



CITY OF
FORESTPARK

**CITY OF FOREST PARK
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING**

Monday, June 15, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Forest Park City Hall | Council Chambers
745 Forest Parkway, Forest Park, GA 30297

The Honorable Mayor Gwen W. Ellison
The Honorable Kimberly James
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez
The Honorable Allan Mears
The Honorable Delores A. Gunn
The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells
Latosha Clemons, Interim City Manager
Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk
Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney

AGENDA

Council Meetings will be live-streamed and available on [Forest Park's YouTube Channel](#)

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**
- II. **INVOCATION/PLEDGE**
- III. **ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK**
- IV. **ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS**
- V. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS**
- VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 1. **City Council Approval of Special Called Meeting Minutes May 19, 2026**
City Council Approval of Work Session Meeting Minutes June 1, 2026
City Council Approval of Regular Session Meeting Minutes June 1, 2026
City Council Approval of Special Called Meeting Minutes June 5, 2026
- VII. **CEREMONIAL - Proclamations: Municipal Court Clerk's Week**
- VIII. **CITY CLERK'S REPORT**
- IX. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**
- X. **PUBLIC COMMENTS - (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)**
- XI. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 2. **Council Approval to extend the contract term for six (6) months with Hatley Plans, LLC for Impact Fee Study. - Planning and Community Development**

Background/History:

The City is currently conducting a comprehensive development impact fee study in accordance with the Georgia Development Impact Fee Act of 1990. The purpose of the study is to ensure that future growth and development contribute proportionately to the capital improvements and public infrastructure necessary to support the City. The study will assess current development trends, projected population growth, infrastructure capacity, and long-term capital improvement needs to determine appropriate and equitable impact fee calculations. The study will evaluate and recommend updated fee schedules, expanded eligible uses of impact fee funds, enhanced administrative procedures, and improved transparency measures for the following service areas and departments: Parks, Recreation, and Open Space; Roads, Streets and Bridges; Planning and Development; Police and Fire/EMS Services; and any additional public facilities or services identified by the consultant as qualifying under the Georgia Development Impact Fee Act.

The Planning & Community Development Department (PCD), in partnership with Hatley Plans, LLC, (The Consultant), has been working collaboratively to complete the study and ensure compliance with all statutory requirements established by the State of Georgia. The City established an Impact Fee Advisory Committee, which has been formally approved by the Mayor and Council to provide guidance, public input, and recommendations throughout the study process. Additional time is necessary to complete data collection, capital improvement planning analysis, and advisory committee review activities. The extension will allow sufficient time for the Consultant and Advisory Committee to finalize the technical analysis, conduct remaining meetings and public engagement efforts, and prepare the final recommendations and implementation strategy for presentation to the Mayor and Council. The requested contract amendment is for a time extension only and does not increase the original contract amount.

Contract Time Extension ONLY through December 31, 2026

XII. PRESENTATIONS

3. **Presentation: HomeANCHOR - Clayton: Housing Resource Initiative (Leadership Clayton Class of 2026 – Group III).** - Planning and Community Development

Background/History:

Leadership Clayton Class of 2026 – Group III is presenting **HomeANCHOR – Clayton: A New Connection to Housing Opportunities and Resources**, a community-based initiative designed to improve awareness, accessibility, and navigation of housing-related resources available to residents throughout Clayton County.

The project was developed in response to housing instability challenges impacting local communities, including housing affordability concerns, eviction trends, homelessness, and barriers residents often encounter when attempting to locate and access available support services. Through research and community engagement, the group identified a need for a centralized resource platform that helps residents navigate available housing-related programs and connect with organizations equipped to provide assistance.

This presentation will provide an overview of the project, identified community needs and resource gaps, and opportunities for partnership and community engagement. The group also looks forward to exploring how the City of Forest Park can collaborate in increasing awareness of available housing resources, strengthening connections between residents and support services, and serving as a potential community partner in advancing the initiative.

4. **Presentation: Fresh Hope: Lather & Load Initiative (Leadership Clayton Class of 2026 – Group II)**
- Planning and Community Development

Background/History:

Group II of the Leadership Clayton Class of 2026 will provide a presentation on **Fresh Hope: Lather & Load**, a community outreach initiative designed to restore dignity and improve quality of life for individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations through access to mobile shower facilities, laundry services, hygiene resources, and supportive services. The initiative seeks to address immediate unmet needs while connecting participants to available community resources and long-term support systems. As part of the project, the group is planning pilot "**Fresh Hope Days**" in Clayton County to demonstrate the concept, build community partnerships, and encourage support from local governments, nonprofits, businesses, and other stakeholders. The presentation will provide an overview of the initiative, its anticipated community impact, and opportunities for collaboration within the City of Forest Park.

5. **Presentation: Mayor's Reading Club** - Legislative

Background/History:

Staff will provide an overview of the Mayor's Reading Club: Little ROOTS, a literacy initiative established under Mayor Ellison's youth engagement efforts and aligned with the national Mayor's Reading Club program. The presentation will highlight planned reading and family engagement activities for the upcoming school year, including reading events, a bookmark contest, virtual reading opportunities, and a summer reading program.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

6. **Council Discussion on Cemetery Maintenance: Consideration of Service Reallocation Options** - Public Works

Background/History:

We are bringing this back to the table to assess if the Council has made a decision on whether to continue with the maintenance of these three cemeteries. If so, we would like to discontinue the month-to-month payment and put this contract out to bid with a set limited term and a more specific scope of work and expectations.

XIV. PUBLIC HEARING

7. **Council Consideration to approve a proposed Urban Redevelopment Plan pursuant to the Urban Redevelopment Law, O.C.G.A. § 36-62.1.** - Economic Development

Background/History:

URA Boundary Expansion: Staff is requesting that the City Council review and approve the proposed expansion of the Urban Redevelopment Area (URA) boundaries. Approval of the expanded URA boundaries will provide the City and Urban Redevelopment Agency with a framework to address blighted and underutilized properties, pursue catalytic redevelopment opportunities, support corridor revitalization along Forest Parkway and Jonesboro Road, and advance future economic development and redevelopment initiatives within the City of Forest Park.

Background/History:

To promote revitalization and sustainable economic growth, the City of Forest Park's Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA) engaged TSW to prepare a strategic plan for the City's Urban Redevelopment Area. The planning process began with an evaluation of the existing URA boundaries and included recommendations for expansion informed by development pattern analysis and URA staff input. Within the expanded study area, four potential sites

were identified as candidates for future redevelopment. Following a comprehensive review, the URA and TSW collaboratively selected one site for detailed concept planning to establish a clear and actionable vision for catalytic development.

During the planning process, the consultant team (TSW) met with City staff in January for an initial consultation to outline the project scope and schedule, which spans from January through the end of 2025.

Sources of data and information used in preparing this plan included: Forest Park and Clayton County GIS data; Clayton County Board of Assessors records; Field observations; Input from URA members and City staff.

The existing Urban Redevelopment Area (URA) in Forest Park is centered along Forest Parkway, extending from Old Dixie Road (US 41) to Ash Street. It encompasses the downtown area between Forest Parkway and Main Street/ Hill Street to the north, as well as the City Hall blocks and Starr Park to the south. In total, the existing URA covers approximately 122 acres.

To address blighted properties and support revitalization more effectively along the Jonesboro Road corridor—a major commercial spine within the City—the URA initiated an evaluation of potential boundary expansions. This process began with a windshield survey and mapping analysis to assess current development patterns and land uses along both the Forest Parkway and Jonesboro Road corridors. Blighted properties were identified by City staff and the consultant team and mapped within the context of these two primary corridors.

The expanded area encompasses properties fronting Forest Parkway and Main Street—from the City's western limits to Jonesboro Road—and includes commercial parcels along Jonesboro Road extending north to the City limits. In total, the expanded URA area covers approximately 512 acres.

8. **Second Reading of the FY26-27 Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan.** - Finance

Background/History:

FY2026-2027 Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan. FY2026-2027 Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan. The Proposed Funded dollar amount of the FY26-27 Budget is \$46,439,729.00. The budget meticulously allocates resources across various city priorities and programs. These allocations are made with the intent to enhance public safety, improve infrastructure, promote economic development, and provide essential services. From maintaining our parks and recreational facilities to supporting educational programs and ensuring the upkeep of our streets and utilities, the budget is designed to meet the diverse needs of our community.

XV. NEW BUSINESS

9. **Council Consideration to adopt an Ordinance to approve the FY2026-2027 Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan The Proposed Funded dollar amount of the FY26-27 Budget is \$46,439,729.00.** - Finance

Background/History:

Summary (Background and History)

10. **Council Consideration to approve the FY25/26 Budget Amendment #5** - Finance

Background/History:

Agenda Item – Budget Amendments (Finance Department)

The Finance Department respectfully submits the following budget amendment for Council consideration. These adjustments are part of the Department's proactive financial management practices and quarterly budget review process, which ensure accurate reporting, compliance with adopted budgetary standards, and alignment of departmental appropriations with actual operational activity.

The proposed amendment reflects responsible financial stewardship and supports the City's continued commitment to maintaining fiscal stability through regular monitoring, forecasting, and timely budget adjustments.

This budget amendment reflects a **\$1,427,294.93 increase in General Fund appropriations**. This Budget Amendment updates departmental appropriations by reallocating funds from different departments instead of using revenue projections to reflect actual operating conditions and fiscal performance. The Budget Amendment will reflect a slight change to the total amount of **\$44,263,641 to \$44,238,651**.

11. **Council Discussion and Approval to enter into a contract with DAF Concrete, Inc. for Asphalt Patching Services: Public Works Department - Public Works**

Background/History:

The Public Works Department has identified approximately twenty (20) roads throughout the City requiring asphalt patching and roadway surface repairs to improve roadway conditions, enhance public safety, and extend the useful life of the City's transportation infrastructure for residents, businesses, and visitors throughout the community. The proposed asphalt patching services will address deteriorated pavement conditions, including potholes, surface failures, uneven pavement areas, and damaged roadway sections that have resulted from normal wear and tear, weather conditions, and increased traffic usage.

The Procurement Division issued Solicitation No. 2026-RFB-023 for Asphalt Patching Services. The scope of work includes providing all labor, equipment, materials, traffic control, hauling, disposal, and all incidental items necessary to complete patching and roadway repairs at various locations throughout the City of Forest Park. A total of five (5) bids were received and evaluated for responsiveness, responsibility, qualifications, pricing, and compliance with the solicitation requirements. Based on the evaluation results, Procurement, in collaboration with the Public Works Department, recommends an award to the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder:

DAF Concrete Inc., 9160 Turner Road, Jonesboro, GA 30236

Total Amount: \$121,090.00 – LMIG Fund

12. **Council Consideration to approve an Ordinance Establishing Municipal Court Technology Fee - Municipal Court**

Background/History:

Consideration of an ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 5, Article A of the City of Forest Park Code of Ordinances to establish Section 2-5-18.1, authorizing the Municipal Court to assess and collect a technology fee of up to \$10.00 as a surcharge on criminal and quasi-criminal fines, as authorized by Act 592 (HB 1553) of the 2026 Georgia General Assembly. Revenue generated from the technology fee shall be used exclusively for authorized technological needs of the Municipal Court and Police Department, including court technology infrastructure, evidence management systems, body-worn camera technology,

license plate reader systems, drones, and other public safety technology improvements. The ordinance becomes effective upon adoption, with fee collection commencing no earlier than July 1, 2026.

13. **Council Consideration to adopt a Resolution designating the Urban Redevelopment Area and determining that the area constitutes a "Pocket of Blight".** - Economic Development

Background/History:

Resolution designating the Urban Redevelopment Area and determining that the area constitutes a "Pocket of Blight".

14. **Council Consideration to adopt a Resolution approving the Urban Redevelopment Plan.** - Economic Development

Background/History:

Resolution approving the Urban Redevelopment Plan.

XVI. CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel, Litigation, Real Estate or Cyber Security OCGA § 50-14-1

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

XIX. PRESENTATION

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at 404-366-4720 at least 24 hours before the meeting.