational standards and establishes the parameters for the administration of city government.

A new city charter was enacted in 1996 that reduced the representation of Council to 12 districts and three at large posts -- effective January 1998.

The 1974 Charter resulted in many changes in Atlanta City government. Prior to its adoption, the legislative body was called the Board of Aldermen and each alderman was elected citywide. The 1974 charter changed the Board of Aldermen to the City Council; the vice-mayor to the president of the Council; and established 12 Council members to be elected from individual districts and six at-large posts. The administration of the day-to-day operation of city government was transferred to the executive branch, and legislative authority was vested in the Council. This system allows the Council to maintain a strong system of checks and balances.

Legislation takes two forms -- ordinances and resolutions. An ordinance establishes a permanent rule of government. Every official act of the Council, having the force and effect of law, must be an ordinance. Ordinances must be read before full Council at two regular meetings. There are exceptions, for example, a City Charter amendment requires three readings.

Resolutions usually express intent or support of various projects and enterprises, or establish legislative policy of a general nature. Resolutions need be read only once and can be introduced and adopted at the same meeting.

Standing Committees

The standing committees of the Atlanta City Council meet to consider legislation and to make recommendations on each item. The Committees then report their actions to the full Council. More than 150 pieces of legislation are handled per meeting.

Citizens have the opportunity to appear before a standing committee and to express their views on any piece of legislation. (Comments from the public on matters related to zoning changes are heard by the Zoning Review Board, an independent body comprised of appointed city residents.

Legislative Process

Legislation can be introduced on the floor of Council by a Councilmember as a personal paper, or can come through a standing committee. In either case, almost all legislation goes before a committee for discussion at some time.

After a paper has been through the committee process, the full Council votes on it. The Council may accept or reject the committee's recommendations. A majority vote is needed for adoption.

When a paper is adopted by the Council, it goes to the Mayor for signature. The paper must be approved or vetoed within seven days. If not signed or vetoed within that period, it automatically becomes law. If vetoed, the Council can override a mayoral veto with a two-thirds majority vote.

About the Atlanta City Council

The president of the City Council is elected from the city at-large (city-wide). The Council consists of 15 members, 12 elected from single-member districts and three elected at-large.

The Council president presides at all meetings of the Council and votes in the case of a tie. The president of Council appoints chairs and members of the various committees, subject to rejection by a majority of the Council.

The Council president exercises all powers and discharges all duties of the mayor in case of a vacancy in that office or during the disability of the mayor.

Councilmembers are elected to four-year terms commencing with the first Monday in January. The next Atlanta City Council will take office in January 2014.

The members of the Council elect a president pro tempore each year to serve a one-year term beginning with the first meeting in January. The president pro tempore presides over the Council meetings in the president's absence.

Atlanta City Councilmembers are paid an annual salary of $39,473. The Council president is paid $40,997 annually. Salaries are determined by an independent committee of city residents.

Atlanta City Council 2011 Standing Committees

City Utilities Committee
Natalyn Mosby Archibong - Chair
Howard Shook
Yolanda Adrean
Carla Smith
Aaron Watson
H. Lamar Willis
C.T. Martin
Policy Analyst: Alfred Berry, Jr.
Legislative Assistant: Fredrieca Cooper

Committee on Council
Felicia Moore - Chair
Natalyn Mosby Archibong
Cleta Winslow
Yolanda Adrean
Joyce Sheperd
Kwanza Hall
Policy Analyst: Bernard Thomas
Legislative Assistant: Wasonna Griffin

Community Development/ Human Resources Committee
Joyce Sheperd - Chair
Alex Wan
Kwanza Hall
Michael Julian Bond
Cleta Winslow
Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
Natalyn Mosby Archibong
Policy Analyst: Stephen Tam
Legislative Assistant: Angela Campbell

Finance / Executive Committee
Yolanda Adrean - Chair
Felicia Moore
Howard Shook
Aaron Watson
C. T. Martin
H. Lamar Willis
Alex Wan
Policy Analysts: Larry Stokes
LaShawn Gardiner
Legislative Assistants: Wasonna Griffin/ Charlene Parker

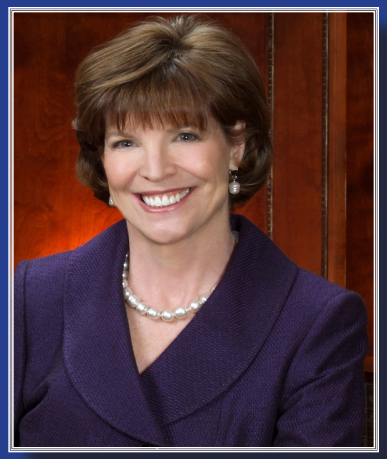
Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee
Ivory Lee Young, Jr. - Chair
Michael Julian Bond
Keisha Lance Bottoms
Joyce Sheperd
Alex Wan
C.T. Martin
Yolanda Adrean
Policy Analyst: Bernard Thomas
Legislative Assistant: Fredrieca Cooper

Transportation Committee
Clarence T. Martin – Chair
Keisha Lance Bottoms
Felicia A. Moore
Carla Smith
H. Lamar Willis
Michael Julian Bond
Policy Analyst: Larry Stokes
Legislative Assistant: Wasonna Griffin

Zoning Committee
Aaron Watson - Chair
Keisha Lance Bottoms
Carla Smith
Kwanza Hall
Howard Shook
Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
Cleta Winslow
Policy Analyst: Alfred Berry, Jr.
Legislative Assistant: Angela Campbell

Atlanta City Council Committee Room

In accordance with City Code Section Sec. 2-133 (g), the Atlanta City Council Office of Communications in collaboration with the Atlanta City Council Office of Research and Policy Analysts is charged with producing an annual report on the activities of City Council committees during the preceding year. This report includes a brief synopsis of all major legislative business transacted by each standing committee.



Finance/Executive Committee

The Finance/Executive Committee recommends on matters pertaining to the budget and to transfers of appropriations; the administration of taxing ordinances and to public revenue; tax officials and collectors; the Department of Finance; the executive branch of government, specifically components in the Department of Administrative Services relating to purchasing functions of the City; the Department of Personnel and Human Resources; operation of the Office of the Mayor; Office of Contract Compliance and Intergovernmental, International and Diplomatic Affairs.

Yolanda Adrean
Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Howard Shook
Aaron Watson
C. T. Martin
H. Lamar Willis
Alex Wan

Policy Analysts:
Larry Stokes
LaShawn Gardiner

Legislative Assistants:

Wasonna Griffin
Charlene Parker

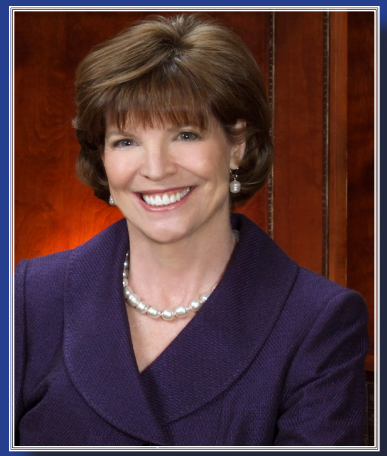
SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

The Finance/Executive Committee of the Atlanta City Council under the leadership of Councilmember Yolanda Adrean worked tirelessly on behalf of the citizens and employees of the City of Atlanta during 2011. The Finance/Executive Committee met its annual responsibilities of financial oversight, which includes conducting budget hearings and meetings regarding budget goals and objectives, and the responsibility of reviewing and acting on any legislation that impacts the financial health of the City. Most notably were financing initiatives by the Departments of Aviation and Watershed Management. The Committee held a number of presentations designed to inform and educate the public on the fiscal health of the City, such as briefings on the annual audit, follow-up on Management Letter recommendations and results of audits performed by the City's Internal Auditor.

The Committee implemented quarterly presentations which allowed the Chief Financial Officer to provide an in depth analysis of revenues and expenditures compared to the approved budget, as well as the cost and benefits of approved initiatives. During 2011 the Committee was also challenged with the daunting task of dealing with pension reform initiatives, which culminated with the passage of Ordinance 11-O-0672.

- Approved sweeping reforms to the city's three pension plans by raising the pension contribution of current employees by 5% of compensation; reducing the multiplier used to calculate pension benefits of future employees to 1%; reducing the maximum cost of living adjustment of pension benefits of future employees to 1%; clarifying that pension benefits accrued by an employee prior to November 1, 2011 shall remain unchanged; clarifying that the pension changes set forth in Section 62 do not apply to active employees and elected officials hired or elected prior to January 1, 1984; clarifying that the pension benefits of employees who retired prior to November 1, 2011 shall remain unchanged.

- Authorized the City of Atlanta Internal Auditor to enter into a Contractual Agreement with KPMG LLP for an audit of the City of Atlanta Financial Statements.



Yolanda Adrean
Chair

Finance/Executive Committee

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS...continued

- Approved an ordinance creating the 2010C Airport General Revenue Refunding Bond Fund and amending the FY 2011 Budget by adding to anticipations and appropriations Bond Proceeds in the aggregated principal amount of $524,045,000.
- Appropriated $4,500,000 from the City of Atlanta Northwest Atlanta (Perry/Bolton) Tax Allocation District for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new Northwest Atlanta Fire Station, a Mini-Police Precinct, and a Community Assembly Room.
- Authorized a contract renewal with Trinity Service Group, Inc. in the amount of $982,000.00. This renewal provided all food, labor, supplies and materials necessary for the preparation of meal for detainees in the Atlanta City Detention Center (ACDC).
- Authorized Allied Aviation Fueling of Atlanta, Inc. to provide and the City of Atlanta to accept fuel storage facility and fueling facility management and operation services at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport on a month to month basis.
- Authorized the issuance of $275,000,000 in Non-AMT and $250,000,000 in AMT Refunding Revenue bonds on behalf of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The bond issues were purposed to refund various outstanding bonds related to the Airport Capital Program.
- The Committee approved an amendment to the Water and Wastewater Revenue Fund Budget, in the amount of $1,708,522. The Budget amendment was necessary to accommodate the move of the Department of Watershed Management to 72 Marietta Street. The site at 72 Marietta Street, was donated to the City of Atlanta by the Atlanta Journal Constitution at the end of 2010, and will become the headquarters of the Department of Watershed Management.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a cooperative purchasing agreement with the Atlanta Gas Light Company for Natural Gas and Energy Management Services on behalf of the Division of Sustainability in the amount of $7,900,000.

Felicia A. Moore
Chair

Committee on Council

The Committee on Council recommends on matters pertaining to the operation of the Council; executive branch appointments confirmed by the Council; ethics issues such as conflict of interest, revision, codification and clarification of ordinances and resolutions; Council agenda; elections; rules, conduct and decorum of Council and members; and procedures for the Office of City Council and the Office of Municipal Clerk.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Natalyn Mosby Archibong
Cleta Winslow
Yolanda Adrean
Joyce Sheperd
Kwanza Hall

Policy Analyst:
Bernard Thomas

Legislative Assistant:
Wasonna Griffin

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

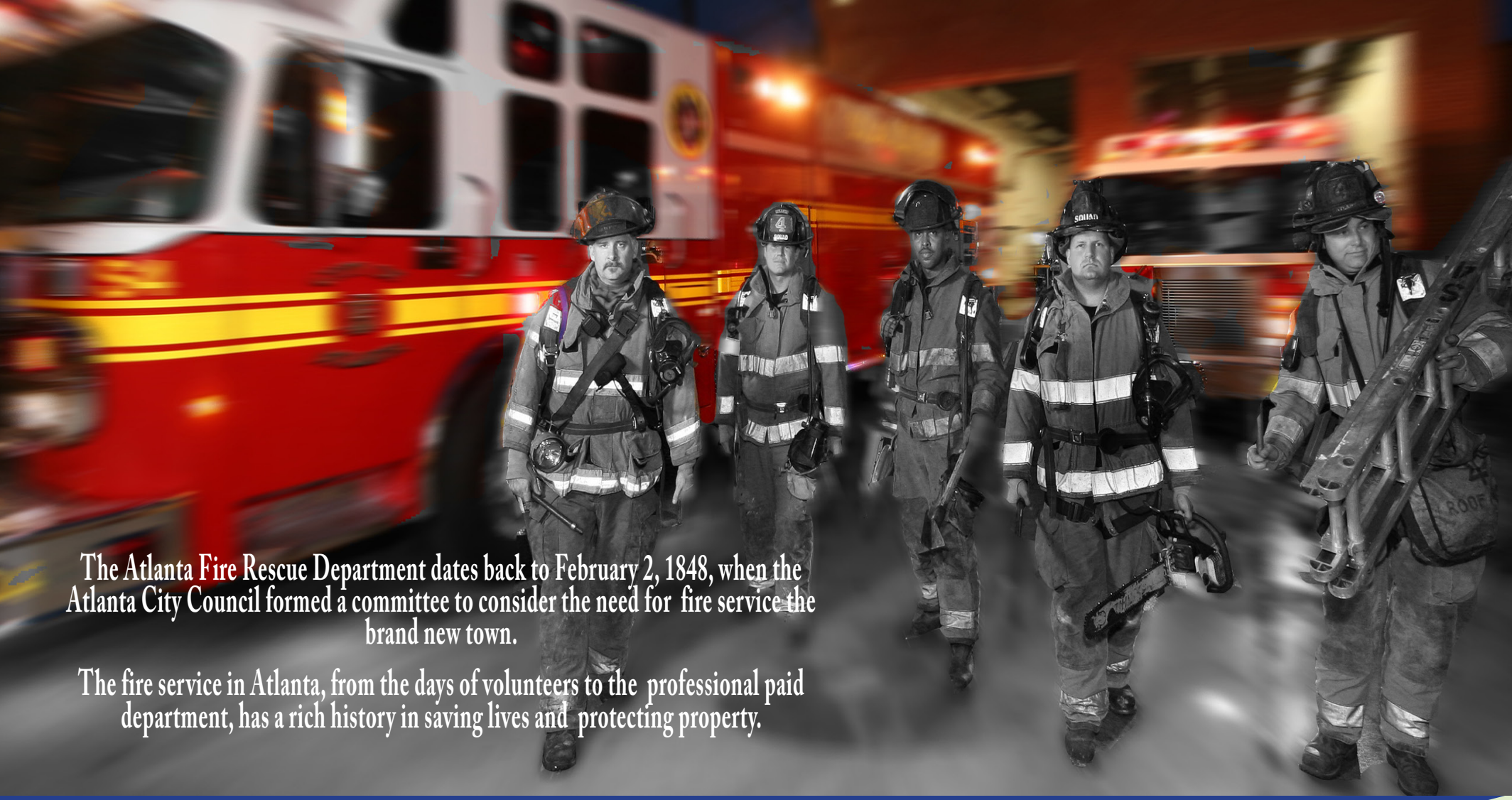
- Continued to supervise and monitor the design and implementation of the Electronic Legislative Management System (ELMS).
- Established emergency communications protocol.
- Held a session on First Aid Training for City of Atlanta employees.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract among the City of Atlanta, the Atlanta Board of Education and Fulton County for a special election held on November 8, 2011, and a run-off election on December 6, 2011 to fill the vacancy in the Atlanta Board of Education District Two (2) position; required that the Atlanta Board of Education pay all costs and expenses of the special election to Fulton County and the City of Atlanta.
- Approved an ordinance that allowed voters to cast a ballot to permit retailers to sale alcoholic beverages on Sunday. Atlanta voters approved the referendum in the November 8 election.
- Approved an ordinance and City of Atlanta Charter amendment in order to clarify the selection process for the City of Atlanta Internal Auditor
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Fulton County to conduct a City of Atlanta Special Election March 6, 2012, to present a referendum re-imposing a one percent sales and use tax for the purpose of funding water and sewer projects
- Approved an ordinance clarifying the selection process for the City of Atlanta Ethics Officer.
- Provided leadership in developing the agenda for the three City Council retreats.
- Provided leadership in the ten-year census redistricting process.

Felicia A. Moore
Chair

Committee on Council

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS...continued

- Improved security regarding access to City Council offices and work areas.
- Concluded City Council Rules Revamp Project.
- Continued the evaluation process regarding the Director of Council and the Municipal Clerk. Revised the job description of the Director of Council.
- Played key role in the development of the FY 2011 and FY 2012 City Council Budget.
- Received, reviewed and recommended numerous individuals for appointment to the various city boards and commissions.
- Received and reviewed various appointees to positions requiring City Council confirmation.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a cooperative purchasing agreement between the City of Atlanta and IQM2 in the amount of $170,000 for purpose of implementing a new meeting management software, also referred to as Electronic Legislative management System (ELMS).
- Approved an ordinance requiring that all official reports received by a Council Committee be filed with the minutes of that Committee.
- Approved an ordinance strengthening the council's oversight over the confirmation process related to Department and Agency Heads.
- An ordinance clarifying the role of the Committee on Council in the Council Confirmation Process.



The Atlanta Fire Rescue Department dates back to February 2, 1848, when the Atlanta City Council formed a committee to consider the need for fire service the brand new town.

The fire service in Atlanta, from the days of volunteers to the professional paid department, has a rich history in saving lives and protecting property.

COMMITTED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
Chair

Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee

The Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee recommends on matters regarding public safety, generally; the Department of Police Services; Department of Fire; Department of Corrections; Department of Law; Office of Emergency Management Services and City Courts, licenses issued under the police powers of the City, all matters pertaining to findings of discrimination under the human relations ordinance and all matters pertaining to the drafting, implementation and supervision of all penal ordinances.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Michael Julian Bond

Keisha Lance Bottoms

Joyce Sheperd

Alex Wan

C.T. Martin

Yolanda Adrean

Policy Analyst:
Bernard Thomas

Legislative Assistant:
Fredrieca Cooper

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Held a work session on city court operations and toured the Municipal Court facilities.
- Held a joint work session with the Finance and Executive Committee regarding the city audit of Municipal Court operations.
- Conducted a tour of the new E911 Center.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a grant award in the amount of $157,000 from the U. S. Department of Justice Community Capacity Development Office and $125,000 from the City of Atlanta for a total of $282,000 for the continuation of the Weed and Seed Strategy in the English Avenue Community.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of $2,938,599 in grant funds from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, for the purpose of continuing the Atlanta High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force efforts to disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking organizations in the city.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of $376,760 in grant funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for the purpose of supporting the Atlanta Smoke Alarm Program.
- Approved a substitute ordinance authorizing the acceptance of $829,420 for the FY 2011 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Award from the United States Department of Justice.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Atlanta Municipal Court, to execute temporary service contracts with sixteen (16) retired City of Atlanta ("City") Police Officers and four (4) Security Officers, for the purpose of providing Professional Security Services at the Municipal Court of Atlanta for a period of one (1) year in FY 2012, in an amount not to exceed $742,093.

Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
Chair

Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee

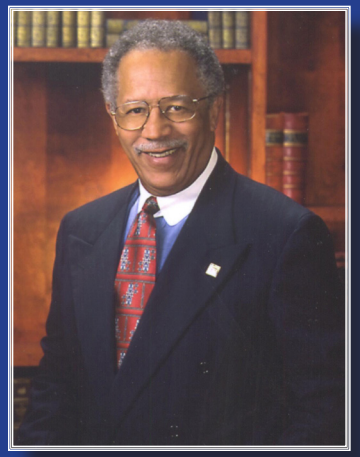
SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS...continued

- Approved an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a $481,965 sub-grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security to aid the City of Atlanta in its ongoing effort to protect itself from terrorist bomb attacks, through the purchase of specialized equipment for the Department of Police's Special Weapons and Tactics Unit.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a $319,500 sub-grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security to aid the City of Atlanta's ongoing efforts to protect itself from terrorist attacks, through the purchase of specialized equipment for the Department of Police Airport Explosive Ordinance Disposal.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant from the U. S. Department of Homeland Security in the amount of $9,793,068 for the purpose of hiring 75 new firefighter positions.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept a grant from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy in the amount of $5,066,481 for the purpose of disrupting and dismantling illegal drug trafficking organizations in the city.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept funding in the amount of up to $2,000,200 from the Department of Justice for Atlanta's Anti-Violence Strategy Project.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of $2,127,922 in grant funds from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy for the purpose of continuing the Atlanta High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force efforts to disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking organizations in the city.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the Department of Police, to apply for and accept a grant from the U. S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, in the amount of $829,420, for the purpose of supporting law enforcement and criminal justice activities.

On May 16, 2012, the Maynard H. Jackson Jr. International Terminal opened its doors to the world.

Under construction for much of the year 2011, the new gateway, with its sweeping roof line, gentle metallic curves and glass façade will welcome millions of world travelers for decades to come.

FOCUSED ON FOSTERING ATLANTA'S GLOBAL PROMINENCE IN AVIATION



Clarence T. Martin
Chair

Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee recommends on matters pertaining to transportation, generally, including the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA). One of its main functions is overseeing the Department of Aviation which operates Hartsfield -Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the world's busiest airport. The Transportation Committee also has purview over the Department of Public Works' Bureau of Traffic and Transportation, whose task it is to perform traffic studies, install traffic signage and traffic calming devices throughout the city, etc.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

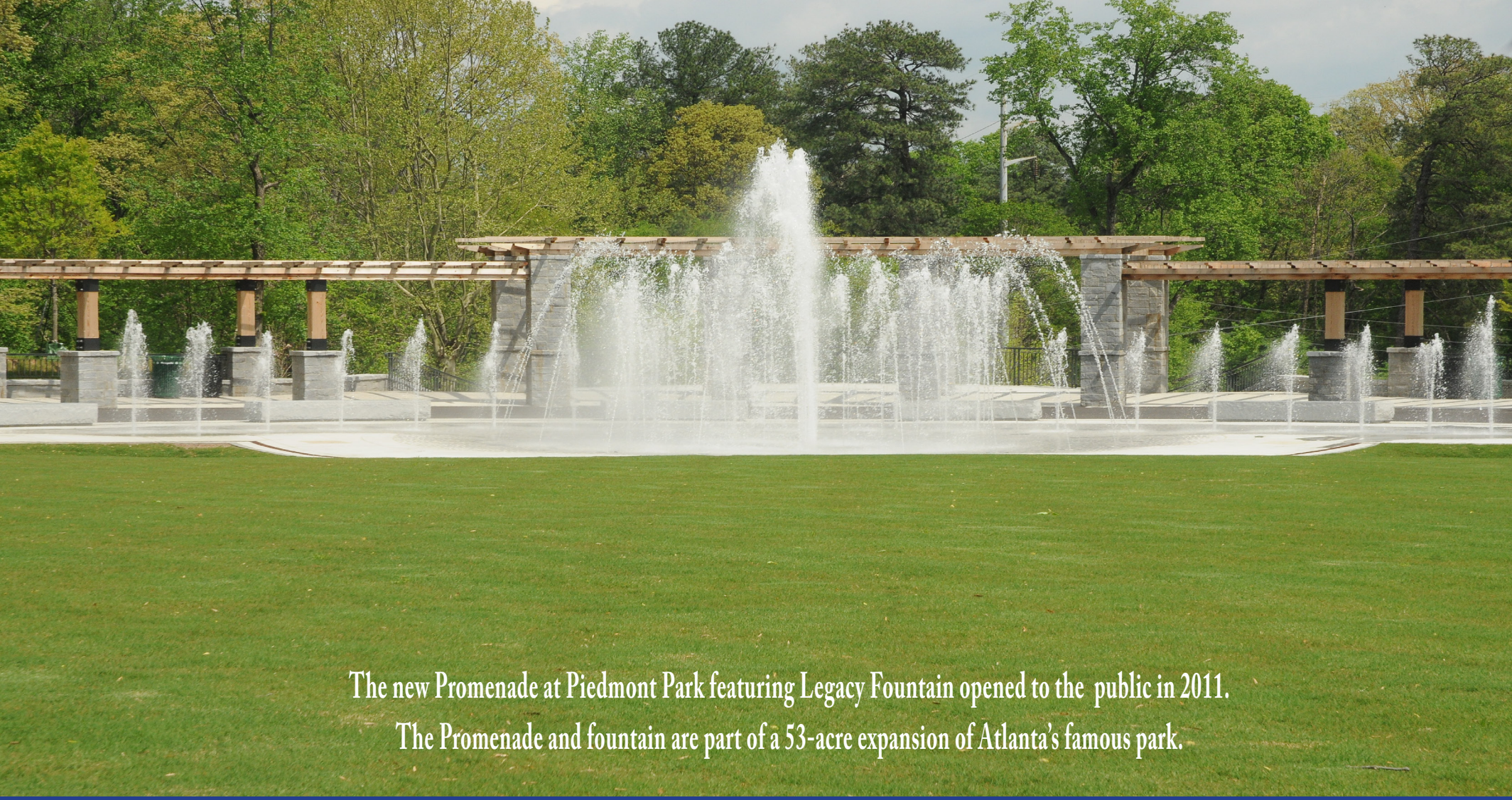
Keisha Lance Bottoms
Felicia A. Moore
Carla Smith
H. Lamar Willis
Michael Julian Bond

Policy Analysts:
Larry Stokes

Legislative Assistant:
Wasonna Griffin

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Approved an ordinance eliminating the two-hour parking exemption for non-permitted vehicles in residential permit parking areas.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to a lease agreement with Delta Airlines, Inc. to allow the airlines to complete a Delta Sky Club in the Maynard Holbrook Jackson International Terminal for a cost of $6,261,000; to allow Delta to make additional tenant improvements for Delta, Korean Airlines Company and KLM/Air France within the new terminal at a cost of $10,600,000; and to allow for completion of a bag belt for Delta to the parking deck at the new terminal for a cost not to exceed $2,000,000.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a maintenance agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation and CSX Transportation for construction and maintenance services for the Fairburn Road Bridge replacement.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a local government lighting project agreement between the City of Atlanta and the Georgia Department of Transportation for lighting improvements for the Glenwood Avenue/SR 260 Pedestrian Lighting Project.
- Authorized the installation of traffic signals at the intersections of Simpson Street and Spring Street; Simpson Street and Williams Street; and Simpson Street and Centennial Olympic Park Drive to improve pedestrian and vehicle safety.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the transfer of $11,500,000 to provide adequate funding for acquisition of approximately 60 acres of land adjacent to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport from Airport Station, LLC for runway protection and future airport development.
- Approved an ordinance exempting all utility relocation and construction-related activities associated with the Atlanta Streetcar Project from the prohibition against construction activity on arterial streets during peak traffic hours, for a period of eighteen (18) months, for the purposes related to completing the project by the federally imposed deadline.



The new Promenade at Piedmont Park featuring Legacy Fountain opened to the public in 2011.
The Promenade and fountain are part of a 53-acre expansion of Atlanta's famous park.

COMMITTED TO ENHANCING ATLANTA'S PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

Joyce M. Sheperd
Chair

Community Development/ Human Resources Committee

The Community Development/Human Resources Committee recommends on matters relating to planning functions; comprehensive development and land use plans; housing related programs, housing code enforcement, community development, urban redevelopment and economic development; matters pertaining to parks, recreation and cultural affairs and job and manpower training.

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2011 the Community Development/Human Resource Committee hosted presentations on various subjects, including the BeltLine Project, Atlanta Development Authority, Atlanta Housing Authority's Mission and Projects, Fort McPherson, Code Compliance, Federal Stimulus Funds, Commercial Tax Allocation Districts, Census Update, Centers of Hope, C5 Georgia Youth Program, Streetcar Project, Fulton County/Atlanta Land Bank Authority, Livable Centers Initiative, Georgia Flood Map, and Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Fulton County/City of Atlanta Land Bank Authority, Inc. in an amount not to exceed $4,416,082 to redevelop abandoned and foreclosed properties under the United State Department of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Stabilization Program.
- Approved a resolution establishing the City of Atlanta's Tire Commission to study the problem of illegal tire dumping.
- Approved an ordinance decreasing the fee city residents pay to participate in the Camp Best Friends and After-School Tutorial Programs, and allowing the children and grandchildren of all City of Atlanta employees eligible for the After-School Tutorial Program at the same reduced cost that residents pay.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Asset Property Disposition Solutions, LLC in the amount of $250,000 for the purpose of providing a comprehensive land inventory and analysis study to assist the City of Atlanta in making strategic investments to create new opportunities for affordable housing and sustainable economic opportunities within targeted communities.
- Approved a substitute ordinance allowing for the abatement of overgrown weeds and other junk, trash and debris on abandoned property by the City after notice and failure of the property owner to abate the violation or otherwise request adjudication in Atlanta Municipal Court, and to authorize the collection of abatement costs through billing and liens.
- Approved an ordinance allowing for the transfer of the Office of Code Compliance from the Department of Planning and Community Development to the Atlanta Police Department, and the renaming of the Office of Code Compliance to the Office of Code Enforcement.
- Approved an ordinance requiring owners of vacant properties to register with the City of Atlanta in an effort to improve code enforcement of such properties.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alex Wan
Kwanza Hall
Michael Julian Bond
Cleta Winslow
Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
Natalyn Mosby Archibong

Policy Analyst:
Stephen Tam

Legislative Assistant:
Angela Campbell

Natalyn Mosby Archibong
Chair

City Utilities Committee

The City Utilities Committee is responsible for the Departments of Watershed Management and Public Works (liquid waste and solid waste). This committee continues to make major policy decisions on wastewater and drinking water as a result of the Consent Decree and First Amended Consent Decree entered into 1998 and 1999, respectively, and storm water runoff. There is also some concern about the city's solid waste long term plans for dealing with the city's municipal waste. The Committee handles routine legislation such as abandoning and renaming of streets, water bill adjustments, sewer construction and connections, rights-of-way acquisitions, tie-back support systems, encroachment agreements, railroad crossing agreements, franchise agreements, street resurfacing and paving, side-walk/curb construction and repair and other departmental needs. The Committee also makes recommendations on the nominees to be Commissioner of the departments of Public Works and Watershed Management, as well as to the People TV, Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Water and Sewer Appeal Boards. All of these issues and more were debated and decisions were made regarding each.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Howard Shook
Yolanda Adrean
Carla Smith
Aaron Watson
H. Lamar Willis
C.T. Martin

Policy Analyst:
Alfred Berry, Jr.

Legislative Assistant:
Fredrieca Cooper

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Approved legislation to increase the number of Water and Sewer Appeals Board from six (6) to nine (9) members as well as increased the amount a board member can be paid annually from $3,000 to $6,000.
- Approved legislation to expend $13,088,451 for the South River Basin-East Point Sewer Replacement Project
- Approved legislation to expend $10,450,000 for the South River Basin-North Replacement Sewer Project.
- Approved legislation to expend $6,485,164 for South River Basin-South Sewer Replacement.
- Approved legislation to expend $10,796,587 for sidewalks, curbs and streetscape improvements.
- Approved legislation to expend $9,624,824 for Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste with three (3) firms for the Departments of Public Works and Watershed.
- Approved legislation to expend $4,063,873 for the North Fulton Water Treatment Plant for operation and maintenance service with Fulton County. The City of Atlanta pays half ($2,031.936) of the cost.
- Approved legislation to expend $1,875,000 for a Yard Trimmings Diversion Program.
- Approved legislation to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding agreement with the Department of Transportation and appointing the PATH Foundation, Inc. as the city's agent and construction manager for Westside Trail Project, Silver Comet Connector Trail Project and Battle of Atlanta Trail Project.

Natalyn Mosby Archibong
Chair

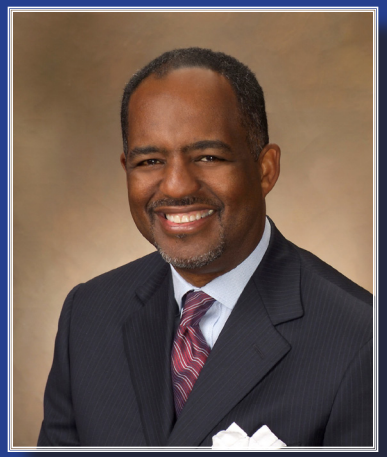
City Utilities Committee

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS...continued

- Approved legislation authorizing the intersections of Baker Street, NW between Piedmont Avenue, NW and Centennial Olympic Park Drive, NW as the "Honorary Xernona Clayton Way" and identifying space in Hardy Ivy Park for the "Xernona Clayton Plaza"
- Approved legislation to expend $9, 402,772 for a valve and hydrant assessment project.
- Approved legislation to expend $120,000 for the Care and Conserve Program.
- Authorized the expenditure of $1,833,776 for security guard services at the Water Treatment and Collection Facilities.
- Approved legislation to enter into agreements with five (5) Emergency Services on Call Response contractors on an as needed basis for snow removal or other disasters.
- Approved legislation to expend $1,677,215 for the Annual Post Closure Care and Landfill Maintenance for City owned Landfills.
- Approved legislation to enter into an agreement with United Services Utility Partners Private Label, Inc. to license the use of the City of Atlanta's trademark for the marketing of the warranty repair of water and sewer lines program.
- Approved legislation to expend $1,430,000 for fleet management service for the Department of Watershed Management.
- Approved legislation for the Chief Financial Officer to transfer $9,800,000 for appropriations for the Atlanta Streetcar Project.
- Approved legislation to expend $18,409,000 for construction upgrades at the R. M. Clayton Facility.
- Approved a communication appointing one citizen to the Keep Atlanta Beautiful Board of Directors.
- Approved communications appointing two citizens to the People TV Board of Directors.
- Approved communications appointing four citizens to the Water and Sewer Appeals Board.
- Approved a communication appointing Ms. Jo Ann Macrina as commissioner of the Department of Watershed Management.
- Approved legislation to expend $9,240,396 for the installation of Small Water Meters.

Construction continues on Buckhead Atlanta near Buckhead Village. The mixed-use project is designed to become a premier shopping destination for residents and visitors.

Striving for stronger communities



Aaron Watson
Chair

Zoning Committee

The Zoning Committee recommends on matters relating to the zoning ordinance of the city; as well as land use in conjunction with the Community Development/Human Resources Committee. This committee is responsible for the Department of Planning and Community Development's Bureaus of Planning and Zoning. This Committee handles routine legislation such as transfer of ownership/development rights, site plan amendments, Metropolitan River Protection Act (MRPA), special use permits, text amendments, rezoning, Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) Amendments and other departmental needs, as they relate to land use and subdivision of property issues. The committee also makes recommendations on the nominees to the Zoning Review Board and the Board of Zoning Adjustment. All of these issues and more were debated and decisions were made regarding each.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Keisha Lance Bottoms

Carla Smith

Kwanza Hall

Howard Shook

Ivory Lee Young, Jr.

Cleta Winslow

Policy Analyst:
Alfred Berry, Jr.

Legislative Assistant:
Angela Campbell

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Approved a special use permit for the new Highland Park, under construction at the intersection of North Highland and St. Charles Place in Council District 6.
- Approved communications appointing three citizens to the Buckhead Village District Development Review Commission.
- Approved a text amendment for Supportive Housing and Shelters clarifying that the distance requirement between shelter facilities or supportive housing facilities applies equally to city-owned or operated shelters or supportive housing facilities, as it does to privately owned or operated shelter or supportive housing facilities.
- Approved legislation authorizing text amendment to the Historic District Regulations for the West End Historic District, so as to revise the general and specific regulations for the district.
- Approved legislation authorizing a text amendment to the Historic District Regulations for the Inman Park Historic District so to revise the compatibility rule; revise the types of certificates of appropriateness required; revise the language regarding subdivisions and aggregations; to clarify certain design and setback requirements; and to revise the off-street parking language for the district.
- Approved legislation for the creation of a Historic District Chapter 20P "Sunset Avenue Historic District".
- Approved legislation granting the authority to place public art in the public right-of-way at 250 Williams Street and 627 Whitehall Street, S.W.
- Approved legislation setting up reasonable zoning and permit requirements of farmers' markets in an effort to enable increased neighborhood access to healthy, local and affordable foods.

Proclamations & Commendations

THE ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL PRESENTED MORE THAN 200 PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS AND OTHER SPECIAL AWARDS TO CITIZENS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN 2011

Among those organizations and individuals honored were:

The 2011 Grady High School Mock Trial Team
The African American Postal League United for Success
The American Heart Association
The veterans of the United States Armed Forces
The Tuskegee Airmen
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
National Arts and Humanities Week
The Atlanta Gospel Fest
The Atlanta Fulton Youthbuild Program
Dallas Austin & The Dallas Austin Foundation for Music Education
CHRIS Kids
The Guatemalan American Chamber of Commerce
Clark Atlanta University
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2011 HIV Awareness Conference
The employees of Atlanta Fire Rescue Station No. 30
The Georgia Solar Energy Association
CNN commentator Dr. Donna Brazile
The Montford Marines
Artist Radcliffe Bailey
The Warrick Dunn Family Foundation
The NEXT Steps Youth Entrepreneur Program

In the Community

Atlanta City Councilmember Carla Smith posed with attendees at the 2011 Grant Park Summer Shade Festival.

Atlanta City Council President Ceasar Mitchell joined members of Central Atlanta Progress at the dedication ceremony of Portman Boulevard in honor of Atlanta's famed architect.

Atlanta City Councilmembers Yolanda Adrean, Kwanza Hall and Alex Wan joined the Buckhead business and civic community in honoring former Mayor Sam Massell.

Atlanta City Councilmember Natalyn Archibong join Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Commissioner George Dusenbury at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly renovated Bessie Branham Recreation Center.

Atlanta City Councilmember Felicia Moore joined Mayor Kasim Reed and Atlanta Fire Rescue Chief Kelvin Cochran at the ground breaking ceremony for the new Fire Station No. 28.

Atlanta City Councilmember C.T. Martin joined the Rev. Joseph E. Lowery and State Representative Tyrone Brooks for a press conference to announce a community rally in support of the teachers, students and administrators within Atlanta Public Schools.

Atlanta City Council President Ceasar Mitchell and Mayor Kasim Reed joined Julius "Dr. J" Erving and Converse for the unveiling of first-ever basketball court at Piedmont Park.

Atlanta City Councilmember Kwanza Hall and his wife posed for a photo with actor Malcolm-Jamal Warner and other attendees at the 2011 Ghet-O-Vision Annual Post BET "The Morning After Brunch."

Atlanta City Council President Ceasar Mitchell presented a proclamation honoring Atlanta's Jazz Legend Freddie Cole on the occasion of his 80th Birthday at the Atlanta History Center.

Atlanta City Councilmember Cleta Winslow stopped by The Spot, a summer camp for youth at James Orange Park.

Atlanta City Councilmember Alex Wan and U.S. Congressman John Lewis posed for a photo during the 2011 Atlanta Pride Festival.

Atlanta City Councilmember Joyce M. Sheperd and Major Rodney Bryant of the Atlanta Police Department joined the Fort McPherson Redevelopment Authority officials at the decommissioning ceremony of the former Army base.

In the Community

Atlanta City Councilmember Natalyn Archibong posed for a photo with one of the winners of a raffle for down payment assistance on a new condominium at the Lofts at Reynoldstown Crossing, located at the intersection of Chester Avenue, Memorial Drive and the Atlanta BeltLine corridor, just north of I-20 and Glenwood Park.

Atlanta City Council President Ceasar Mitchell joined Georgia First Lady Sandra Deal for the 30th Anniversary and grand opening of the CHRIS Kids Counseling Center, Education Center and Summit Trail Apartment Community.

Atlanta City Councilmember Howard Shook was the guest speaker and award nominee at the 11th Annual Parks & Greenspace Conference, hosted by Park Pride.

Atlanta City Councilmembers Aaron Watson and Yolanda Adrean participated in the 2011 Georgia Rides to the Capitol event. The massive gathering of cyclist is held each year to clearly demonstrate the widespread support in our state for better bicycling laws and improved infrastructure for cyclists.

Atlanta City Councilmember Cleta Winslow joined the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs for the dedication of a playground at Cleophas Johnson Park.

Atlanta City Councilmembers H. Lamar Willis and Aaron Watson posed for a photo on the roof of the former City Hall East building. The building will soon be transformed to a major mix-use development.

Atlanta City Councilmember Ivory Lee Young, Jr. was joined by Atlanta Falcons owner Arthur Blank for a "Rise Up" pep rally at Atlanta City Hall.

City Councilmember Michael Julian Bond teamed up with the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition and The Governor's Office of Highway Safety for its "Let's Get Visible" Campaign. Free reflective lights were distributed to hundreds of cyclists throughout the city.

Atlanta City Councilmember C.T. Martin was joined by Interim Department of Corrections Chief Patrick Labat and members of the World Mission Society Church of God for a community clean-up along Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

Atlanta City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms posed for a photo with members of the Atlanta Dream of the WNBA.

Atlanta City Councilmember Carla Smith joined residents for the Boulevard Crossing Park (BeltLine Park) Grand Opening.

City Councilmember Michael Julian Bond posed for a photo with two young constituents at the 2011 American Diabetes Association Walk at Grant Park. Councilmembers Bond and Joyce M. Sheperd led city employees in the annual fundraising event.

In the Community

Atlanta City Councilmember Howard Shook joins volunteers at the annual Buckhead Eco Collection in 2011. Due to their efforts Buckhead residents were able to safely dispose of 55,000 pounds of waste including electronic equipment and old paint.

Atlanta City Councilmember H. Lamar Willis was joined by Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms at the Annual Back to Excellence Pep Rally. The event is held each year to motivate and prepare the students for the in-coming school year.

Atlanta City Councilmember C.T. Martin will join Rapper T.I.'S K.I.N.G Foundation (Kids In Need Of Giving) for a Thanksgiving turkey giveaway for families in need in 2011.

Atlanta City Councilmember Joyce M. Sheperd joined community residents for a clean-up at Emma Millican Park as part the celebration of Earth Day 2011.

Atlanta City Councilmember Ivory Lee Young, Jr. listens to a constituent during his quarterly town hall meeting in Council District 3.

Atlanta City Councilmember Felicia Moore joined the youth of the Agape Community Center for the unveiling of a painted oil can public arts project designed to beautify the community while encouraging residents to property dispose of litter.

Atlanta City Council

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Atlanta City of Lights

Acknowledgements

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