



Noise pollution worse in minority neighborhoods; traffic a major culprit metro Atlanta part of national study

A new study from the University of California at Berkeley and recently published in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives found that "noise pollution is worse in minority neighborhoods and segregated cities." The study also suggests traffic including "highways" is a major culprit.

Maps show "a large swath" of noise pollution around metro Atlanta airports, including Hartsfield-Jackson and Fulton County (Charlie Brown) airports. Affected areas could also be exposed to noise from "airports and highways up to 80 decibels," the study indicates.

Studies have also shown "that noise pollution can lead to hearing loss, stress, sleep deprivation and high blood pressure. "Hot" highways and streets located near predominately minority communities in metro Atlanta included: Camp Creek Pkwy; Fulton Industrial Blvd/Cascade Palmetto; Campbellton-Redwine Rd.; Hwy 29 (Roosevelt Hwy.); Spur 14 (South Fulton Pkwy.); Old National Hwy.; I-20; I-85; Hwy 92 (Spence Rd.); Hwy 138 (Jonesboro Rd.); Hwy. 74 (Virlyn B. Smith Rd.); Gullatt Rd.; Rivertown Rd.; Martin Luther King Jr. (near Charlie Brown Airport); Oakley Industrial; Buffington Rd.

In a recent (unscientific) survey of up to 150 District 6 residents titled "Proximity to County Facilities" including senior centers, health centers, arts centers and interstates/highways, the survey disclosed that less than three percent of residents participating in the survey lived within five miles of a county facility. However, 87% lived within five miles of an interstate/highway.

VISIT www.emmadarnell.com, HOME, then DOCUMENTS, to read the UC-Berkeley Study.

Public Works Releases 2017 Capital Work Plan and Schedule (Roads, Streets, Lights, etc.)

The Transportation Division of the Public Works Department has released the Department's 2017 Capital Work Plan as of July 30. Data includes Project Name, Status and Funding Source.

"The Transportation Program is an area of highest priority," Commissioner Emma I. Darnell stated. "Nothing says more about the government's respect for its citizens than the quality of its roads, streets, lights and bridges."

VISIT www.emmadarnell.com, HOME, then DOCUMENTS, to view the 2017 FULTON COUNTY CAPITAL WORK PLAN, TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

District 6 Summer Youth Intern Completes Project, "Fulton's Legislative Process"

On August 1, Justin Bohannon successfully completed his Summer Project: "Fulton's Legislative Process: "From Situation to Legislation (BOC Resolution)"

Justin is a 12th grade student at Riverwood High School and a graduate of Stonewall Tell Elementary School.

"We were pleased to have Justin on the team this summer," Commissioner Emma I. Darnell stated. "We look forward to participation in the County's Summer Youth Intern Program next year."

Friends Groups: County Manager proposes Standard Agreement for Public-Non-profit relationships

Citing "potential" issues such as the use of funds not of direct benefit to the County, the Board of Commissioners (BOC) to receive recommendations regarding a "Standard Agreement" between the County and its Friends Groups. Fulton County Friends Groups include groups supporting Arts, Libraries and Senior Center Programs.

VISIT www.emmadarnell.com, HOME, then DOCUMENTS, to view the "RELATIONS WITH 'FRIENDS' GROUPS" PROPOSAL.

**Grady Plans Major Expansion: Projected Fulton cost: \$58 million**

Citing increased demand for services including the need for more patient beds and operating rooms, the Grady System plans a major construction program with a projected counties share (Fulton and DeKalb Counties) of \$82.5 million (Fulton share: 70 percent or \$57,750,000).

Fulton supports quality indigent care yesterday, today and tomorrow," said Commissioner Emma I. Darnell. "It is disappointing that other counties who benefit from Grady's services do not feel the same way."

VISIT www.emmadarnell.com, HOME, then DOCUMENTS, to read the THE GRADY HOSPITAL PROPOSAL.

**Tax Commissioner COSF Contract Approved
Voting Yes: Arrington, Darnell, Eaves, Ellis, Morris.
Voting No: Hausmann.**

"There may be two issues," Commissioner Darnell stated. "Both are related to the simple issue of FAIRNESS."

1) Should one Fulton employee or elected official be paid \$300,000 when 1,000 (employees)—who work 40 hours each week are eligible for food stamps? 2) Two North Fulton cities and the City of Atlanta pay the Tax Commissioner's fee above his salary. However, if the BOC does not pass the subject legislation, the City of South Fulton cannot?

The answer to both questions is NO. It is not fair.

"I plan to work with State Rep. Roger Bruce and others to change "the fee provision" of state law relating to a Tax Commissioner's compensation. However, I am sure that because he is a resident and strong supporter of the City of South Fulton, Dr. Ferdinand (Fulton County's Tax Commissioner) will donate his \$40,000 fee to support the City of South Fulton," Darnell stated.

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