

**STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES, COMMITMENTS AND INTENTIONS
AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR INTRENCHMENT CREEK,
THE MAIN WATERWAY IN THE SOUTH RIVER FOREST BASIN**

The Honorable Andre D. Dickens, as the Mayor of the City of Atlanta, Georgia (hereinafter “Mayor”) and the Honorable Michael L. Thurmond, as Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, Georgia (hereinafter “Chief Executive Officer”) in support of the issuance of the Land Development Permit (“LDP”) for the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center do hereby agree to the following Statement of Principles, Commitments and Intentions designed to further protect and enhance the quality of life of the residents living in the South River Forest Basin; protect and enhance the environmental well-being of this unique natural resource; create educational, training, and employment opportunities, as well as to spur sustainable economic development for the residents of this community; and strengthen the relationship between the governing authorities of Atlanta and DeKalb and their non-profit partners.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer seek to memorialize their commitments and intentions in the continued effort to protect and enhance the neighboring communities and the natural environmental area around Intrenchment Creek and the South River Forest Basin and support the development of Atlanta’s Public Safety Training Center; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County’s land development permitting process required the City of Atlanta and its non-profit partners to comply with the various local, state and federal environmental protections set forth in law prior to the issuance of a land disturbance permit at this site; and

WHEREAS, the governing authorities of the City of Atlanta and DeKalb County worked to create the Public Safety Training Center Community Stakeholders Advisory Committee (“Community Advisory Committee”) consisting of twelve (12) members that are representatives of surrounding residential neighborhoods and appointed by the two jurisdictions, six (6) each and this Memorandum of Understanding formally identifies the additional neighborhood and environmental protections and enhancements agreed to by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer; and

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta and DeKalb County previously engaged the Atlanta Regional Commission to study and make recommendations to build consensus with the surrounding community to facilitate and ensure environmental stewardship and sustainable economic development in the South River Forest Basin and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Police Foundation holds the lease for the approximately 85-acre tract of land being developed as the campus for the Public Safety Training Center, and has improved public health by clearing tons of debris from the property, including 25,000 discarded tires, old cars, machine parts, paint, and other chemicals, which were dumped on the site over the past 40 years; and

WHEREAS, the principles, commitments and intentions contemplated by this Memorandum of Understanding will facilitate the commitment by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer to protect and enhance the environmental well-being of Atlanta's remaining approximately 300-acre tract and ensure the preservation of the property for greenspace, parklands, and trails for the benefit of residents of DeKalb, Atlanta, and the general public;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer commit to the following Statement of Principles, Commitments and Intentions which will serve as the foundational framework to provide much needed environmental and neighborhood protections, enhancements, and deliverables to this traditionally underserved community:

A. Neighborhood Protections and Enhancements

The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer commit to receive input from the Community Advisory Committee by welcoming communication distributed to the governing authorities of Atlanta and DeKalb regarding the development of the Public Safety Training Center. Some of the fundamental provisions in this Statement of Principles, Commitments, and Intentions were recommended and agreed to by the Community Advisory Committee. This Memorandum of Understanding formalizes those principles, commitments and intentions.

The Community Advisory Committee meets monthly and receives presentations from DeKalb, the City of Atlanta, and its non-profit partners, including architects and engineers who are associated with this endeavor. The Community Advisory Committee offered input, suggestions, and guidance on the development of this land owned by the City of Atlanta, the location of various aspects of the Public Safety Training Center, and other improvements which could benefit their community. Minutes of these meetings are made available monthly on the Community Advisory Committee's website. Minutes of these meetings shall also be shared with the Mayor, the Atlanta City Council, the Chief Executive Officer, and the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County.

The Community Advisory Committee recommended the following protections and enhancements which would benefit their community and the Mayor and representatives of the Atlanta Police Foundation have advised that all recommended protections and enhancements were accepted and will be implemented as follows:

1. Adding a Constitution Road side entrance to the Public Safety Training Center to alleviate traffic concerns on Key Road;
2. Adding public parking for residents and neighborhood visitors;
3. Adding lighting along the perimeter streets to the site;
4. Adding sidewalks on Key Road;
5. Enhancing residential security by installing surveillance cameras and license plate readers in adjacent neighborhoods;

6. Adding a 100-foot natural buffer in the area of the 85-acre Public Safety Training Center that is closest to residential areas;
7. Replacing any removed or impacted specimen trees on the 85-acre Public Safety Training Center tract with 100 new hardwood plantings on the site or elsewhere;
8. Moving the Public Safety Training Center firing range further from the residences to the interior of the 85-acre tract;
9. Adding baffling to reduce firing range noise; and
10. Eliminating explosives range from the Public Safety Training Center.

B. Environmental Protections and Enhancements

The City of Atlanta owns approximately 381 acres of property in unincorporated DeKalb County and plans to develop the Public Safety Training Center campus on approximately 85 acres with 30 of those acres devoted to greenspace, parklands, and trails. The remaining 296-acre tract will include passive and active greenspace, parkland, and trails. The Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer have committed to the following:

1. Atlanta and its non-profit partners will continue to cooperate with DeKalb's Planning and Sustainability Department and other County departments, agencies and officials to ensure that the plans and development of the Public Safety Training Center strictly adhere to all federal, state, and local environmental standards.
2. Atlanta's development plan for the Public Safety Training Center includes double erosion control to ensure viability of Intrenchment Creek, the main waterway in the South River Forest Basin.
3. In keeping with the recommendations of DeKalb County's arborist study, Atlanta and its non-profit partners have committed to reforest the land adjacent to the approximately 85-acre site by planting 100 hardwood trees for every specimen tree impacted by construction on the approximately 85 acres, as well as one specimen tree for any invasive species tree that was removed.
4. The Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer commit to work with all stakeholders, including but not limited to, the Atlanta City Council, the DeKalb Board of Commissioners, neighborhood associations, environmental partners and the business community to carefully and fully assess the recommendations outlined in the forthcoming report from the South River Forest Consensus Building & Stakeholder Engagement project currently titled the "Explore South River Forest" Community Development Assistance Program ("CDAP") Planning Study. The Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer further commit to engage the Atlanta Regional Commission to provide continued multi-jurisdictional guidance and assistance to manage, protect, and enhance the South River Forest Basin.

C. Sustainable Economic Development, Training and Job Opportunities

1. Whenever possible, Atlanta will partner with educational organizations to engage youth in public safety and other career development opportunities and provide workforce development to include a Cadet Program.
2. Whenever possible and feasible, Atlanta will encourage its non-profit partners to utilize good faith efforts to engage in outreach to minority business enterprises ("MBE") and female business enterprises ("FBE"), including minority and female business enterprises that are certified by the Mayor's Office of Contract Compliance ("OCC"), and engage them in contracts and subcontracts for work performed on the site.
3. Whenever possible and feasible, Atlanta will encourage contractors and subcontractors to use WorkSource Atlanta and WorkSource DeKalb to facilitate training and hiring workers from the surrounding communities.
4. Whenever possible and feasible, Atlanta will encourage contractors and subcontractors to use local businesses for support of the project, including materials, supplies, equipment, and indirect project expenses such as signage and catering.
5. Whenever possible and feasible, Atlanta will encourage contractors and subcontractors to use sustainable materials in the work performed on the site.

This Memorandum of Understanding and Statement of Principles, Commitments and Intentions shall become effective upon the execution by the Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor.

This ____ day of _____, 2023.

DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA

CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA

MICHAEL L. THURMOND
Chief Executive Officer

ANDRE D. DICKENS
Mayor