



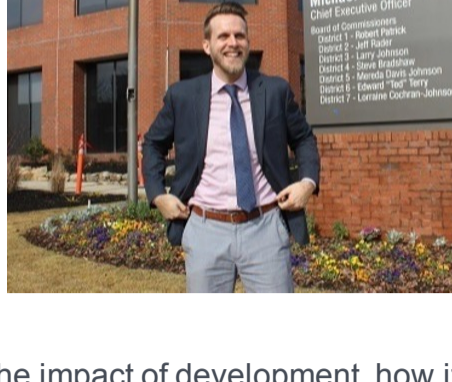
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February 2021 Newsletter

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Commissioner Ted Terry: Together, We Can Move DeKalb Forward



“Together, We Can Move DeKalb Forward” was my campaign motto, the reason I believe I was elected and is the mantra I am committed to as your DeKalb County Super District 6 Commissioner. As I approach the conclusion of my first quarter in this position, I have spent the past few months meeting and learning about the DeKalb County departments, service delivery, available resources and the operations as a whole. I am also navigating through zoning applications and their effect on the bigger picture:

the impact of development, how it best enhances the community that will house it, the effect to minimize or maximize existing green space and how to merge existing and new opportunities into a beneficial long-term plan.

South DeKalb is a jewel. Its location and proximity to major interstate systems that connect to the greater metro are invaluable. It also has two things that North DeKalb now lacks, land and natural greenspace. One of South DeKalb's greatest assets is the residents and businesses that make the area home. They are loyal and dedicated to the community. What South DeKalb does not and has not had for decades is the investment and resources needed to maintain, build or improve an economically thriving business community.

[Continue Reading on the MSCID Website](#)

AJC: Southwest DeKalb Neighbors Excited for Blackhall Studios and DeKalb County Land Exchange

After three years of discussions and negotiations and planning, the residents that live in the handful of southwest DeKalb neighborhoods most affected by the DeKalb County and Blackhall Studios land exchange say they're excited for everything it could bring.



Photo credit: Jenni Girtman

As part of the deal finalized earlier this month, DeKalb plans to build an amenity-filled, destination-type park to complement the lonely walking trails that currently serve residents of Boulder Walk, Cedar Grove, Starlight Heights and other local neighborhoods.

Residents are also excited about a bigger, better Blackhall Studios — one that's tucked away a bit to the south and not spread across multiple properties intermingled with their homes. And they're hopeful that a scaled-up studio will bring additional economic development too — at least a nice grocery store.

[Read More on the MSCID Website](#)

Metro South CID Freight Study Steering Committee Formed



The Metro South CID has formed a Steering Committee to launch its Freight Study, which is scheduled to begin in Q1 of 2021. This plan will provide detailed

insight into the area's current and future freight activity in order to address transportation planning, traffic operations and related planning.

Stay tuned to the CID's website for more information as the project moves forward.

The Latest on the Cedar Grove Bridge Construction Project

In November of 2020, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners approved \$4.1 million for the Cedar Grove bridge construction and the necessary improvements along the alternate route that will be temporarily used during the bridge closure. The bridge repair will be a design-build project to help construction move as efficiently as possible.



The CID has requested detour signage be placed throughout the area to better inform and direct truck drivers not as familiar with this area, and we are working to improve infrastructure and landscaping along the alternate route to better accommodate increased traffic while the bridge is being rebuilt.

The Metro South CID board of directors, DeKalb County officials, law enforcement and business owners within the district are scheduled to meet in March to ensure the project is moving forward and to maintain regular communications with local businesses and neighborhoods.

Visit the MSCID [website](#) to view the list of road network improvements submitted to DeKalb County and a map that details the preferred alternate route for traffic based on the bridge closure.

[Learn More on the MSCID Website](#)

FedEx Ground Signs Lease at Transport City Freight Park



Big things are happening in the district! FedEx Ground has signed a lease with Transport City Freight Park to occupy 10.67 acres of the property.

Last year, WPM Commercial purchased the 42-acre Transport City Freight Park in Conley along Thurmond Road and

Transport City Drive. The property is comprised of four individual properties available for lease to single tenants.

WPM Commercial founder Price Muir and partner TJ Costen are looking forward to becoming a part of the community. The CID is excited to work with WPM Commercial to maintain the district as metro Atlanta's premier truck parking location!

[View the Transport City Freight Park Flier](#)

Register for the 2021 State of DeKalb County Virtual Event

There is still time to register for the 2021 State of DeKalb County virtual event, happening Thursday, February 25 from 1-2 p.m.

Hear DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond discuss the projects and priorities of the County in the new year.

[Register for the Virtual Event](#)

DeKalb County Provides Relief for Those Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic

DeKalb County is offering programs to help with disruptions caused by COVID-19 by allocating a total of \$1 million for one-time grants to eligible students to cover living expenses and utilities – up to \$1,500. Information on qualifications and eligibility can be found in this [article](#).

In addition, the County has \$21 million in federal grant funds to help local renters avoid eviction. The new “tenant-landlord assistance coalition” will help distribute the funds to those most in need. Applications can be found [here](#).

[Learn More About the Program](#)

The Latest in Logistics

Truckers are Thriving as Companies Reset Supply Chains

A slice of the trucking industry critical to retail and industrial supply chains is on a roll as the pandemic-driven boom in online shopping reshapes U.S. distribution maps.

Old Dominion, the second-largest operator in the sector, after FedEx Corp.'s FedEx Freight unit, this month said it has added nine service centers to its U.S. network since the start of 2020 and plans several additions this year. Old Dominion also has a hub in the Metro South CID.

Check out this Wall Street Journal [article](#) to read more.



Photo credit: Wall Street Journal



Truckload Freight Steadily Increasing

Truckload freight has been steadily increasing while diesel pricing has been decreasing.

Get the latest freight statistics from the Logistics Market Snapshot on the Georgia.gov [website](#).

UPS to Sell Freight Trucking Business to TFI for \$800 Million

UPS is selling its freight trucking business to TFI International, Inc. for \$800 million to focus on its small package delivery business. New Chief Executive Carol Tomé has adopted the mantra, “better, not bigger” to keep the operations competitive.



Photo credit: Wall Street Journal

Learn what this means for shippers like FedEx in this Wall Street Journal

[article](#).

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