FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 27, 2014

DeKalb Government Operations Task Force Schedules Inaugural Meeting

DECATUR – The Task Force on DeKalb County Operations (the Operations Task Force) has scheduled its first meeting on June 5, 2014 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the Maloof Auditorium, 1300 Commerce Drive, Decatur, GA 30030. The Operations Task Force was created by DeKalb Interim CEO Lee May with the support of the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners through an Executive Order in March 2014.

The 15-member committee is empowered to explore and study (1) the financial, business, zoning and quality of life impact on residents and government operations caused by the creation of new cities and annexations; (2) the effectiveness of the current governance structure of DeKalb County and ethics and transparency in County operations; (3) the equitable distribution of Homestead Option Sales Tax (HOST) proceeds and legacy pension costs between the DeKalb County and its; and (4) other related matters.

March 11, 2014: DeKalb Interim CEO Lee May signs the executive order creating the Task Force on DeKalb County Operations and other Related Matters
Operations Task Force, continued

“We need some fresh eyes on these issues, and we need representatives from a myriad of government agencies to participate, as these are complex issues,” said Interim CEO May. “For instance, under the current law, the distribution of capital funding from HOST between unincorporated and incorporated portions of the County is extremely unequal. Nearly seventy-five percent of the revenue goes to the cities with less than twenty percent of the population.”

The Operations Task Force is comprised of 15 members, as follows:

- David L. Sjoquist, Professor of Economics and Director of Domestic Programs at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Georgia State University
- Bill Floyd, Former Mayor of Decatur
- Jim Grubiak, General Counsel, Association of County Commissioners
- John Shelton, CEO of DeKalb Medical Center
- Jim McMahan, Vice Chair, DeKalb County Board of Education
- Commissioner Jeff Radar, District 2
- Commissioner Sharon Barnes-Sutton, District 4
- Commissioner Stan Watson, District 7
- Mr. Vaughn Irons, Chairman of the Development Authority of DeKalb County
- Patrick Ejicke, Director Community Development Department, Clayton County Board of Commissioners

(5 more task force members TBD)

“It is my sincere hope this task force can come to a consensus on how we can fix DeKalb in one fell swoop, and make the most of the one year cooling off period that we asked the Georgia General Assembly to afford us,” said Interim CEO May.

DeKalb County is Georgia’s third largest county with more than 700,000 residents calling it home. Known for its business and education hub, growing international community and natural wonders, DeKalb County Government is administered by Interim Chief Executive Officer Lee May and legislative policy is set by a seven-member Board of Commissioners.

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