



TO: District 5 Residents

FROM: Emma I. Darnell, Vice-Chair, District 5
Fulton County Board of Commissioners

SUBJ: **Lifeline Quarterly Newsletter: First Quarter 2014**

DATE: February 5, 2014



GRADY TO UPGRADE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVES

To expand accountability measures and to reach mutual goals regarding financial responsibility and transparency, the Fulton – DeKalb Hospital Authority (Grady Hospital) and Fulton County have agreed upon the following initiatives:

- (1) Increase Grady's Fiscal Transparency
- (2) Reduce Grady's Long – Term Financial Dependence on Fulton County
- (3) Improve Grady's Quality and Patient Satisfaction
- (4) Increase Grady's Supplier Diversity

A primary feature of these initiatives will be to demonstrate that payments to Grady from Fulton County will be dispersed as agreed, namely to provide quality indigent health care services only to residents of Fulton County. Grady will establish a separate fund within the Grady accounting system in order to achieve this objective.

Further, a national audit firm with known healthcare expertise will be retained to conduct an annual, independent, objective and balanced audit to determine the total uncompensated care costs of Fulton County residents and to verify what percentage of the cost of care was paid by Fulton County.



**GENERAL FUND BUDGET ADOPTED:
MAJOR PROGRAM CUTS RESTORED**

At a Special Meeting held Monday, January 27, 2014, the Board of Commissioners adopted the FY 2014 General Fund Budget and restored proposed reductions in the following programs: Aging, Health Services, and Justice Agencies including Jail Diversion Programs, Senior Transportation, Tax Assessor and Tax Commissioner.

Funds were partially restored to the Department of Arts and Culture, Jefferson Place Emergency Housing Program, Human Services Grant Program and the F.R.E.S.H Grant Program (for

At-Risk Youth) and Workforce Development (federal funds only).

Additional funds were allocated to: Registration & Elections and Furniture Repair, Senior Centers. Fulton County employees will receive a 3% (COLA) Pay Increase. It is estimated that a millage rate increase of 1.57 mills, the first since 1991 will result in an increase of \$15.70 annually on a home valued at \$100,000.

**TRANSPORTATION (ROADS) REPORT
(PARTIAL LIST)**

RFP Phase

Campbellton Road Sidewalks

Campbellton Road @ Boat Rock Road/New Hope Road

Adamsville (Regional Health Center) Traffic Light



CONSTRUCTION Phase

Danforth Road Sidewalks

COMPLETED Projects

Cascade Road over Nisky Creek

Traffic Control Center

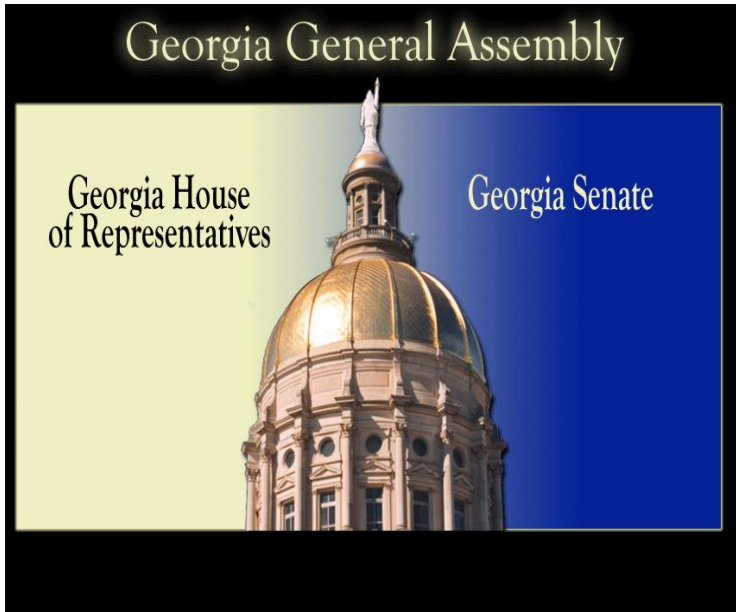
DESIGN – BUILD

Danforth Road Sidewalks (From City Limits to Cascade Road)

Fairburn Road Sidewalks (Near Wal-Mart Exit)

Georgia General Assembly

2014 STATE OF GEORGIA, GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE (PROGRAM)



The Board of Commissioners has requested action by the Georgia General Assembly to reduce and eliminate the negative impact of the following local legislation adopted by the Georgia General Assembly in FY 2013:

LEGISLATION

IMPACT

- | | |
|---|---|
| ➤ <u>Homestead Exemption Increase to \$60,000</u> | Estimated Annual Cost to Fulton County \$45 million |
| ➤ <u>Millage Rate Supermajority Required to Increase Millage Rate</u> | Conflict with Home Rule and Local Control; Only County in Georgia Restricted |
| ➤ <u>Fulton Budget Act: Allows State to Establish Fulton Budget Provisions (and Amendments)</u> | Only County in State Without Authority to Control Budget Policy and Procedure |

The 2014 Fulton County Legislative Package (Program) also expresses opposition to the following Anti – Fulton legislation:

Creation of Milton County: Six (6) Resolutions have been introduced during the 2013 -2014 Legislative Session.

MARTA Act Revisions: Removes appointment process of Fulton County (for representation on the MARTA Board); transfers to North Fulton Mayors



In March 2013, The Board of Commissioners voted 5-2 in opposition to:

The Fulton County Re – Districting Plan Abolished a County – wide seat; reduces the minority voter’s (current) ability to elect three members of the Board of Commissioners to two; draws a line at 10th Street based on race; creates a “Super – Black district in the South 20 miles long from Palmetto, GA to Southwest Atlanta.

The Re – Districting (Re – Segregation) Plan is in violation of Section 2 of the

Voting Rights Act of 1965 as amended.

For more information, contact Commissioner Darnell at emma.darnell@fultoncountyga.gov, at (404) 612-8222, online at www.EmmaDarnell.com or connect with us on Facebook or Twitter.

Save-The-Date

The

FULTON COUNTY DISTRICT 5

FIRST QUARTER TOWN HALL MEETING

will be held **Tuesday, February 18, 2014** at 10:00 A.M. at the Harriett G. Darnell Senior Multipurpose Facility, 677 Fairburn Road, N.W.

FULTON COUNTY SERVICES: “WHO PAYS? WHO BENEFITS?”

Topics of discussion will include JOBS, TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MORE