



DeKalb County
GEORGIA

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Commissioner Nicole Massiah Sets Legislative Priorities Focused on Economic Development, Housing, and Stronger Connections

DECATUR, Ga. — DeKalb County Commissioner Nicole Massiah participated in the Chief Executive Office/Board of Commissioners (CEO/BOC) Retreat with a clear focus during the legislative season: making sure growth in District 3 creates real opportunities for the people who already call the community home.

Massiah's 2026-27 legislative priorities center on economic development, stabilizing housing and building more connected communities, with each aimed at improving quality of life for District 3 residents.

"We have tremendous opportunity in District 3, but development by itself isn't enough," Massiah said. "I want investment that creates jobs, supports local businesses, strengthens our neighborhoods and gives families a chance to build wealth."

Economic development will continue to be a major focus this fall. Massiah continues to champion for greater use of public-private partnerships, encourage the hiring and training of local residents and explore opportunities such as a business incubator that can help grow small businesses and create generational wealth.

That approach was reflected in Massiah's August *Conversation with the Commissioner*, where residents discussed the future of Belvedere Plaza following the closure of the Kroger store. Massiah used the meeting to ask residents what businesses, services, and amenities they want to see at the site and how future redevelopment can better serve the surrounding community.

"The future of District 3 should be shaped by the people who live here," Massiah said. "When a major property becomes available, we should not simply ask what can go there. We should ask what the community needs, what opportunities can be created, and how that investment can strengthen the neighborhood."

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Housing is another major part of her fall agenda. Massiah wants clearer standards for affordable housing, required workforce housing options to create additional opportunities for legacy residents, teachers, police officers, and other working families to remain in DeKalb County. She also wants to explore partnerships with faith-based organizations that may have land available for housing.

"We talk about affordable housing all the time, but the real question is: affordable to whom?" Massiah said. "People who have invested their lives in DeKalb County should have a fair opportunity to stay here."

Creating more connected communities through better transportation, sidewalks and access to everyday services remains her third priority. Massiah has identified McAfee Road, Bouldercrest Road, Rainbow Drive and River Road among corridors where additional sidewalks are needed.

She is also pushing for stronger connections to healthcare, fresh food, parks, transportation and county government.

"Where you live should not determine what you have access to," Massiah said. "This fall is about moving from ideas to action — creating opportunity, protecting our neighborhoods and making sure District 3 has a stronger voice in shaping its future."

For more information, contact Commissioner Nicole Massiah's office at 404-371-2425 or send an email to district3@dekalbcountyga.gov.

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