

Economic Development



Most of my private sector experience is in the area of Business Development. Therefore, economic development has been a priority for me since taking office – not only for District 4 but also for DeKalb County.

In the past four years, the entities that have been charged with driving our economic development efforts, such as Decide DeKalb, the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau, have gone through varying degrees of upheaval. But, things seem to be settling down a bit. I have tremendous respect for the work of all of these entities.



Malaika Rivers of Lexicon Strategies is leading the efforts for a Community Development District (CID) along the Memorial Drive Corridor.

Going forward, it is imperative that we make sure that these functions are resourced properly for the missions that we have charged them with executing. Then we hold them accountable for delivering.

Within District 4, my priority has been the main commercial corridor that runs through the heart of my district, Memorial Drive. The corridor revitalization study that I commissioned, funded, and that was ultimately adopted in a unanimous vote by the Board of Commissioners serves as the blueprint for restoring this once vibrant corridor. Subsequent media reports have been very positive as well.

As I have shared with my constituents on several occasions, making this happen will be a long, arduous process filled with many twists and turns and ups and downs. But, following through on the recommendations contained within the report will be the number one priority of my second term.

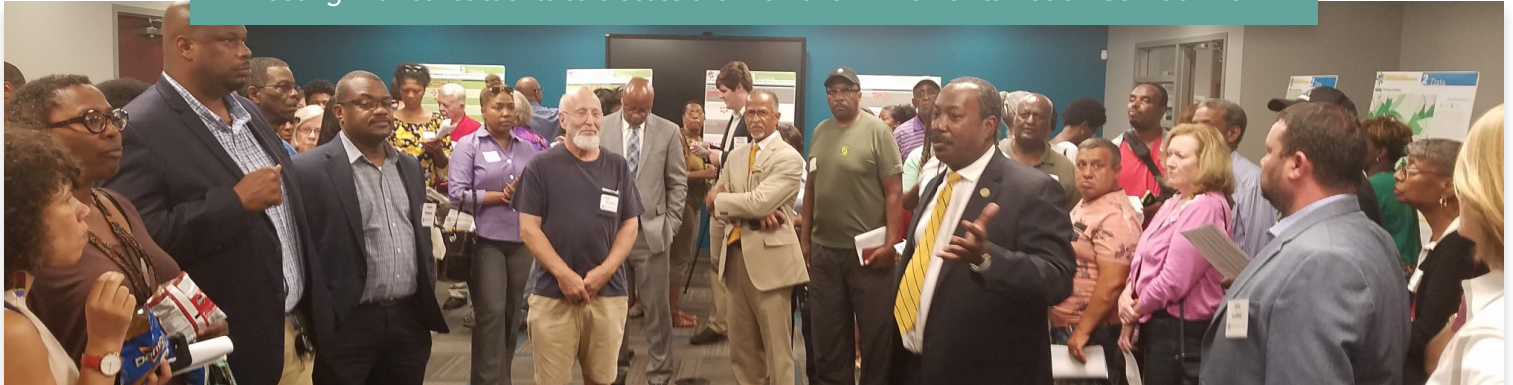


MEMORIAL DRIVE

REVITALIZATION CORRIDOR PLAN



Meeting with constituents to discuss the Memorial Drive Revitalization Corridor Plan.



DeKalb County – District 4

Accomplishments

- Allocated \$140,000 of District 4 reserve funds for a study to determine development opportunities on the Memorial Drive corridor
- Allocated \$131,900 of District 4 reserve funds to conduct a viability study for the establishment of a Community Improvement District (CID) along the Memorial Drive corridor
- Allocated \$75,000 of District 4 reserve funds to Advance DeKalb, which is an entity charged with creating enhanced engagement with DeKalb's business community