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DeKalb County Issues Executive Order

DeKalb County has declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Critical services will continue to be provided ensuring that the County workforce remains in a heightened state of readiness while addressing the public's health and safety during this crisis.

Read the executive order [here](#).

Metro South CID Candidate Forum HAS BEEN CANCELED

In light of the recent viral outbreak of COVID-19 and the social distancing recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO), Metro South CID has decided to cancel the political Candidate Forum scheduled for Tuesday, April 14. The CID is committed to helping stop the spread of the virus and this decision was made to ensure the health and safety of attendees and participants.

If you have any questions, please contact Metro South CID president Emory Morsberger at emory@metrosouthcid.com or 770.409.8100.

COVID-19 (Coronavirus): What You Need to Know and Prevention



Photo Credit: CDC

The outbreak and spread of COVID-19, or Coronavirus, has been inescapable, but news about misinformation has also greatly contributed to rising fears. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has created content to explain the facts and steps to prevent its spread.

While anyone can become sick after contracting COVID-19, those who are most likely to succumb to the virus and become gravely ill are those who have chronic medical conditions or a compromised immune system such as the elderly and those with an autoimmune deficiency. Those who have been in complete quarantine or have been released from isolation do not pose a risk of infection to other people.

Symptoms of COVID-19 consist of fever, cough and shortness of breath. Seek medical advice if these symptoms develop and you have also been in close contact with an infected person or traveled to an area with an ongoing spread of the virus.

In order to stay healthy and prevent the spread of germs and bacteria, wash your hands often, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing and stay home when sick.

For more information and advice on the Coronavirus, please visit the CDC [website](#).

Other Resources to Help

The Small Business Administration (SBA) offers disaster relief loans and is including the Coronavirus outbreak as part of their coverage. The federal government has set aside \$50 billion in aid to small businesses, which includes:

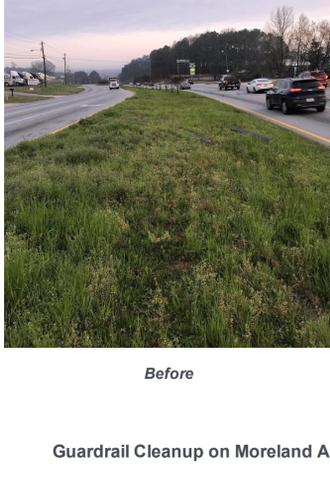
- \$2 million loan maximum
- Up to 30-year amortization
- Low annual interest rate of 3.75% for small businesses and 2.75% for private non-profit organizations
- No prepayment penalties

SBA disaster loans can be used to repair or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory and business assets. For more information, click [here](#).

CID Project Updates

Metro South CID has officially gained control to maintain Moreland Avenue on a full-time basis. The CID is now solely responsible for the maintenance of the popular road, including beautification and infrastructure updates. By controlling the look and feel of this main corridor, we believe the entire district will benefit. Take a look at some of the enhancements already underway on Moreland Avenue!

Median Cleanup on Moreland Avenue



Before



After

Guardrail Cleanup on Moreland Avenue and I-285 Bridge Intersection



Before



After

Beautification in the District

Tire Removal on Henrico Road



Before



After

Tree Cleanup on Continental Way



Before



After

Land Exchange Will Benefit DeKalb County Citizens With Added Public Land



The film and entertainment industry has played an important role in Georgia's economy, generating \$9.5 billion in total economic impact in the fiscal year of 2018.

Since opening its studio production in 2017, Blackhall Studios has spurred economic growth to South DeKalb and created nearly 1,000 jobs. Their expansion plans will add another 1,000 jobs. Some of these jobs may require new skills and Blackhall plans to partner with McNair High School to add film, media and A/V production to its curriculum. They also plan to host entertainment industry programming for youth and adults. However, in order to expand, Blackhall has prepared a land exchange with DeKalb County.

DeKalb County is in a unique position to propel the film and entertainment industry forward. The CID believes this land exchange will serve as a major economic development initiative in South DeKalb and the surrounding region, thus providing a much needed supply chain development opportunity for DeKalb County and metro Atlanta.

As with all major development projects of this magnitude and potential impact, we recognize that certain economic and community development mitigations are necessary to balance the varying interest of the surrounding community. There are many misconceptions circulating about the Blackhall Land Exchange and the effect it may have on public park land. [The Great Park Connection](#) has prepared a "fact vs. fiction" document to help clarify the intentions of the deal and how it will benefit the community. Click [here](#) to view the document.

Experts in land planning and design are also weighing in. Click [here](#) to read a letter from John F. Crowley, professor at the University of Georgia's College of Environment and Design, which explains the public benefits resulting from the Blackhall DeKalb County Land Exchange. And long-time planner Tom Weyandt shares his thoughts in this [video](#).

The Dirty Dozen

The Metro South and DeKalb Code Enforcement Department have seen incredible progress by continuing to target "The Dirty Dozen" that are committing code violations in DeKalb County - the effort has become the top cleanup effort in the county! The CID is supporting DeKalb County's efforts to continue filing court cases against business and property owners who are violating code enforcements and refuse to clean-up their properties.

Continue to check the CID's social media channels and website for more information!

Flock Cameras Reminder

Are you a business owner in the Metro South CID and looking to maximize security? Consider investing in a Flock Safety Security Camera. If you're interested, visit [Flock Safety's website](#).

The Metro South CID highly recommends these safety cameras and will be installing added locations throughout the district this year.

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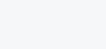


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