
DEKALB COUNTY

W. Burrell Ellis, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CEO ELLIS PRESENTS 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET

Balanced budget emphasizes prudence in challenging economic climate

DECATUR – DeKalb County CEO Burrell Ellis formally presented the 2010 Proposed Budget to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, citizens, and members of the media. The general fund budget is a recommended \$583 million before the inclusion of year-end encumbrances.

“The members of our administration have worked long and hard to develop this budget and we present it with the anticipation of constructive engagement around the priorities for DeKalb’s future. We look forward to the mutual stewardship and leadership of the CEO’s office and the Board of Commissioners in this process,” CEO Ellis said.

CEO Ellis’ budget balances the lingering effects of the recession, a reduction in the real property tax digest, the continuing impact the incorporation of Dunwoody has on County revenues, and an increase in service demand in the county with the maintenance of high level essential service delivery and strong public safety support. The 2010 budget focuses on governmental efficiency and effectiveness while reducing the cost of government.

Recommendations the 2010 proposed budget include:

- The continued implementation of the 2006 bond projects: the 2010 Budget will continue the emphasis on the completion of Transportation, Library, and Parks and Greenspace projects authorized in the 2006 Bond Program.
- An increase in Fire/EMS fees to maintain funding for current Fire/EMS positions.
- The creation of an Office of Inspector General, which would report directly to an independent Board of Transparency & Accountability.
- A continued focus on upgrading public safety facilities, equipment and capabilities.
- Technology improvement projects in Records Court to improve citation processing and facilitate the move to electronic ticketing.

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CEO Ellis also outlined ongoing challenges impacting DeKalb including the development of a long-range program to generate a revenue source to fund the county's ongoing capital infrastructure needs and the county's over-dependence on residential property taxes.

To hear citizen concerns and address questions, CEO Ellis will travel around the county and hold 12 neighborhood budget gatherings. Super District Commissioner Connie Stokes, Chairwoman of the commission's Budget Committee, will join CEO Ellis at each of these gatherings. CEO Ellis has also extended an invitation to each commissioner to join him at gatherings in his or her district.

Hearings are set at the following locations from **7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** beginning January 2010:

- **McNair Academy**
2162 Second Avenue
Decatur, GA 30032
Tuesday, January 12, 2010

- **Druid Hills High School**
1798 Haygood Drive
Atlanta, GA 30307
Thursday, January 14, 2010

- **Chapel Hill Middle School**
3535 Dogwood Farms
Decatur, GA 30034
Tuesday, January 19, 2010

- **East Lake YMCA**
275 E. Lake Blvd. SE
Atlanta, GA 30317
Thursday, January 21, 2010

- **Arabia Mountain High School**
6610 Brownsmill Road
Lithonia, GA 30038
Monday, January 25, 2010

- **Montgomery Elementary School**
3995 Ashford Dunwoody Road
Atlanta, GA 30319
Tuesday, January 26, 2010

- **Tucker Recreation Center.**
4898 LaVista Road
Tucker, GA 30084
Tuesday, February 2, 2010

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- **Cedar Grove High School**
2360 River Road
Ellenwood, GA 30294
Thursday, February 4, 2010
- **Stephenson Middle School**
922 Stephenson Road
Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
- **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**
2833 Flat Shoals Road
Decatur, GA 30083
Thursday, February 11, 2010
- **Torah Day School**
1985 LaVista Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30329
Tuesday, February 16, 2010
- **Berean Christian Church**
2201 Young Road
Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Thursday, February 18, 2010

The Board of Commissioners is required by law to approve the budget before March 1, 2010. For more information on the 2010 budget, please visit www.yourdekalb.com.

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