



## CITY OF ATLANTA

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KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS  
MAYOR

April 29, 2020

The Honorable Felicia A. Moore, President  
Members of City Council  
Atlanta City Council  
55 Trinity Avenue SE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear President Moore and Members of the Atlanta City Council:

It is my honor to submit to you the Fiscal Year 2021 Proposed Budget for the City of Atlanta, covering the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

This FY2021 proposed budget provides a pathway to manage the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery in a manner that will allow us to protect our progress, meet our service obligations to residents, and maintain a solid financial position in the future.

Revenue modeling currently supports a baseline revenue forecast of \$619M for FY21. This is a \$58M reduction from the FY20 budget adopted less than one year ago. In response to this unprecedented economic shock, we are enacting measures to cushion the impact on front-line services, our workforce, and on taxpayers. The key measures reflected in this proposed budget are:

- Reducing general fund expenses by \$40M through abolishing vacant positions, freezing recruitment for non-mission critical positions, implementing strategic operational cuts, and stripping out allowances for almost all new discretionary spending;
- Supplementing revenues with \$37M from the City's Fund Balance reserve; and
- Redirecting the City's \$17M share of uncommitted funds within the Eastside TAD to the general fund.

These measures will allow us to move forward with a balanced budget of \$673.4M that delivers the following key outcomes:

- Keeps our commitment to raise pay for police officers and fire fighters;

- Avoids layoffs or furloughs for staff;
- Enables front line departments to operate at or near current service levels;
- Fully absorbs \$25M in pension and other unavoidable cost increases;
- Adds incremental funding for the Office of the Inspector General; and
- Does not raise taxes.

This has been a challenging budget to develop on a compressed timeline. At a time when so many organizations are grappling with the impacts of COVID-19 on their finances and operations, the outlook for the City of Atlanta is difficult, but it is manageable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keisha Bottoms". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Keisha Lance Bottoms