

**Steve
Bradshaw**

Commissioner | DeKalb County | District 4



2022-2023 REPORT

FOLLOWING THROUGH FOR YOU

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2022-2023 REPORT

FOLLOWING THROUGH FOR YOU



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DISTRICT 4 INFORMATION

District 4 is Central DeKalb. The diversity of its people is inclusive of residents from dozens of countries, speaking many different languages, practicing wide varieties of faiths, introducing countless new regional dishes and cultures, in all age groups and on all socio-economic and educational levels. Everyone is welcome, and there is familiarity within central DeKalb from every walk of life.

DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA COMMISSION DISTRICTS



DISTRICT 1



DISTRICT 2



DISTRICT 3



DISTRICT 4



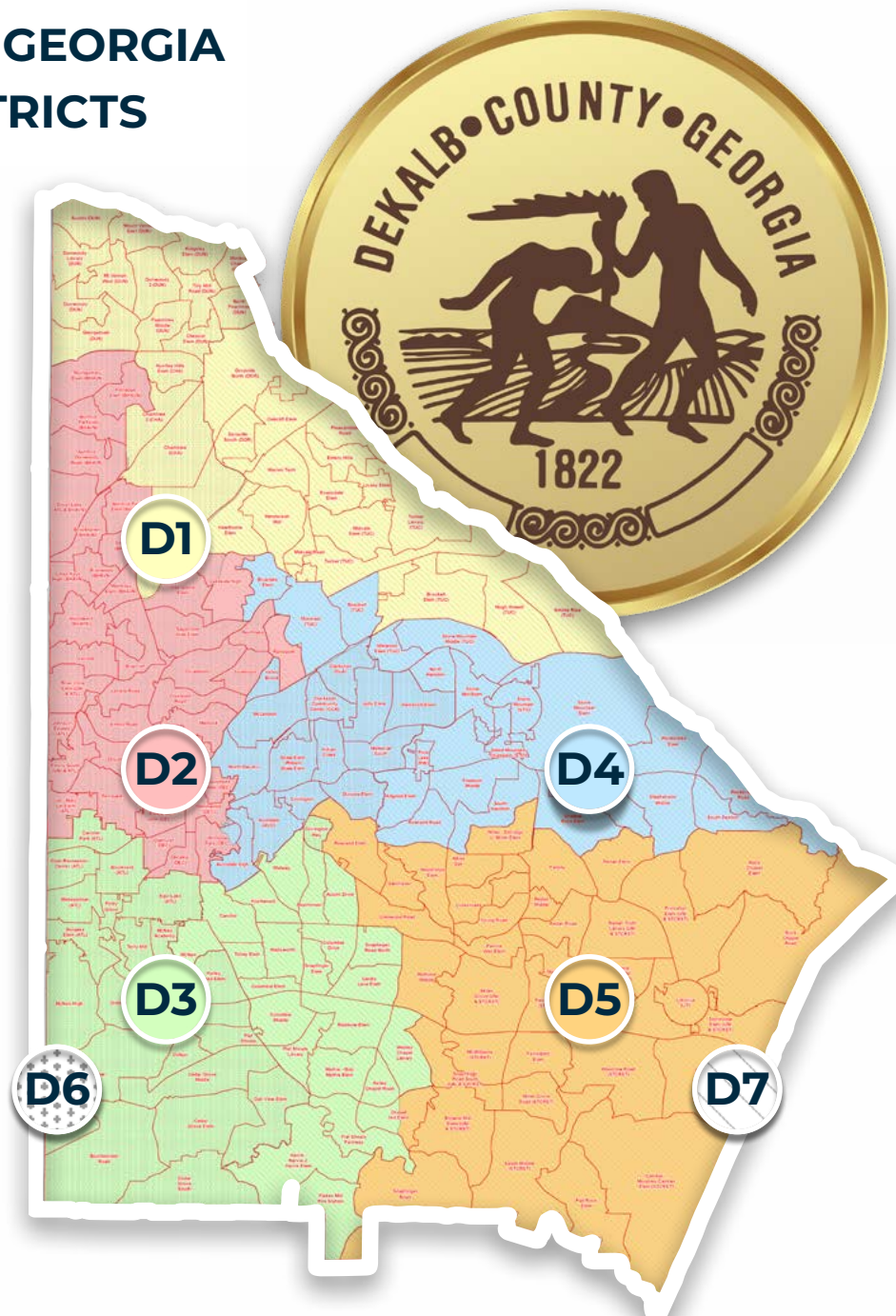
DISTRICT 5



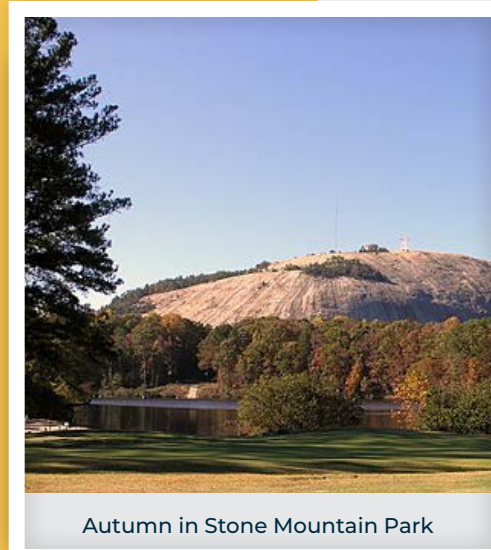
SUPER
DISTRICT 6



SUPER
DISTRICT 7



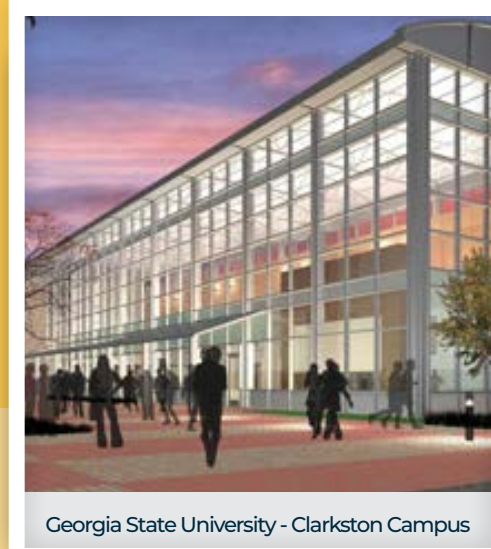
The DeKalb County Board of Commissioners consists of seven members: five district commissioners representing approximately one-fifth of the county per member, and two “super district” commissioners representing roughly one half of the county apiece. The super districts overlap with regular districts, providing multiple representatives for every area of the county.



Autumn in Stone Mountain Park

Central DeKalb’s beautiful parks and lively community centers host events year-round to unite our beloved communities.

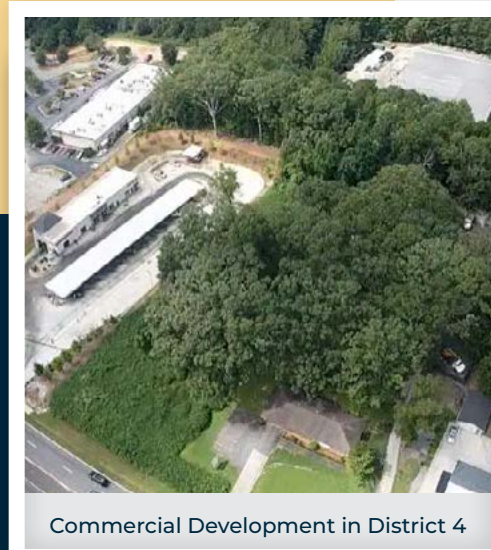
Our green spaces and parks keep the area beautiful and quiet, allowing residents to connect with nature. Central DeKalb also has the Stone Mountain PATH trail. PATH trails enhance the experience of neighbors coming together to enjoy the peace and tranquility of nature walks, safely biking the whole way across DeKalb on the PATH, and having a beautiful place for children to get outside to play.



Georgia State University - Clarkston Campus

Central DeKalb has many established and thriving businesses and neighborhoods.

District 4 is home to Georgia Piedmont Technical College, Georgia State University’s Clarkston Campus, Georgia Military College, and thousands of students preparing to enter the workforce with the skills needed for today’s careers. Our proximity to Atlanta provides easy access to major interstates and highways, Hartsfield Jackson Airport, performing arts, museums, amphitheatres, and the MARTA system. Central DeKalb is also home to Stone Mountain Park, Georgia’s most popular attraction, receiving visitors from across the globe.



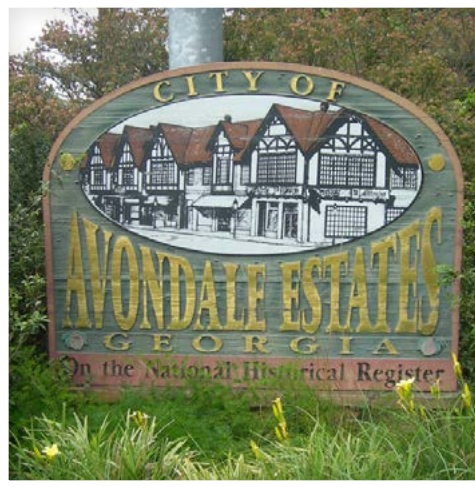
Commercial Development in District 4

District 4 has business spaces and immense tracts of land available for growth.

Central DeKalb has tremendous potential as we embark on new development across District 4 and the County at large. Investors and developers are coming to DeKalb as their choice for business. Commissioner Bradshaw is dedicated to bringing out the best of Central DeKalb’s live, work and play options.

DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITIES

Communities in District 4 enjoy many historical and natural resources – from the beauty of places like Stone Mountain Park to unique staples like Your DeKalb Farmer’s Market. In addition to unincorporated areas, District 4 has six large communities located in whole or in part within its borders: Avondale Estates, Clarkston, Pine Lake, Stone Mountain, Tucker, and Memorial Drive.



AVONDALE ESTATES

Avondale Estates is District 4’s most creative city. Named after William Shakespeare’s birthplace, the Tudor village of Avondale Estates is home to a thriving dining and arts scene – with the ArtLot, Towne Cinema shows and concerts, artisan shops, unique thrift stores and charity consignment stores, and year-round festivals and art walks, there is something for every type of art lover and an environment for every kind of artist to grow and thrive in. No visit to Avondale can be complete without a trip to the first Waffle House location and a quiet evening stroll around the beautiful and hidden Lake Avondale!



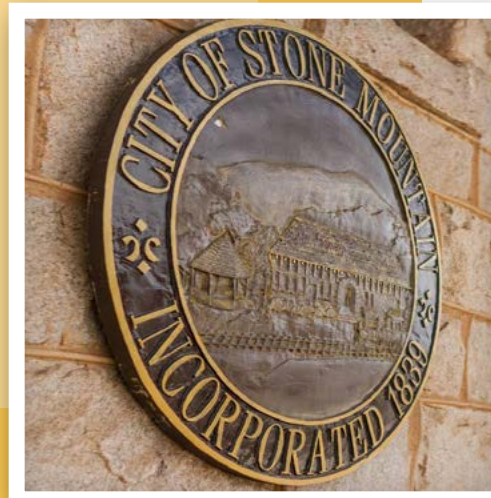
CLARKSTON

Clarkston is not only District 4’s most diverse city but may be America’s most diverse city. Time Magazine called Clarkston “the most diverse square mile in America!” Refugees from over 45 countries and speaking over 60 languages have settled in Clarkston over the past 25 years. This welcoming city boasts culture, compassion, and brains. With the city’s access to major highways and proximity to Atlanta, Georgia State Technical College and Georgia State University Clarkston Campus have named Clarkston their home base. Clarkston is also home to DeKalb County District 4 Commissioner Steve Bradshaw!



PINE LAKE

Pine Lake is District 4’s smallest city, overflowing with eclectic character and home to numerous local and nationally known artists. This little city brings people together through monthly pancake breakfasts, annual festivals, small concerts, poetry readings, and art shows. Enjoy the laid-back vibes of this community by hiking around the lake, playing at the beach, and taking a stroll through the eco-friendly wetlands.



STONE MOUNTAIN

Stone Mountain is the oldest city in District 4 and home to Georgia’s most popular attraction, Stone Mountain Park. Millions of visitors a year climb to the top of Stone Mountain to find breathtaking views of Atlanta, DeKalb County, and Gwinnett County, explore hiking trails through the scenic surroundings, and stay for the famous Lasershow Spectacular. Don’t forget to stroll through Stone Mountain Village for delicious food and boutique shopping! Stone Mountain is a picturesque place to live, complete with gorgeous neighborhoods and an immense tree canopy. Stone Mountain’s event calendar is filled with festivals, 5K runs, concerts, and community events all year long.



Serving as the District 4 County Commissioner for these unique cities has been my honor.

These cities are led by talented and committed leaders who advance their municipalities through creative economic development, arts, entertainment, and government transparency. I hold quarterly meetings for the mayors of DeKalb County, I know many of these fine people and I am grateful to call them my friends.

Steve Bradshaw



STEVE BRADSHAW

Born in Charlotte, North Carolina to a military family – his father spent his career in the US Navy. He was also born into a religious family, as both of his grandfathers were pastors. Upon his father's retirement from military service in 1977, the family moved to Savannah, Georgia, where Steve spent his formative years, graduating from Armstrong State College with a Bachelor of Arts in 1986. He joined the US Army as a Second Lieutenant and was trained as a tank commander. Over a seven-year military career, Steve served in various line and staff positions of increased responsibility, including service in the Middle East during the First Persian Gulf War. **The military taught him sacrifice, discipline, and devotion to duty.** He left the Army as a Captain in 1993 to pursue opportunities in the private sector.

Steve held several operations, management, and business development positions with companies including John Harland Company, Briggs Equipment, Spherion, and Delta Global Staffing – a subsidiary of Delta Air Lines. **The private sector taught him flexibility and the importance of checking the numbers.**

Steve earned his Master's Degree in 1998 in Public Administration at Georgia State University and was invited to be an Adjunct Professor in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, teaching graduate and undergraduate-level courses. **Being at the helm of the classroom taught him patience.**



Steve has been engaged in the community for many years, serving on boards of directors for organizations including The Giving Tree (an adoption resource agency), The Clarkston Community Center, and Pride Rings in Stone Mountain (PRISM). He also served on the State Water and Wastewater certification board, and Governor Roy Barnes appointed his position.

Steve has been married to his wife, Diane, for 37 years, and they have called DeKalb County home for 31 years. He enjoys reading, playing golf, and watching his favorite professional football team, the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Steve was elected to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners in 2016 with 89% of the vote. He was re-elected to the seat in November 2020 without opposition and was elected unanimously by his peers as the Presiding Officer of the Board of Commissioners in 2020 and 2021.

Steve performs the duties of his office with diligence, integrity, and honor as he serves the citizens of District 4 and DeKalb County.

DISTRICT 4 STAFF

ALESIA BROOKS

CHIEF OF STAFF

Alesia joined Commissioner Steve Bradshaw's campaign serving on his Leadership Advisory Council. As Chief of Staff, Alesia is a valuable advisor to Steve's day to day operations of the district 4 office. Alesia has the utmost respect for the constituents of DeKalb County. It is my pleasure to serve with Commissioner Bradshaw addressing quality of life issues for District 4 constituents as well as problem solving complex policy matters.



ROBIN FLIEG

CONSTITUENT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Robin's role is addressing and resolving constituent concerns and providing Commissioner Bradshaw with the resources and research needed for daily operations. Robin is excited to be part of the great changes across District 4 benefitting the well-being of the community as a whole.



CARRIE KORDYS

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Carrie's role is to handle information output and media requests, plan social media campaigns, design for special events, and maintain our newsletter. Carrie was selected for the role because of her demonstrated attention to detail, dedication to continually improving communications processes, and her passion to serve the public through delivering quality communications designed to provide constituents with meaningful, useful news about DeKalb County.



STEVE BRADSHAW

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

LEADERSHIP



Leadership is a multifaceted concept that encompasses various qualities and experiences. As I stand here today at the helm of District 4 in DeKalb County, I reflect upon my time in Georgia, where I've served, studied, and taught under and alongside the greats of leadership.

Reflecting on leaders I admire, one prominent figure is President Barack Obama, a trailblazer who served as the first African-American President of the United States. His tenure, marked by dignity and grace, exemplifies the challenges and triumphs of being a pioneer in any field. Obama's book, "A Promised Land," provides valuable insights into his leadership journey.

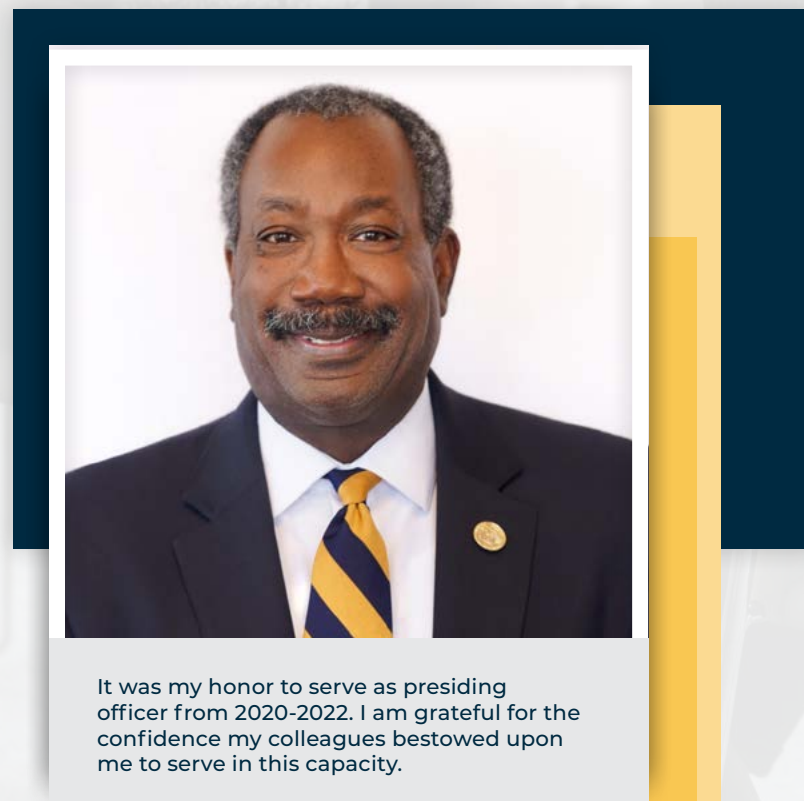
Another figure deserving of admiration is Colin Powell, who rose to become Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His historic achievement inspired a generation of young officers, including myself, demonstrating that aspirations know no boundaries. Powell's "18 Leadership Lessons" offers timeless wisdom for leaders at all levels.

Lt. Gen. Nadja West, the first African American woman to attain the rank of three-star general and serve as Surgeon General of the Army, embodies perseverance and excellence. Having served alongside her during the First Persian Gulf War, I witnessed her dedication and foresight, which has propelled her to remarkable heights.

Esteemed author and historian, Jon Meacham provides invaluable perspectives on leadership and history. His works, including the biography of John Lewis and "The Soul of America," offer profound insights into the essence of leadership and the human experience.

Drawing from personal and professional experiences and insights from these leaders and others, I've distilled these fundamental principles into an axiom: 4C, 3S. Competence, confidence, courage, and compassion form the foundation, complemented by a sense of God, history, and humor. These qualities, along with self-sacrifice and "Chow Line Leadership," define effective leadership for me. In this spirit, leadership also entails restraint, as exemplified by refraining from impulsive reactions and maintaining clarity of intent. Embracing the privilege of leadership means carrying its mantle with integrity and humility, always mindful of its responsibilities.

Leadership is not just about authority but service, empathy, and vision. Indeed, I've got my sights set on a better DeKalb County for all.



It was my honor to serve as presiding officer from 2020-2022. I am grateful for the confidence my colleagues bestowed upon me to serve in this capacity.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

In District 4, active citizen participation is fundamental to creating a collaborative and inclusive governance model that benefits the entire community. Our commitment to engaging citizens in decision-making ensures that policies reflect diverse perspectives, enhancing transparency and accountability. A heartfelt expression of gratitude goes to those who have taken on board positions, as their dedication contributes significantly to the betterment of our community.

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

Christopher Richard

ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Norman Powell

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Gerald Austin

COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD

Roslyn Allison	Matt Leatherman
Wesley Brooks	Tyra Pates
Jean Brown	Terry Reid
Freda Hammonds	Evora Ritchie
Andrea Hart-Vann	Richard Rose
Conward Jones	Victoria Webb

JOHN LEWIS MEMORIAL TASK FORCE

William Cook	Karima Jones
Mayor Jonathan Elmore	Sherry King
Dr. Sharon Hill	

PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD

Calvin Sims

PEACHTREE DEKALB AIRPORT MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

Tess Snipes

PLANNING COMMISSION

LaSonya Osler

TECHNICAL BOARD OF APPEALS

Chakira Johnson

WATERSHED CUSTOMER SERVICE AND BILLING ADVISORY BOARD

Derrica Williams

WATERSHED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) ADVISORY GROUP

Nadine Rivers-Johnson

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

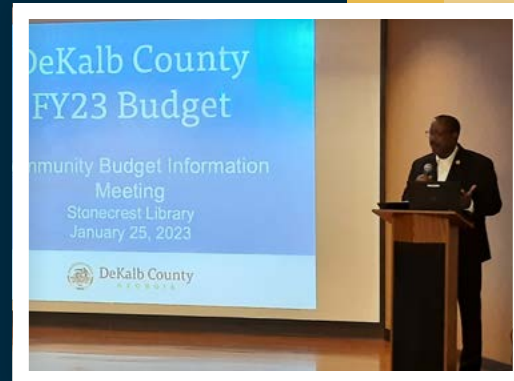
Nadine Rivers-Johnson


FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY


Fiscal responsibility is a cornerstone of effective governance, involving careful planning, transparent decision-making, and the prudent management of public funds to ensure the well-being and sustainability of the community they serve.

COMMISSIONER STEVE BRADSHAW, CHAIR OF THE FINANCE, AUDIT, AND BUDGET COMMITTEE, HOSTED COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON THE PROPOSED 2023 DEKALB COUNTY BUDGET

Commissioner Bradshaw hosted three informational community meetings at libraries throughout District 4 with in-person and virtual attendees to review DeKalb County's proposed 2023 Budget. Director of the Office of Management and Budget, T.J. Siegler, was on hand to present information and answer questions. Our first hybrid meeting in Stonecrest allowed constituents to engage in the budget process.



 As the newly appointed Chair of the Finance, Audit and Budget (FAB) Committee, I believe it's a good exercise to hold community meetings across the county affording constituents an opportunity to engage in the budget process.

 – Steve Bradshaw



To learn more about how the District 4 budget is determined or to review our annual budgeting process, visit commissionerbradshaw.com/2023-community-budget-meetings

For information on the DeKalb County budget, visit dekalbcountyga.gov/budget-office/budget-information

COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW'S ANNUAL RETURNS OF DISTRICT 4 OPERATING BUDGET DOLLARS TO THE GENERAL FUND

I am convinced that no matter how much money any given governmental entity may have, the need is always greater than the resources available.

I took my first budget vote in February 2017, and I do not mind admitting that the process was intimidating. As I approached the budgeting process, I drew from past experiences in business and in service and trusted my judgment. I believe that the elements within the 2017 budget helped set the stage for the improved fiscal situation that DeKalb County has experienced since then, through the Covid-19 pandemic, and today.

I give tremendous credit to CEO Michael Thurmond for moving us in this direction. I am proud to say that, as an elected official, I have been a thoughtful and responsible steward of taxpayer money, and will continue to be so.



COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW'S DISTRICT 4 OFFICE RETURNED \$127,160.00 TO THE GENERAL FUND BETWEEN FY 2022-2023.

YEAR IN OFFICE	RETURNED TO GENERAL FUND
2017	\$80,332.00
2018	\$80,183.00
2019	\$68,970.00
2020	\$74,127.00
2021	\$44,130.00
2022	\$48,057.00
2023	\$79,103.00
TOTAL	\$477,902.00

WHAT IS THE GENERAL FUND?

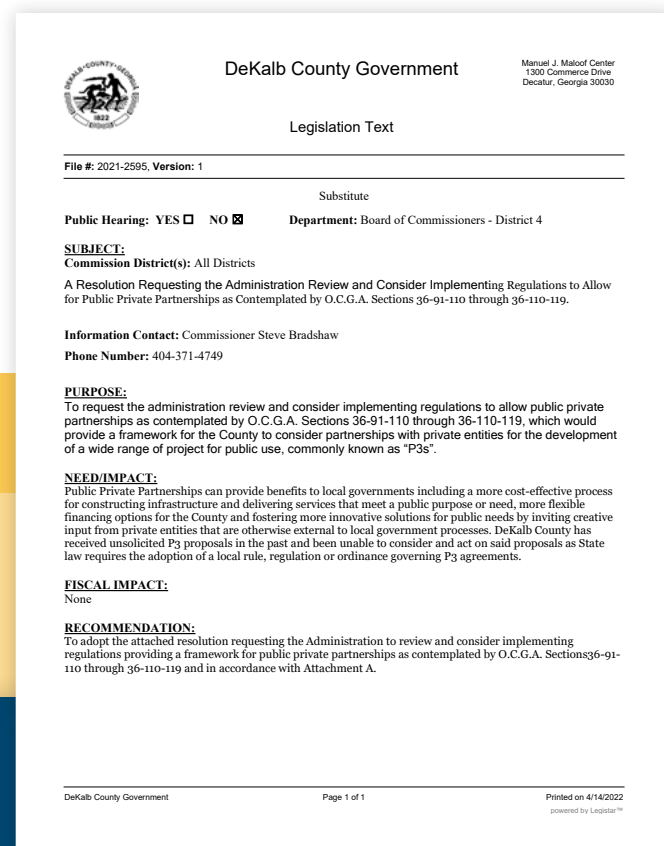
In unincorporated and incorporated areas of DeKalb county, the general fund pays for county-wide services such as the courts, Sheriff's Office, Tax Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer, Board of Commissioners and administrative departments like the Law Department and Human Resources. In short, the general fund supports county operations.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

County commissioners play a crucial role in economic development at the local level. Economic development is a combination of policy-making, infrastructure planning, community engagement, and collaboration with various stakeholders to create a conducive environment for business growth and prosperity in the county.

INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT REGULATIONS TO ALLOW PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN DEKALB

Public Private Partnerships can provide benefits to local governments including a more cost-effective process for constructing infrastructure and delivering services that meet a public purpose or need, more flexible financing options for the County and fostering more innovative solutions for public needs by inviting creative input from private entities that are otherwise external to local government processes. DeKalb County has received unsolicited P3 proposals in the past and been unable to consider and act on said proposals as State law requires the adoption of a local rule, regulation or ordinance governing P3 agreements.



View the progression of this legislation online at bit.ly/DeKalbFile2021-2595

Upon passage, this ordinance will provide DeKalb County with another important tool in our overall economic development toolkit and afford us potential access to additional high quality development opportunities.

Steve Bradshaw

DEKALB 2023 BUDGET INCLUDED \$100,000 FOR THE DEKALB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The DeKalb Chamber of Commerce used the funding to initiate the Chamber's Small Business Recovery Program. Funding helps small business owners with the essentials critical to maintaining a small business in DeKalb County, many of which are in industries still recovering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the three-year disruption in the operational balance of conducting business – compounded by additional challenges of current inflation rates and the acquisition of affordable capital for ongoing business needs. These businesses and industries benefit from the opportunity to connect and access resources to help with resilience planning, contracting, and workforce development.



Thank you, Commissioner Bradshaw and DeKalb County, for your continued support of the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce. We are very thankful for the opportunity to partner with your office and the county to initiate a program that will grow to provide the essentials critical to maintaining a small business in DeKalb County. By including the \$100,000 allocation in the 2023 budget, our elected leaders are making a statement to the region that the success of our small business community is paramount to the economic vitality of DeKalb County.

Frankie Atwater, Sr.
President and CEO
The DeKalb Chamber of Commerce



I have long held the view that DeKalb County should provide regular financial support to our Chamber of Commerce. When I chaired the COVID-19 Small Business Task Force, I recall that some CARES Act money was allocated to support some Chamber programs during that time, and it made sense to me that sustainable funding from DeKalb County Government was needed to help our Chamber support small businesses on behalf of the County.

Steve Bradshaw
Commissioner, District 4
DeKalb County, GA



MEMORIAL DRIVE

Revitalizing Memorial Drive in DeKalb County is crucial for fostering economic growth, enhancing community engagement, and creating a vibrant urban landscape. The effort involves improving infrastructure, beautifying public spaces, and supporting local businesses, serving as a catalyst for community pride. Additionally, the project can preserve the area's historical and cultural heritage, making it a collective investment in the well-being and prosperity of the entire community. The revitalization of Memorial Drive remains the top priority of my second term in office.

MEMORIAL DRIVE COMMUNITY REBRANDING INITIATIVE

Commissioner Bradshaw, in partnership with Houser Walker Architecture, the DeKalb County Department of Planning and Sustainability, and the Department of Community Development, hosted a public meeting to present finalists for both the logo and branding efforts.

Originating from the Memorial Drive Revitalization Corridor Plan, The Memorial Drive Community Rebranding Initiative began in 2019 and was adopted by the Board of Commissioners in 2020. The study recommended rebranding the corridor to help change the public perception of the area and give the area an identity and sense of place.



Commissioner Steve Bradshaw discusses the Memorial Drive Revitalization Corridor Plan and how county officials are working with community leaders and businesses owners. W.A.B.E. Closer Look with Rose Scott. July 31, 2023.

It's important to me to keep the public involved in the revitalization efforts of Memorial Drive. These meetings are a reminder that we're in the foxhole together as we work on the revitalization of the corridor.

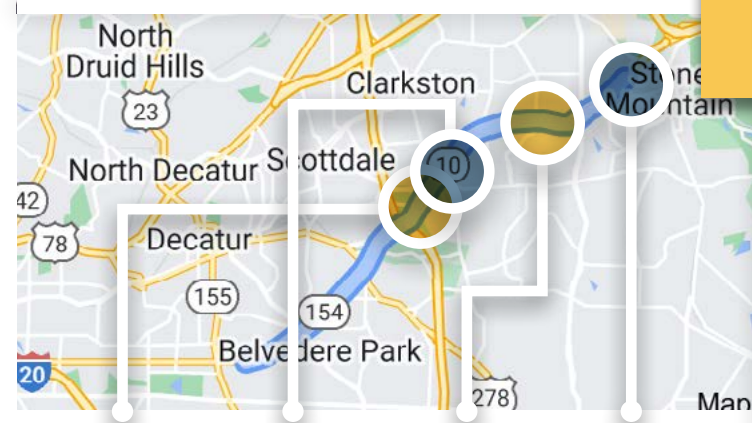
Steve Bradshaw



Concept illustrations for gateway features and pocket parks for Memorial Drive

COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW SECURED 1.5 MILLION DOLLARS OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDS SPONSORED BY CONGRESSMAN HANK JOHNSON

I am grateful for Congressman Hank Johnson's support of the revitalization of the Memorial Drive Corridor and his grant award of 1.5 million dollars for the design and installation of gateway features along the corridor.



GATEWAY WEST | GLOBAL CITY | HAMBRICK VILLAGE | GATEWAY EAST



PRIMARY GOALS OF THE MEMORIAL DRIVE REVITALIZATION PLAN

1. Provide a vision for the area
2. Work toward consensus among business owners and community
3. Construct a robust revitalization strategy for this integral corridor including, mixed use development, vibrant businesses, living wage employment opportunities, and area beautification – ultimately establishing a unique “sense of place” upon entering the corridor from Atlanta or Gwinnett County.

To learn more, visit commissionerbradshaw.com/memorial-drive



Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, District 4, DeKalb County, Georgia

2022-2023 Report | Following Through for You

MEMORIAL DRIVE

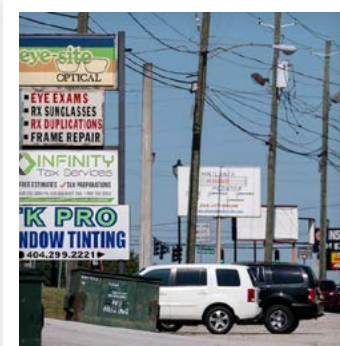
\$50,000 ALLOCATED IN GRANTS TO COMMUNITY ACTION GROUPS (CAGS) FOR MEMORIAL DRIVE REVITALIZATION

The Memorial Drive Revitalization Corridor Plan was completed in Winter 2019 and adopted by the Board of Commissioners in Fall 2020. While some of the plan's initiative work is being spearheaded by the County, others are community led through the Community Action Groups. These groups are volunteer-led efforts to implement initiatives within the Plan. Five CAGs are working on 11 initiatives in the Memorial Drive Revitalization plan.

COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP	INITIATIVES FROM PLAN
FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facade Improvement
TREES AND TRAILS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage the Tree Bank • Implement a Trail Network
EAST MEMORIAL DRIVE EVENT BOOSTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold Public Events & Embrace Tactical Urbanism • Food Tours
LIFT DEKALB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become an Active Development Partner • Direct Investment in the Corridor • Investor Programs
F.A.M.E. (Film, Arts, Music, and Entertainment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebrand the Corridor • Market for Filming • Establish an Arts Corridor

MEMORIAL DRIVE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

A Community Improvement District (CID) provide a means to address needs for governmental services and facilities that may be necessary in high-growth, high-intensity, nonresidential areas. In collaboration with the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, we're embarking on the administrative setup of a CID for the Memorial Drive corridor. District 4 submitted the proposal in the fall of 2023, and our target launch is May 2025. Throughout this process we have engaged with property owners along the corridor, successfully garnering support for the CID. Groundwork leading to this point was accomplished in 2022, demonstrating the culmination of concerted efforts to advance this community-enhancing endeavor.



Signs lining Memorial Drive. Photo Credit: Ben Gray



Tour of the East Memorial Drive Corridor with Special Guest Congressman Hank Johnson on February 23, 2023



DEVELOPING AFFORDABLE HOUSING, EXPANDED TRANSIT, AND RECREATION ALONG MEMORIAL DRIVE

Since the inception of the revitalization of Memorial Drive, I have regarded the area around the Kensington MARTA station as a catalyst to unlocking the full potential of the corridor.

On June 9, 2021, I attended a groundbreaking ceremony for Phoenix Station, 244 units of quality affordable housing across from the Kensington MARTA Station. Quality affordable housing is a critical need in DeKalb County and this development is a step toward fulfilling that need while enhancing the area.

The DeKalb County Housing Authority began construction on the Kensington Point project in early 2022. The development includes a 130-unit senior living property, a 120-unit family property, and 30,000 square feet of office space including the DeKalb Housing Authority headquarters.

Kensington MARTA Station is a site for Soccer in the Streets, a free program with a mission to empower youth through soccer, character development, mentoring, and employability programs throughout Greater Atlanta.



Photo: Dean Hesse

Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, MARTA Board Chair Rita Scott and Amazon Head of Community Affairs Atlanta Region Terreta Rodgers make the inaugural goal kicks during the grand opening of the new StationSoccer location at Kensington MARTA Station on Saturday, July 16, 2022. Commissioner Bradshaw allocated \$75,000 of ARP funding to the Kensington Station Soccer in the Streets location.

COMMUNICATION & ACCESSIBILITY



Effective communication and accessibility are crucial in informing people and groups affected by or interested in the decisions and actions of an entity, such as a government or political representatives. By keeping constituents informed, we can build trust, promote civic engagement, ensure accountability, and make better decisions that reflect the diverse needs and concerns of those we serve.

QUARTERLY IN THE FOURTH MEETINGS ENCOURAGE TRANSPARENCY AND CONSTITUENT CONNECTIONS

Commissioner Bradshaw successfully hosted his fifth year of Quarterly in the Fourth Community Breakfast meetings open to DeKalb residents and beyond. These important meetings are spearheaded by and unique to Steve, following a quarterly cadence to provide constituents with updates, information, and resources to address community concerns. Representatives from DeKalb County departments, such as Human Services, Police, Code Compliance, and Sanitation, have been present to respond to constituent questions and inform citizens about their work in the county.



Quarterly in the Fourth Community Breakfast Meeting, November 4, 2023, featuring special guest speakers, the honorable DeKalb State Court Judges Ronald Ramsey and Kiesha Storey

I appreciate the opportunity these meetings afford me to engage with attendees, hear their thoughts, and learn about their ideas on a number of issues to keep moving DeKalb County forward.

Steve Bradshaw

Join us at Quarterly in the 4th.
Learn more at
bit.ly/QuarterlyInThe4th

QUARTERLY IN THE FOURTH SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- Robert Davis, Interim Director of WorkSource DeKalb
- Dorian DeBarr, President, Decide DeKalb Development Authority
- Darnell Fullum, Chief, DeKalb Fire & Rescue
- Shelbia Jackson, Director, DeKalb Entertainment Commission
- Kwami Johnson, President, Big Brothers Big Sisters Atlanta
- Chris Kingsbury, SPLOST Manager
- Alan Mitchell, Director, Department of Community Development
- Ronald Ramsey, Judge, DeKalb State Court
- Damon Scott, Director, Department of Human Services
- TJ Sigler, Director, Office of Management and Budget
- Kiesha Storey, Judge, DeKalb State Court
- Raulniña Uzzle, MD, Chief Medical Officer, MedCura Health

COMMISSIONER STEVE BRADSHAW PARTICIPATES IN ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH SENATOR JON OSSOFF

U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff facilitated a roundtable discussion celebrating the Congressionally Directed Spending Project he successfully secured \$842,000 for the Ethiopian Community Association in Atlanta on Jan. 11, at the Ethiopian Community Association in Atlanta located in Stone Mountain. Senator Ossoff briefed participants on his legislative work to secure funding for the Ethiopian Community Association in Atlanta and heard directly from attendees about the needs and issues of concern in Georgia's Ethiopian community.

The funding Sen. Jon Ossoff secured to convert our dream to reality enables us to use our facility in its full capacity. Upon completion of the upgrades, the community will enjoy celebrating graduations, wedding ceremonies and receptions, after school programs and other community-wide activities. We are fortunate that Sen. Ossoff looked at our application and we are grateful for the endorsement of our good friend, Commissioner Steve Bradshaw. We appreciate his endless support, which has been the backbone of our Association.

Theodros Hailegiorgis
Ethiopian Community Center



U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff and District 4 DeKalb County Commissioner Steve Bradshaw

CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION FROM COMMISSIONER STEVE BRADSHAW AND THE DISTRICT 4 OFFICE

Commissioner Steve Bradshaw's Newsletter, Closing Comments, is distributed on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month to over 15,000 people following regularly scheduled DeKalb County Board of Commissioners meetings. The newsletter outlines county business, community events, votes, and updates on important projects.



Receive the Closing Comments newsletter at:
commissionerbradshaw.com/stay-updated

Find us on your preferred social network:

facebook.com/commissionerbradshaw

instagram.com/commissionerbradshaw

twitter.com/commissionersrb

youtube.com/@commissionerstevebradshaw

PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Investing in parks, recreation, and cultural affairs is an investment in the overall health, well-being, and prosperity of District 4. These elements contribute to a thriving community, enhancing the quality of life for constituents, attracting residents, visitors, and businesses alike. District 4 is proud of the latest improvements to our community gathering places, and we invite you to experience them for yourself.

EAST CENTRAL DEKALB COMMUNITY AND SENIOR CENTER RIBBON CUTTING

Commissioner Steve Bradshaw hosted an opening ceremony for the East Central DeKalb Community and Senior Center at 4885 Elam Road, Stone Mountain, 30083, on Thursday, July 20, at 11 a.m. Youth, adults, and seniors attended the opening and the tours conducted by community center staff.

The county broke ground on the East Central DeKalb Community and Senior Center in April 2021 and completed the construction in July 2023 with an investment of \$9.6 million, according to officials.



Commissioner Steve Bradshaw cuts the ribbon with DeKalb County CEO, Michael Thurmond

East Central DeKalb Community and Senior Center is unique in that the facility meets the needs of constituents of all ages and features enriching programming across generations.

This energy-efficient 24,000-square-foot center is a modern and functional facility, boasting a 25-yard indoor heated saltwater lap pool and a large exterior patio with furniture. Additionally, there is a large multipurpose dining room with a moveable partition wall and stage, a large commercial kitchen, lounge areas, a library/reading room, a fitness room, an aerobics/dance room, two large classrooms with a moveable partition wall, arts and crafts room, a billiards/game room, administrative offices, restrooms, locker rooms for men and women, security cameras, and Wi-Fi.

DeKalb County Community Development secured Wood Engineering as the architect of record and Headley Construction to conduct the construction initiated in the summer of 2021.

View a video of the groundbreaking ceremony here: vimeo.com/538826607

And explore a virtual tour of the center here: youtube.com/watch?v=fXjFb6Hpl4



TOBIE GRANT RECREATION CENTER RIBBON CUTTING



Commissioner Steve Bradshaw participated in a joyous ribbon cutting after allocating \$250,000 in park bond funds for the new Tobie Grant Recreational Center on Friday, Sept. 2, at 10 a.m. at 593 Parkdale Drive and Tobie Grant Lane in Scottdale.

The center is named after Mrs. Tobie Kendall Grant (1887-1968), an African-American community leader, advisor, businesswoman, and philanthropist. The center opened in 1962 after Mrs. Grant donated 40 acres to the Scottdale community for a community recreation center and library.

Today, the \$9.3 million, 29,835-square-foot recreation center offers intergenerational programming and includes a library, multipurpose rooms, administrative offices, a multipurpose court, gymnasium, and track.



The more than 50-year-old building that housed the former Tobie Grant Recreation Center and Library

The new Tobie Grant Recreation Center has long been a sought-after amenity for DeKalb County. I appreciate the dedication of those involved, especially those who have worked for a decade or more and have helped our community achieve this goal of having a beautiful state-of-the-art recreational center.

Steve Bradshaw



PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

HAIRSTON PARK RIBBON CUTTING

DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs held an official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly installed Serenity Garden at Hairston Park, 911 S. Hairston Road, Stone Mountain, GA 30088, on Wednesday, January 18, at 10 a.m.

Hairston Park received a \$53,286 allocation toward completing park improvements, including the new Serenity Garden. Contributions – in part – were provided through Parks Pride’s Community Building Grant, and was supported by The Home Depot Foundation, Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, Commissioner Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, Friends of Hairston Park, and the Parks Department.

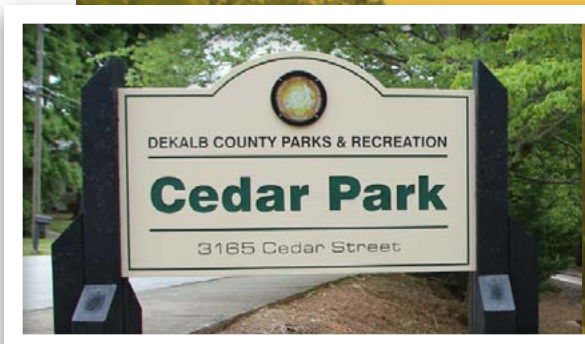


Hairston Park Ribbon Cutting

ENVISIONING A BETTER CEDAR PARK

Governor Brian Kemp announced preliminary grant awards on May 18, 2023 for 142 qualified projects statewide that improve neighborhood assets like parks, recreation facilities, sidewalks, and healthy food access for communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, \$1.7 million has been allocated to redevelop Cedar Park in DeKalb County’s District 4.

View the comprehensive Cedar Park visioning plan: bit.ly/CedarPark2020VisionPlan



COMMISSIONER STEVE BRADSHAW ALLOCATES \$132,000 FOR ROWLAND NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

December 2022: Commissioner Steve Bradshaw allocated \$131,715 in park bond funds toward the completion of engineering documents for Rowland Neighborhood Park, located in District 4 at 1227 Rowland Road in Stone Mountain. The park is situated on two acres of land with a small creek running through it.

Commissioner Bradshaw introduced the allocation during a November 15 Board of Commissioners’ meeting and the allocation became official with a vote by the Board of Commissioners during the business meeting.

The master plan for the park can be found at: bit.ly/RowlandParkPlan



“We are grateful to Commissioner Bradshaw for his interest and investment in developing this greenspace. Our communities are excited about the project and are looking forward to a space that we can all enjoy and be proud of.”

Theresa Woodgeard
President
Friends Group of Rowland Neighborhood Park

“This funding allocation moves us one step closer to the revitalization of what once was undeveloped property to a new park amenity for park goers. I am pleased that we are moving forward with engineering plans for the park development.”

Steve Bradshaw
Commissioner, District 4 DeKalb County

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DEKALB COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLANS

The DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA) recognizes the value of strategic planning and is committed to being actively involved by working with internal staff, stakeholders, and the public to ensure a successful parks and recreation master plan. A master plan is a working and flexible document that provides guidance by establishing a clear vision for the future, as well as goals and objectives regarding DeKalb County’s park system. To explore the DeKalb County Georgia Parks and Recreation Master Plan, visit: bit.ly/DeKalbRecMasterPlan2131



INVESTING IN YOUTH

Investing in youth development programs for underserved and underrepresented youth is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic move for local government – leading to more robust and resilient communities, reducing social & economic disparities, and creating a brighter future for all of our residents. By providing families with these opportunities, District 4 and DeKalb County can build a more inclusive and prosperous future.



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS: 50 MEN TO MENTORS

The Big Brothers Big Sisters 50 Men to Mentors campaign was officially kicked off in partnership with Commissioner Bradshaw in January of 2023 at District 4's first Quarterly in the Fourth Community Breakfast meeting of the year.

THE CHALLENGE: In DeKalb there were not enough Men (Bigs) signing up to serve as mentors to boys (Littles). We needed to help fill the gap and find at least 50 Men!

THE SOLUTION: Big Brothers and Big Sisters partnered with Commissioner Bradshaw to get the word out and encourage participation. To further facilitate this effort, the application and qualification process were expedited, cutting approval time down from one year to 3 months.

In addition to assisting in the marketing and recruiting efforts of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta, Commissioner Steve Bradshaw's office allocated \$75,000, and then another \$50,000 to support the organization's ongoing mission.



ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS IN YOUTH

- Saturday, July 16, Commissioner Bradshaw and others hosted a 2nd Annual Back-to-School event with backpack giveaways, health screenings and gift cards for individuals receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.

- Participated with DeKalb County Youth Commissioners. Facilitated by department of human services youth division, teens volunteer to learn the roles of county government, participate in civic and community activities, and represent the views of DeKalb County youth.

RESILIENCE INTERVENTION SERVICE EMPOWERMENT



MOREHOUSE

COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW ANNOUNCES THE KICKOFF OF R.I.S.E. UP PROGRAM 2023 SUMMER COHORT OF YOUNG BOYS OF COLOR

Since October 2019, Commissioner Bradshaw's office has allocated \$95,000 to R.I.S.E. UP, a Young Men's Leadership Development Program serving boys and young men of color residing in District 4.

100 youth have graduated from the program, which employs S.T.E.M. to foster leadership and positive identity development for young boys.

R.I.S.E. UP added a high school cohort of fifteen mentees this programming year, and Dr. Kinnis Gosha, the lead facilitator since 2019, incorporated 13 Morehouse College student mentor positions into the eight week program.

R.I.S.E. UP is an amazing program to persuade, guide, and push our young boys to be the best they can to be successful in this world.

We often think of our boys' success as something internal to some individuals - their innate drive, grit, or brilliance. However, this program shows that the connection between the students and other successful college men is vital. Confidence and motivation to persist come from high-quality peer relationships within an academic environment, especially with mentors who share a common identity. I'm so appreciative of this R.I.S.E. UP program.

Jacobie Hollis, R.I.S.E. UP Participant Parent

- Allocated \$50,000 of ARP funds to the Juvenile Justice Council
- Allocated \$35,000 of Youth Violence Prevention (YVP) funds to the DeKalb County Juvenile Court
- Allocated \$25,000 of ARP funding to Project Pinnacle
- Allocated \$10,000 of YVP funds to the PDK Youth Aviation Program
- Allocated \$30,000 to Live Healthy and Thrive Youth Foundation, Inc.

- Allocated \$25,000 in YVP funding to The Girls Clubhouse toward teaching girls leadership and communication skills
- Allocated \$50,000 of ARP funding to Scottdale Early Learning to combat learning disparities
- Allocated \$20,000 of ARP funding to the South DeKalb Improvement Association – Education

VETERANS

Having served as an Army Captain, I firmly believe that extending services and community resources to veterans in District 4 DeKalb County, Georgia goes beyond mere moral obligation—it's a strategic investment in our community's collective well-being and prosperity. The transition from military service to civilian life can be challenging, and providing robust support ensures that our veterans not only navigate this journey successfully but also thrive in their newfound civilian roles.

By integrating veterans seamlessly into our community, we honor their sacrifice and harness their skills and experiences, fostering a stronger, more resilient collective spirit that benefits us all. It's not just about aiding individuals; it's about fortifying the very foundation of our community.

COMMISSIONER STEVE BRADSHAW A KEYNOTE SPEAKER HONORING VETERANS IN NOVEMBER 2022

On Friday, Nov. 11, and Sunday, Nov. 13, DeKalb County District 4 Commissioner Steve Bradshaw served as the keynote speaker at two events honoring military men and women that served our nation.

On Friday, Nov. 11, Commissioner Bradshaw spoke at the Decatur Rotary Club event and included fellowship and lunch. Founded in 1938, the Rotary Club of Decatur is a diverse organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. These leaders of Decatur and DeKalb County come together as well to support their community through their President's Fund as just one part of their Decatur Rotary Club Foundation, their state through the Georgia Rotary Student Fund, and the world community through Rotary International's Rotary Foundation.

On Sunday, Nov. 13, Commissioner Bradshaw was the keynote speaker at Antioch AME's Veterans Day Service, located at 765 South Hairston, Stone Mountain. Antioch African Methodist Episcopal Church is the first black church in Decatur, founded during the early reconstruction era in 1868.



Commissioner Steve Bradshaw as keynote speaker at Antioch AME's Veterans Day Service

COMMISSIONER STEVE BRADSHAW'S 6TH ANNUAL VETERANS RESOURCE EXPO AND FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

For the past six years, Commissioner Steve Bradshaw has been proud to host his annual Veteran's Resource Expo and Fellowship Lunch. Representatives provided information about programs and services such as Medicare, caregiver support, intimate partner violence assistance program, mental health, suicide prevention, VA Women's program, and benefits administration to veterans and their families on September 11, 2023 at the Central DeKalb Senior Center.

Watch the video here: youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=-jPYBSgPjoo



Expo participants and exhibitors at Commissioner Steve Bradshaw's annual Veterans Resource Expo and Fellowship Lunch

I am humbled by the men and women who take the solemn oath to defend our nation, and I am grateful for the opportunity to get together with fellow veterans across generations.

Steve Bradshaw



SENIORS

Senior citizens in DeKalb County, Georgia, are a vital and valued part of our community. Their wealth of experience, wisdom, and diverse backgrounds enrich our cultural and social landscape. They contribute to the county's history and serve as a bridge between generations, fostering understanding and unity. Seniors inspire others through their resilience, achievements, and active engagement and play a crucial role in community betterment. Recognizing and honoring their contributions is an investment in the strength and vibrancy of DeKalb County.

KENSINGTON POINTE SENIOR LIVING GROUNDBREAKING AT KENSINGTON STATION



Commissioner Steve Bradshaw collaborated with the HADC and MARTA on the zoning for this development. The groundbreaking of Kensington Point took place on Wednesday, November 29, 2023.

MARTA and the Housing Authority of DeKalb County (HADC) celebrated the groundbreaking of the Kensington Station transit-oriented development (TOD) on Wednesday.

The 4.3-acre site south of the rail station will feature 259 units of affordable senior and workforce family housing, HADC's new headquarters, community space and amenities, and convenient access to MARTA bus and rail service

This Kensington Pointe Senior Living Apartment development is a 100-percent affordable, 74-unit community, reserved for residents 55 and older with incomes between 30 percent and 60 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI).

Senior Tech Connect

Bridging the gap between senior adults and technology

40 FREE TABLETS

FOR SENIORS TO STAY CONNECTED:

- Technology helps you to stay informed
 - ◆ Enjoy worship services and Bible study from home
- Technology keeps you engaged and entertained
 - ◆ Social media (Facebook, YouTube, etc.)
- Technology connects you with family and friends
 - ◆ Email, ZOOM
- Technology enhances your productivity and independent living
 - ◆ Tele-Health/Video visits with your physician

Who qualifies?

Adults 65+ on SNAP, Medicaid or SSI/SSDI

What's needed?

Residential internet service

Who will train me?

Basic classroom training and follow-up with tutors

INVESTMENT IN SENIOR PROGRAMMING FOR SENIORS

Commissioner Bradshaw allocated \$10,000 of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to Faith Works in Action toward Senior Tech Connect, an outreach program bringing technological literacy programs to Adults 65+ on SNAP, Medicaid, or SSI/SSDI.

For more information on senior programming made available through the county, visit: dekalbcountyga.gov/human-development/senior-programming

SENIOR CENTER MONTH PROCLAMATION DAY

Presented by District 4 Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, the proclamation acknowledging DeKalb County Senior Centers and the services programs and resources available to DeKalb County Seniors, was entered into the official record of DeKalb County, GA on September 12, 2023.

Watch a video of the Proclamation here: bit.ly/2024SeniorCtrMonthProclamation



A Proclamation

Whereas, September is nationally recognized as a time to honor the energy and vitality that today's seniors bring to senior centers throughout the United States. The 2023 Senior Center Month theme is "Discover Yours...", which focuses on the many ways that senior centers promote positive images of aging, provide vital community connections for older adults, and demonstrates what the future of aging can be for all of us; and

Whereas, the *South DeKalb Senior Community Center* was opened in 1979 with a new center in 2015 and is the oldest senior center in DeKalb County. South DeKalb currently serves 201 seniors who average 8,320 visits to the center annually. This senior center features an indoor walking track and an active walking club as well as an active drama club; and

Whereas, the *DeKalb Atlanta Senior Center* was built in 1981 and provides a variety of engaging programs that serve seniors living in the Kirkwood community. DeKalb Atlanta has a current membership of 80 seniors who average 4,940 visits to the center annually. This senior center has a talented and dynamic inspirational dance group that performs throughout the county; and

Whereas, the *East DeKalb Senior Center at Bruce Street (Lithonia)* was opened in 1986 and provides nutritious meals, arts and crafts classes, group trips, and other forms of recreation to seniors living in East DeKalb/Lithonia. Lithonia Senior Center has a current membership of 74 seniors who average 4,420 visits to the center annually. These participants have a desire for lifelong learning, which is demonstrated by an energetic book club which meets monthly to discuss the book, and to socialize within the community; and

Whereas, the *North DeKalb Senior Community Center* was established in 2016 and has a current membership of 65 seniors who average 4,160 visits to the center annually. North DeKalb participants have a passion for fine arts and the theater, and regularly participate in group trips to local plays and other performances. This senior center has a modern architectural design and features a spacious exercise room, computer room, and game room; and

Whereas, the *East Central DeKalb Community & Senior Center* newly established facility July 2023. This 24,000 sq. ft. facility with 30'x75' saltwater lap pool includes a multipurpose hall, classrooms, kitchen, fitness, aerobics/dance, game room, and locker rooms to serve seniors in a state-of-the-art facility.

Whereas, the *Low Walker Senior Center* is a multi-purpose facility built in 2005 serving over 3,500 senior citizens annually. This 40,000 sq. ft. facility offers a therapeutic pool, computer lab, 59 lifelong learning classes, 53 fitness classes, and 18 technology classes. In 2021, the center was awarded the honor of the first nationally accredited "Senior Center of Excellence" in DeKalb County by the National Council on Aging; and

Whereas, the *Central DeKalb Senior Center* built in 2015 has a current annual membership of 873 seniors

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

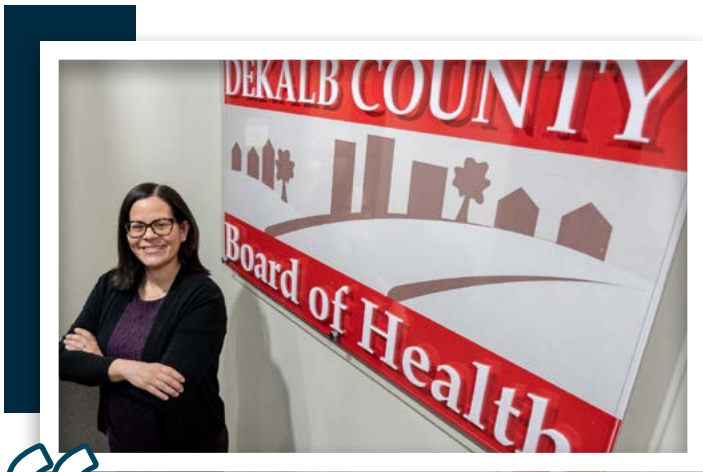
Health and Human Services (HHS) are critical components of a community's well-being, playing a vital role in enhancing the quality of life for residents. DeKalb County, Georgia, is no exception, and the importance of HHS extends to public health, social services and welfare, community well-being, economic impact, educational outcomes, emergency response and preparedness, and community engagement. By addressing a wide range of physical, mental, and social needs, these services contribute to building a strong, vibrant, and resilient community.

COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW SERVED AS VICE CHAIR OF THE DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

As the COVID-19 pandemic further revealed the insecurity of many citizens and local nonprofit agencies, DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond appointed Commissioner Bradshaw to serve on the DeKalb Board of Health as vice chair from 2021 through September 2023.

It has been an honor for me to serve on this prestigious board. I have learned a lot from truly outstanding people that I have had the great fortune of getting to know.

Steve Bradshaw



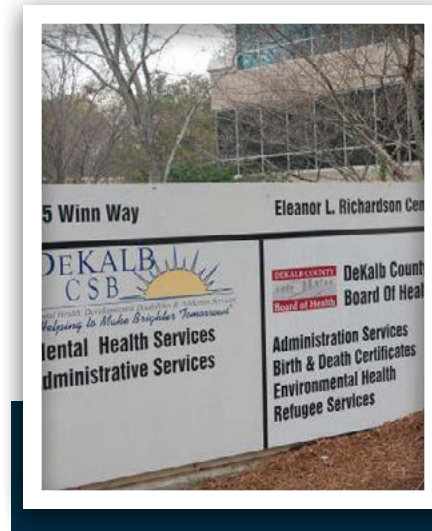
DeKalb County Public Health is grateful for Commissioner Bradshaw's funding allocations as well as his continued support and investment in our public health programs and services. We look forward to investing these funds to support our ongoing COVID-19 prevention and mitigation efforts

Sandra J. Valenciano, M.D., M.P.H.
DeKalb Public Health CEO and District Health Director

Commissioner Bradshaw secured an allocation of \$150,000, or \$75,000 each for the DeKalb Community Service Board (now Claratel Behavioral Health) and the DeKalb Board of Health (now DeKalb Public Health) to assist their respective work in public health and substance abuse treatment. The aid comes from District 4 American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding.

These agencies provide critical medical and behavioral health services to underrepresented and underserved individuals. Both organizations continue to play a critical role partnering with me to address prevailing societal issues. I am happy to be able to allocate funding to assist these organizations. I have tremendous respect for the good work they execute in serving individuals in the community and providing resources to help with their immediate needs.

DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD

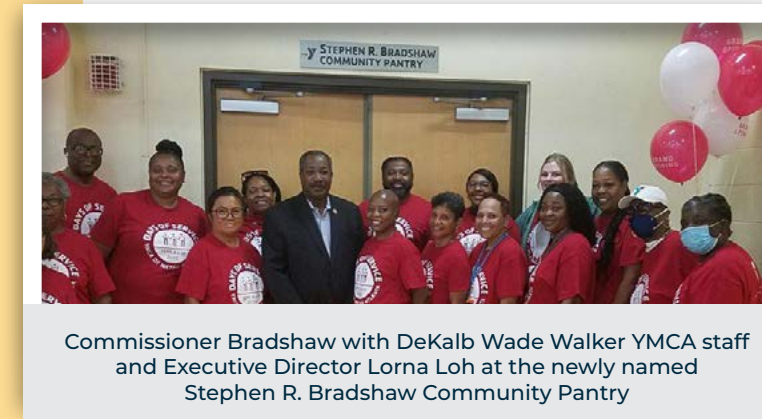


DeKalb Community Service Board (CSB - now Claratel Behavioral Health) is a community-based organization in metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia, offering mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services to over 11,000 uninsured and underinsured citizens annually. Operating more than 20 locations in DeKalb County, with a staff of over 500, this dedicated team provides evidence-based services to help clients and families recover and resume productive lives. DeKalb CSB is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

I am committed to doing whatever I can to assist our fellow citizens as they continue to seek equitable wellness care.

Steve Bradshaw

WADE WALKER YMCA HONORS COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW AT FOOD PANTRY RIBBON-CUTTING AND NAMING EVENT



Commissioner Bradshaw with DeKalb Wade Walker YMCA staff and Executive Director Lorna Loh at the newly named Stephen R. Bradshaw Community Pantry

It is because of his generous support that we fulfilled this dream of having a pantry that will serve any one in need in our community, as such it is our distinct privilege to dedicate and name this food pantry in honor of Commissioner Steve Bradshaw.

Lorna Loh, Executive Director, Wade Walker YMCA

Steve Bradshaw allocated \$50,000 of 2020 CARES ACT and another \$50,000 of 2021 American Rescue Plan funding to Wade Walker YMCA to support individuals and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The ribbon cutting took place in September of 2022.

Wade Walker YMCA provided more than 22,836 meals and 18,895 grocery boxes to DeKalb County residents in 2020 and 2021. In 2022, Wade Walker YMCA shifted its hunger relief program to a food pantry onsite. This new high quality food pantry is equipped with refrigeration, freezer space and shelving.

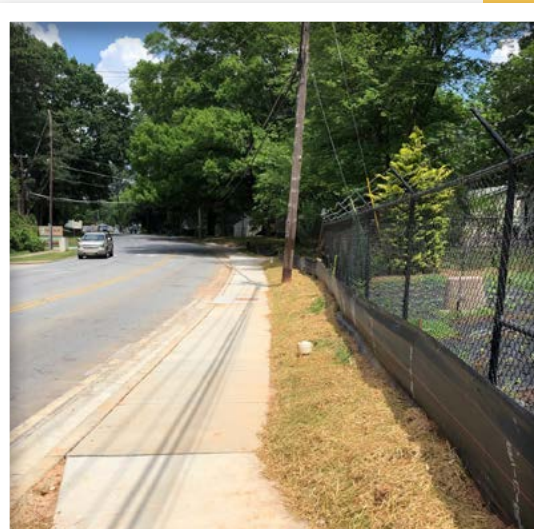
I am a strong supporter of the work of the YMCAs in our communities, and that is why I allocated funds to both the Wade Walker YMCA in Stone Mountain and the Decatur YMCA. None of this is about me. It is about all the people that this wonderful facility has helped and will continue to help. I commend the leadership and staff of the Wade Walker YMCA for their heroic efforts on this front. The naming of the food pantry in my honor is not anything that I sought or expected. Therefore, I am deeply humbled and honored by this recognition.

Steve Bradshaw

INFRASTRUCTURE / SPLOST

Infrastructure is the backbone of DeKalb County, supporting economic development, education, public health, safety, and overall community well-being. A well-maintained and forward-thinking infrastructure system contributes to the county's resilience, attractiveness to businesses, and the overall satisfaction of its residents.

A Special-purpose local-option sales tax (SPLOST) is an important mechanism for funding county improvements because it provides a dedicated source of revenue for specific projects that benefit the local community. SPLOST is typically a temporary sales tax that is levied for a specified period, and the funds generated are earmarked for specific capital projects and infrastructure improvements.



SPLOST-funded improvements made to the sidewalks at North Druid Hill Road and Valley Brook Road. Work is underway to transform the corridor into a multimodal-friendly complete street supporting various uses.



The first community meeting in May heard several concerns from residents and drivers. Top traffic concerns were congestion in the corridor, speeding, and safety. Our goal is to improve major intersections from an operations standpoint, reduce crashes, and increase pedestrian safety.



YOUR PENNIES AT WORK: RESIDENTIAL TRAFFIC CALMING

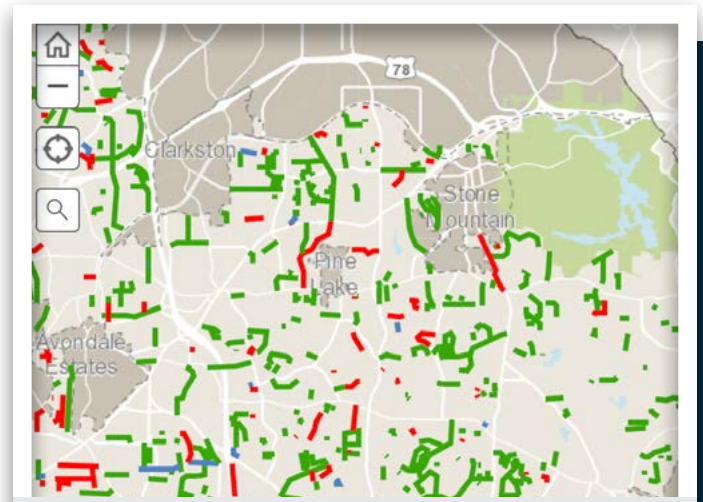
Commissioner Steve Bradshaw is committed to the safety of constituents living, working, and playing in DeKalb county. The District 4 Office is engaged in traffic calming interventions to keep constituents, pedestrians, and motorists out of harm's way.

DeKalb County developed a Traffic Calming Program to address the concerns of the citizens regarding the speed of traffic on residential streets. For a street to be eligible for the traffic calming program, it must be classified as local residential on the DeKalb County Functional Classification Map and have a posted speed limit of 30 mph or less. For more information, please call 770-492-5219, e-mail PWTransportation@dekalbcountyga.gov, or visit dekalbcountyga.gov/transportation/traffic-calming-program

SPLOST: SPECIAL-PURPOSE LOCAL-OPTION SALES TAX

DeKalb County SPLOST supports county-wide improvements promoting added value to DeKalb County and improved quality of life for all residents and all stakeholders.

Voters adopted the current SPLOST in a referendum in November 2017, and runs from 2018 until 2024. During these six years, SPLOST expects to generate \$636 million for capital improvements for the county and city governments in DeKalb County. This one-cent sales tax provides funding exclusively for capital projects – roads, buildings, vehicles, major equipment, and other long-lived improvements. Because of the success of the current SPLOST, I support continuing to hear about constituent ideas and priorities for capital improvements and quality-of-life enhancements in DeKalb County.



To view progress and completion of SPLOST resurfacing projects, visit: bit.ly/SPLOSTResurfacing

Watch SPLOST in DeKalb County: What Happens Now: youtube.com/watch?v=x2h6t848Yh4

DISTRICT 4 SPLOST HIGHLIGHTS:

- Resurfacing underway on 16 miles of roadway with an approximate value of \$8.9 million
- Park Improvements underway or in design at Wade Walker Park include renovations to the Football Field House and Concession Buildings at Baseball and Soccer fields; renovated tennis courts and new roofs for maintenance buildings. \$650K
- Field Improvements at Hamilton Park. \$611K
- New play equipment ordered for Princeton Park. \$150K
- FS 25 received a new roof. \$110K
- Clarkston Library restroom renovation contract awarded and materials ordered. \$125K
- Joint project with City of Clarkston for new sidewalk on Market Street complete. \$136,800



Transportation Safety Projects:

- New signal at Milscott Drive and DeKalb Industrial Way \$250,000 estimated installation cost
- Kensington MARTA Station Sidewalks and Multi-Use Trail Design \$302,700 to leverage ARC funding
- Converting Stewart Mill and Bermuda Road intersection into a roundabout for safety and efficiency \$2M

PUBLIC SAFETY: FRONT LINE

Public safety is a collaborative effort involving government, nonprofits, and community organizations. While police and fire departments play vital roles, various other areas and agencies contribute, such as animal control, building enforcement, child protective services, cybersecurity, rehabilitation, emergency medical services, mental health services, public education, public health departments, utilities, transportation, and infrastructure safety.

STARTING SALARY BOOST IN FY2023 BUDGET SOLIDIFIES DEKALB POLICE AND FIRE AS AMONG THE HIGHEST PAID IN THE SOUTHEAST

The DeKalb County FY2023 budget, which includes \$4.3 million to raise the starting salaries for police and fire recruits and provide increases for veteran public safety personnel, was passed by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners. This salary boost maintains DeKalb's status as one of the highest-paid police and fire recruits among large local governments in the Southeast and the state, respectively.

As of April 1, 2023, the starting salary for new police recruits is \$55,000, an 8.9% increase over the previous \$50,500 – and is 19% above the regional market average of \$46,352. The starting firefighter salary is \$51,000, a 9.7% increase over the previous \$46,500 – approximately 9.1% above the local market average of \$46,728 for Atlanta, South Fulton, Cobb, and Gwinnett counties.



DeKalb County Community Service Aides respond to low-level calls like theft, traffic hazards, burglaries, car break-ins, vandalism, harassment, animal complaints, and directing traffic. Chief Ramos said the department receives about 30,000 calls a month, with more than 2,300 considered low-level calls.

PAY BETTER TREAT BETTER TRAIN BETTER

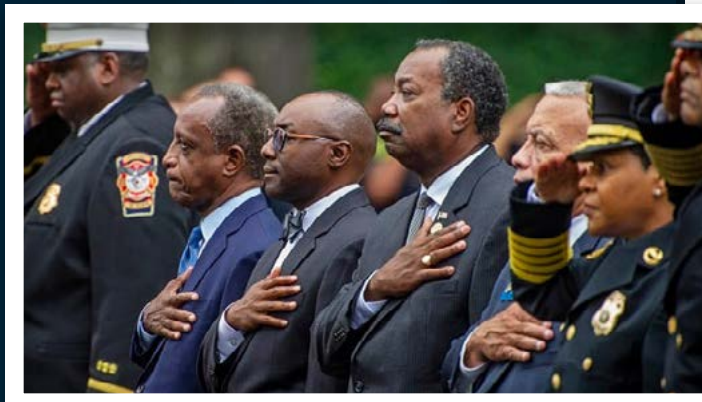
Steve Bradshaw



Commissioner Bradshaw with DeKalb Fire Chief Darnell Fullum, named 2023 Fire Chief of the Year by the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs.



Commissioner Bradshaw with DeKalb Police Chief Mirtha Ramos at the Police Athletic League (PAL) Pumpkin 5K on October 28, 2023. PAL provides safe and healthy activities for young people and educate them about the roles of law enforcement. Commissioner Bradshaw allocated \$20,000 of ARP Funding to PAL.



I personally appreciate the emphasis in the 2023 budget on public safety, which, in my opinion, is the first responsibility of any government.

Steve Bradshaw

It is safe to say we use Flock daily in almost every case, whether it's a missing person, stolen vehicle, assault, hit and run, etc. FLOCK has been a precious investigative tool for our department.

Detectives can utilize the FLOCK cameras in investigations to leverage technology and allow for cameras to capture vehicle images in the area of a reported crime / overdue motorist / missing person case and for investigative follow-up or immediate dissemination.

We recently had a rash of auto theft subjects striking across Metro Atlanta. By utilizing FLOCK, we were able to track and arrest 22 suspects. In addition, please see a recent local media story about a homicide arrest made possible by FLOCK. Visit bit.ly/FLOCKtagArrest

**Mirtha V. Ramos, Chief
DeKalb County Police Department**

Commissioner Steve Bradshaw was the first county commissioner to invest in FLOCK in DeKalb County in 2020.

Today, the use of FLOCK is considered a best practice in improving public safety throughout district 4 and DeKalb county.

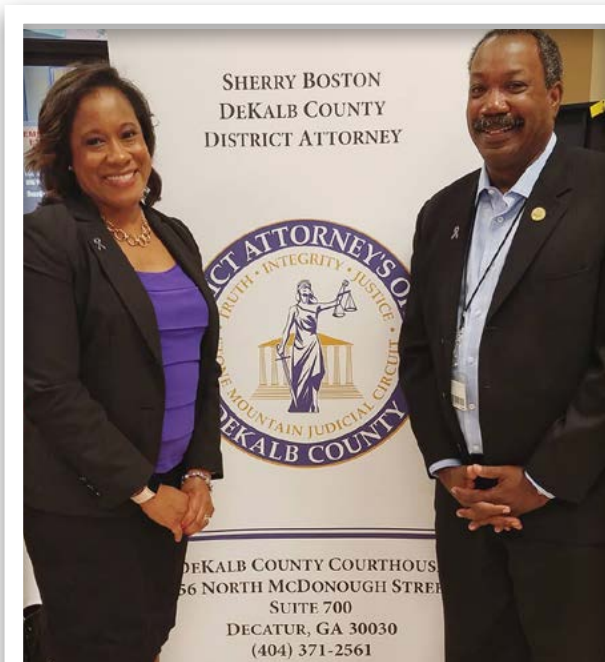
On December 5, 2023, Police Chief Ramos reported that DeKalb County has a total of 371 FLOCK cameras in place and expects to install an additional 60+ throughout high-priority areas of DeKalb in 2024.

PUBLIC SAFETY: MEDIATION

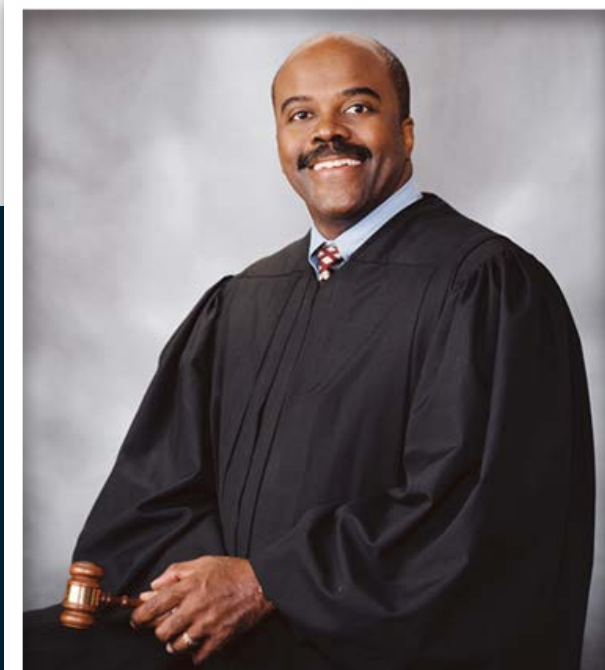
COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW & DEKALB COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SHERRY BOSTON'S DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Stopping Trends of Repeat Incarceration with Diversion and Education (STRIDE), is a voluntary diversion program that holds young adults accountable for serious non-violent crimes they have committed, while also ensuring their civic and career opportunities remain intact. STRIDE partners include RED, Inc., WorkSource DeKalb, American Alternative Court Services and Acivilate.

Commissioner Steve Bradshaw has also allocated \$50,000 to the Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence, an organization that provides emergency/crisis intervention services for women, children, and others who have been displaced by domestic violence. Funding helps to operate, in part, the 24-hour crisis hotline that provides safety planning, useful information, and resource referrals for those in need of community support.



DeKalb County District Attorney Sherry Boston and District 4 Commissioner Steve Bradshaw



First DeKalb County Judge with a building named in their honor: The Gregory A. Adams Juvenile Justice Center unanimously designated by the DeKalb County Commissioners April 10, 2007

Thank you, Commissioner Bradshaw, for your leadership on this very important issue. These funds will assist the court as it provides treatment and rehabilitation services to those in need. As a judge for the past 27 years, it is important to have the support of the legislative branch of government as we serve the citizens of DeKalb County and the State of Georgia.

Judge Gregory A. Adams

BRADSHAW ALLOCATED \$110,000 OF DISTRICT 4 RESERVE FUNDS TO ACCOUNTABILITY COURT PROGRAMS TO DATE

The DUI Court program, started by Judge Alvin T. Wong and Judge Tony DelCampo in 2004, addresses substance abuse and addiction issues while teaching participants to take responsibility for their actions. The mission of the DUI Court Program is to enhance public safety by reducing recidivism of DUI offenders by breaking the cycle of addiction through a combination of individualized treatment, personal accountability, and intensive court supervision. The Council for Accountability Court Judges named the DUI Court Program a model court from 2020 to 2023. As of Thursday, Jan. 19, 1,053 participants have graduated from the program.



Celebrating our Accountability Courts with Judge Latisha Dear Jackson

To find out more about the DeKalb County DUI Accountability Court Program, visit: dekalbstatecourt.net/state-court/d-u-i-court/participant-information

COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT DEKALB COUNTY DUI COURT PROGRAM GRADUATION ON JANUARY 19, 2023

The Program provides the necessary tools, support, and resources to help program participants achieve sobriety and make better life choices. I am inspired by the court administrators and program participants. Judges and Martinez supervise an outstanding DeKalb County court resource. Steve Bradshaw



Commissioner Steve Bradshaw and Judge Ana Maria Martinez at the Annual Latin Fever Ball hosted by the Latin American Association

DID YOU KNOW?

The DeKalb County DUI Accountability Court Program offers the only Latino program in the State of Georgia conducted completely in Spanish.

Over the course of my time in office I have been a big supporter of our accountability courts as evidenced by over \$100,000 in discretionary allocations from my district 4 budget. I want to commend and thank all the judges and support staff who work so hard to make this vital component of criminal justice reform work so effectively. I will continue to support their efforts for as long as I remain in office.

Steve Bradshaw

Steve Bradshaw

Commissioner | DeKalb County | District 4



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