



Fulton County Board of Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary

20-0812

BOC Meeting Date
 12/2/2020

Requesting Agency

External Affairs

Commission Districts Affected

All Districts

Requested Action *(Identify appropriate Action or Motion, purpose, cost, timeframe, etc.)*

Presentation of 2021 Legislative Agenda.

Requirement for Board Action *(Cite specific Board policy, statute or code requirement)*

Request Approval

Is this Item related to a Strategic Priority Area? *(If yes, note strategic priority area below)*

Yes Open and Responsible Government

Is this a purchasing item?

No

Summary & Background

(First sentence includes Agency recommendation. Provide an executive summary of the action that gives an overview of the relevant details for the item.)

Scope of Work: Presentation of 2021 Legislative Agenda

Community Impact: Countywide Legislative Agenda for Calendar Year 2021

Contract & Compliance Information

(Provide Contractor and Subcontractor details.)

Agency Director Approval		County Manager's Approval
Typed Name and Title	Phone	
Signature	Date	

Revised 03/12/09 (Previous versions are obsolete)

Agency Director Approval		County Manager's Approval
Typed Name and Title	Phone	
Signature	Date	

Revised 03/12/09 (Previous versions are obsolete)

Solicitation Information	NON-MFBE	MBE	FBE	TOTAL
No. Bid Notices Sent:				
No. Bids Received:				

Total Contract Value	.
Total M/FBE Values	.
Total Prime Value	.

Fiscal Impact / Funding Source *(Include projected cost, approved budget amount and account number, source of funds, and any future funding requirements.)*

.

Exhibits Attached *(Provide copies of originals, number exhibits consecutively, and label all exhibits in the upper right corner.)*

Source of Additional Information *(Type Name, Title, Agency and Phone)*

Agency Director Approval		County Manager's Approval
Typed Name and Title	Phone	
Signature	Date	

Revised 03/12/09 (Previous versions are obsolete)

Procurement

Contract Attached: .	Previous Contracts: .		
Solicitation Number: .	Submitting Agency: .	Staff Contact: .	Contact Phone: .

Description:.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Total Contract Value:	MBE/FBE Participation:
Original Approved Amount: .	Amount: . %: .
Previous Adjustments: .	Amount: . %: .
This Request: .	Amount: . %: .
TOTAL: .	Amount: . %: .

Grant Information Summary:

Amount Requested: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash
Match Required: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	In-Kind
Start Date: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approval to Award
End Date: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply & Accept
Match Account \$: .		

Funding Line 1: .	Funding Line 2: .	Funding Line 3: .	Funding Line 4: .
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KEY CONTRACT TERMS

Start Date: .	End Date: .
Cost Adjustment: .	Renewal/Extension Terms: .

ROUTING & APPROVALS
(Do not edit below this line)

X	Originating Department:	Corbitt, Jessica	Date: 10/19/2020
.	County Attorney:	.	Date: .
.	Purchasing/Contract Compliance:	.	Date: .
.	Finance/Budget Analyst/Grants Admin:	.	Date: .
.	Grants Management:	.	Date: .
X	County Manager:	Anderson, Dick	Date: 10/27/2020



FULTON COUNTY 2021 PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Department of External Affairs - November 4, 2020



COVID-19 RESPONSE RESOURCES

**ENSURE AUTONOMY FOR
FULTON COUNTY AIRPORT**

**SUPPORT LONG-TERM TRANSIT FUNDING &
REGIONAL COOPERATION**

**STRENGTHEN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MODEL &
FUNDING FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION**

**CREATE A MORE EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE
JUSTICE SYSTEM**

ENSURE SECURE & ACCESSIBLE ELECTIONS

**CREATE EQUITY IN APPEALS PROCESS FOR
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS**

SUPPORT CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

SIMPLIFY HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS

**SUPPORT HOUSING SOLUTIONS &
AFFORDABILITY**

SUPPORT HOMEOWNER PROTECTIONS

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**FULTON
COUNTY**

2021 Proposed
State Legislative
Agenda

COVID-19 RESPONSE RESOURCES

Since March 2020, Fulton County has provided a robust public health, social service and economic response to COVID-19.

- As the pandemic continues, Fulton County seeks ongoing support from the State of Georgia to ensure that residents, businesses, schools and local governments within Fulton County receive equitable access to state and federal resources.

ENSURE AUTONOMY FOR FULTON COUNTY AIRPORT

- Fulton County seeks local legislation to ensure the portion of the Fulton County Executive Airport-Brown Field property currently in unincorporated Fulton County remains so in perpetuity.

SUPPORT LONG-TERM TRANSIT FUNDING & REGIONAL COOPERATION

- Fulton County supports the designation of a permanent seat on the ATL Board to be filled by a County elected official, to ensure the interests of the citizens and businesses in Fulton County are met.
- Fulton County continues its support for long-term financing tools to help local governments address their transit capital and operational needs to ensure appropriate integration and equitable connectivity.
- Fulton County requests that the State of Georgia provide ongoing allocated funding for transit.

STRENGTHEN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MODEL & FUNDING FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

- Fulton County seeks \$1.5 million in annual funding to support behavioral health services for formerly homeless individuals in permanent supportive housing. This will allow Fulton County to maintain and establish services that began following the 2019 legislative session.
- Fulton County supports policies and additional funding to create greater capacity related to opioid and addiction prevention, treatment and recovery programs.
- Fulton County seeks to serve as the safety net provider for behavioral health services for uninsured and underinsured residents in our county.

CREATE A MORE EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Fulton County supports legislation that creates a more efficient and effective justice system and improves outcomes for victims, defendants and taxpayers including:

- Fulton County seeks additional long-term behavioral health treatment beds at Georgia Regional Hospital.
- Fulton County supports additional state funding to expand the scale of existing diversion programs and allow new diversion programs to be established.
- Fulton County supports authorization for prosecutors to divert detainees to Accountability Courts prior to indictments—aligning with current procedures for pre-trial diversion programs.
- Fulton County seeks the establishment of a state-supported transition center to help offenders successfully reenter the community providing employment preparation, access to healthcare, access to housing, addiction treatment and case management.

CREATE A MORE EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE JUSTICE SYSTEM

- Fulton County supports authorization to conduct certain judicial proceedings via video conferencing.
- Fulton County seeks state funding for local law enforcement and justice agencies to provide gang prevention training and appropriate intervention, including alternative housing of inmates in other jurisdictions and other services.
- Fulton County seeks state funding for training, prevention and intervention services to address sex trafficking for adult and juvenile-serving agencies.
- Fulton County supports amending O.C.G.A. § 15-11-103 to give statutory rights to children for a child attorney in legitimation and termination cases as the law provides in dependency cases.

ENSURE SECURE & ACCESSIBLE ELECTIONS

- Fulton County is committed to providing secure elections in compliance with state law and requests additional state funding for the implementation of new voting machines and associated costs borne by County governments in conducting elections.
- Fulton County supports legislation that allows electors within the county to vote at any precinct in the county on Election Day in a primary, general, special or runoff election.
- Fulton County supports expanding Early Voting locations to include non-governmental buildings which would equalize with voter access currently afforded on Election Day.

ENSURE SECURE & ACCESSIBLE ELECTIONS

- Fulton County supports statutory authorization to locate absentee ballot drop boxes at quasi-government sites including public transit facilities.
- Fulton County supports the submission of Absentee Ballots at polling locations.
- Fulton County supports revising the deadline by which counties must receive/accept absentee ballot applications in order to better ensure that voters' absentee ballots will be counted.

CREATE EQUITY IN APPEALS PROCESS FOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

Fulton County proposes changes in the appeals process for assessments of commercial properties including:

- Requiring mandatory reporting of all income and expenses associated with the commercial property at the time an appeal is filed.
- Amendment to O.C.G.A. § 48-5-299 (c) to clearly define “significant/material” change in existing law to include includes changes in income, vacancy and cap rates.
- Updating appeals forms for commercial properties to require declaration of recent fee appraisals.
- Limiting appeal rights on Development Authority parcels during all or part of the 10-year “ramp up” period.

POLICIES SUPPORTED BY FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

If legislation is introduced in the Georgia Legislature in support of one of the following policy positions, the legislation will be brought before the Fulton County Board of Commissioners for the body to take a position.

SUPPORT CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

- Fulton County supports legislation that continues incentives that support job creation and business opportunity through creative industries, including film and television, post-production, fashion, music and e-sports.

SIMPLIFY HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS

- Fulton County supports opportunities to simplify the homestead exemption process to improve outcomes for taxpayers.
- Fulton County supports property owner education programs to assist property owners with understanding their rights and responsibilities in the property tax process, including homestead exemptions, appeals and more.

SUPPORT HOUSING SOLUTIONS & AFFORDABILITY

- Fulton County supports legislation that provides quality affordable housing for low to moderate income residents.
- Fulton County requests that the State of Georgia allocate ongoing housing funding to address the growing homeless population.

SUPPORT HOMEOWNER PROTECTIONS

- Fulton County supports statutory changes that will provide for community associations protections and transparency to include equitable best practice requirements for governance and financial management for homeowner associations and protections for individual property owners.

IMPORTANT DATES

- November 16, 2020 – First Day to Pre-file 2021 Legislation
- January 11, 2021 – Georgia General Assembly Begins Legislative Session