



**Development and Planning Services Committee Meeting
Minutes for Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 8:30 AM
Evans Government Center Auditorium, Evans, Georgia**

Present at the meeting included:

Connie M. Melear, Chairman
Alison G. Couch, Vice Chairman
Douglas R. Duncan, Jr., Member
Commissioner Michael Carraway
Commissioner Jim Steed
County Manager Scott Johnson
Deputy County Manager Glenn Kennedy
Deputy County Manager Matt Schlachter
County Clerk Patrice R. Crawley
County Attorney Chris Driver

Division Directors:

Leanne Reece - Financial Services
Kyle Titus - Engineering Services
Scott Sterling - Planning Services
John Luton - Community Services
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services
Chief Jeremy Wallen – Fire Services
Steven Prather – Facility Services
County Staff

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Melear called the meeting to order at 8:46 a.m.

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was held at the prior meeting.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was held at the prior meeting.

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Chair Melear declared a quorum with three members present.

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) January 13, 2026

Vice Chair Couch made a motion to approve the January 13, 2026 Development and Planning Services Committee meeting minutes. Member Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(F1) The addition of item I2a Initiation of Text Amendment of the Columbia County Code.

County Manager Johnson requested to add Item I2a Initiation of Text Amendment of the Columbia County Code. Chair Melear presented the agenda with the requested addition.

G. PRESENTATION

H. CONSENT AGENDA

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) New Business

(I1a) Deputy County Manager

(I1a1) Granting City of Harlem a Permanent Access Easement to Campbell's Way Parcel 031 094
Approved forwarding to the February 17, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Granting Permanent Access Easement to the City of Harlem parcel 031 094.

(I2) Items Added at the Meeting

(I2a) Initiation of Text Amendments to Chapter 90 Zoning Article III Commercial, Industrial, Professional, Special, Planned Unit Development and Planned Development Districts, Section 90-97 Allowed Uses Article IV Supplemental Requirements, Section 90-135 Signs and 90-147 Use Provisions of Columbia County Code

Approved forwarding to the February 17, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda text amendment to Chapter 90 Zoning Article III Commercial, Industrial, Professional Special, Planned Unit Development and Planned Development Districts, Section 90-97 Allowed Uses Article IV Supplement Requirements, Section 90-135 Signs and 90-147 Use Provisions of Columbia County Code.

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. STAFF REPORTS

(K1) Planning Services

(K1a) January 2026 Planning Department Work Load measurement monthly report

Planning Services Director Sterling presented the January 2026 Planning Department workload measurement monthly report.

(K1b) December 2025 Plan Review Work Load measurement monthly report

Planning Services Director Sterling presented the December 2025 Plan Review workload measurement monthly report.

(K2) Development Services

(K2a) Development Services Division Monthly Report

Deputy County Manager Schlachter presented the Development Services Division monthly report.

(K2b) Development Services Division Financial Report

Deputy County Manager Schlachter presented the Development Services Division financial report.

(K2c) Temporary Event Alcohol Permits

Deputy County Manager Schlachter presented the temporary event alcohol permits.

L. COMMISSIONERS' AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

N. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Melear adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.



Connie M. Melear, Chairman



Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk