



**CITY OF FOREST PARK MAYOR & COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

Monday, December 06, 2021, at 6:00 PM
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

Website: www.forestparkga.gov
YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>
Phone Number: (404) 366.1555

FOREST PARK CITY HALL
745 Forest Parkway
Forest Park, GA 30297

APPROVED WORK SESSION MINUTES

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James The Honorable Dabouze Antoine
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells
The Honorable Allan Mears

Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager
S. Diane White, City Clerk
Mike Williams, City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Councilmember Dabouze Antoine at 6:00pm.

ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK: A quorum was established.

Attendee's Name	Title	Absent	Present
Angelyne Butler, MPA	Mayor, At-Large	✓	
Kimberly James	Council Member, Ward 1		✓
Dabouze Antoine	Council Member, Ward 2, Mayor Pro-Tem		✓
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4	✓	
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

DIRECTORS PRESENT Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director; Shalonda Brown, Human Resources Director, Lashawn Gardiner, Management Analyst, Latosha Clemons, Fire Chief, David Halcome, Deputy Fire Chief, Bruce Abraham, Director Economic Development, Tarik Maxell, Director of Recreation & Leisure, Bobby Jinks, Director of

Public Works, Joshua Cox, IT Director, Arthur Geeter, Purchasing Director, James Shelby, Planning, Building and Zoning Director, Nathaniel Clark, Chief of Police and Javon Lloyd, PIO Director.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager

COMMUNITY INFORMATION/REMINDERS:

Clayton County Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) is available for Tenants and Landlords by applying at relief.claytoncountyga.gov or calling (404)-697-4100 or (770)-997-4511.

Rental Assistance for the City of Forest Park (GA) residents only. Resident can apply by contacting the City Edge Program at (404)-804-5008 or (404)-804-4904. This is one-time rental assistance that can help qualified resident up to a maximum of \$2,500.

Results of the November 30th Run-Off Election were certified today, December 6th, 2021, and are available via the City's website www.forestparkga.gov under the elections banner.

The City of Forest Park has launched our city engagement cards to allow those interested to easily sign up and become part of our email and mailing list for news, events, and operational information from the city. Please pick-up one of our cards at the front and share with your neighbors, friends and family who want to stay up to date on what's happening in the City of Forest Park, GA.

CITY OPERATIONS:

Under the Direction of Fire Chief Latosha Clemons the Forest Park Fire Department will be hosting an Officer Candidate School January 10th – January 15th. This is an initiative to develop our next generation of leaders within the Forest Park Fire Department.

On December 5, 2021, the City of Forest Park held its annual Christmas parade and tree lighting festivities. We had an awesome turn out and I want to give a huge thank you to our Recreation and Leisure Department and a special thank you Ms. Myia Williams, who lead the coordination of the parade, the performances, and other festivities of the evening. She did a phenomenal job!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: Chief Nathaniel Clark introduced new Police Officer Recruits

Amir Holmes	Kiara Chittick	Roberto Cardenas
Jasmine Mason	London Moriarty	Sierra Jackson, Communications Officer (Dispatcher)

CONGRATULATIONS:

HR Director Shalonda Brown and Deputy HR Director Diane Lewis for completing the requirements through Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) to be awarded the Human Resources Certification. OUTSTANDING WORK!

SHOUT OUT:

Give a huge shout out to our Elections Superintendent Ms. S. Diane White for the superior job she and her elections staff did in conducting our 2021 General Elections and the Runoff Elections. Thank you again to the Georgia Secretary of State's Office, Clayton County Election's Office, Intact Consulting Services, and all the city departments. Last but not least I want to thank the residents of Forest Park for exercising your right to vote. Many people forget that it is our local and state elections, not the national elections, that have the greatest impact on our daily lives. I encourage everyone to exercise your right to vote in all elections.

COVID-19 UPDATE: EMS Coordinator Andrew Gelmini

As of December 5, 2021, Clayton County has 35,566 cases of COVID-19 and 731 confirmed deaths; between December 29th and December 5th there were 165 new confirmed cases county-wide. 47% of county residents have received at least (1) one dose of vaccine and 42% are fully vaccinated. Forest Park makes up 9.3% of County cases rising 0.1% from last report. With a total of 3,290 cases as of December 5th are up 35 cases from last week.

The 20 to 50 age group shows the highest percentage of positive cases with African Americans showing the highest positive case percentage followed by Caucasian. Cases peaked in August and September and then fell dramatically, remaining low. The 65 to 85 age group has the highest vaccination rate.

There are still breakthrough cases of COVID-19 as people are still unvaccinated and not using precautions when around others. Boosters are available for those that qualify. The current recommendation for boosters is at least (6) months after receiving the final dose of the first series for Moderna and Pfizer or (2) months after receiving the single dose Johnson and Johnson. People can text their zip code to 438829 or call 1-800-232-0233 to find local vaccine providers. Contacting your Primary Care Physician or local pharmacy to see if they are giving vaccines or visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov). The Clayton County Health District is giving vaccines based on availability and are rotating their locations to allow for easy access. They are requesting people wishing to receive the booster to call and make an appointment for a booster at (678) 479-2223 and are currently giving boosters at the Battle Creek location Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9am-4pm.

The CDC has also recognized that Omicron Variant has been found in the U.S. As of today, Omicron is found in 15 States: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin. The majority of these cases can be traced to contact with people from the South Africa region. There is still a lot being learned about Omicron. It has shown a rapid spread and is still being studied to determine the vaccines effectiveness against it. With Omicron variant the CDC has changed recommendations to everyone over 18 get a booster but the old recommendations are being observed as well of Age 50+ especially with underlying medical conditions, 18+ if working or living in a high risk setting or long-term care setting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **The Compliance Engine** –Fire Department

There was no discussion or comments from the governing body.

2. **Council Discussion on Canceling the December 20th Work Session and Regular Council Meeting**
– Executive Offices

There was no discussion or comments from the governing body.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (When an Executive Session is required, one will be called for the following issues: Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate)

Councilmember James motioned to recess into Executive Session at 6:15pm for litigation, real estate or personnel and Councilmember Mears second. The motion carried.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears.
The motion carried.

Councilmember Mears motioned to reconvene back into Work Session at 6:56pm and Councilmember James seconded. The motion carried.

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears.
The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Mears motioned to adjourn the Council Work Session at 6:58pm and was seconded by Councilmember James. The motion carried.

APPROVED