



East Point 2012 Adopted Budget "Moving East Point Forward"

Dear East Point Residents and Businesses,

A few weeks ago I emailed you regarding the East Point Proposed 2012 budget and how this budget is part of a strategic plan to move our City forward. East Point has moved from a \$6 million dollar general fund deficit in Fiscal Year 2008 to a \$3.3 million dollar general fund balance in Fiscal Year 2010. On Monday, June 20th, the City Council took another monumental step towards moving this City forward by adopting a progressive, fiscally sound 2012 budget. Moving East Point forward has been met with many challenges, however, once your city leaders take on the task of defining a problem or an issue is laid at their feet, they must then work through the enormous and often difficult task of providing a resolution.

As proud as I am of the efforts of the majority of City Council, Staff and so many Citizens to bring forward a thoughtful and meaningful 2012 budget, it is very disappointing that some of East Point's elected officials are using this budget and the budget process as a political tool to prevent East Point from realizing its full potential.

The good news is that in spite of the internal and external politics, we were able to successfully adopt a 2012 budget that addresses and provides resolutions to the issues facing East Point while factoring in the current economic realities of East Point's residents and businesses. I firmly believe that there has not been a budget in the previous decade that has had the potential to fundamentally improve East Point and restore its vast promise as our 2012 budget does.

The East Point Adopted 2012 Budget highlights are below:

East Point 2012 Adopted Budget Highlights

•**Lowering of property taxes**

- Reducing property taxes from 14.75mil to 13.75mil

•**Improving City's physical image**

- Performing street striping and sidewalk repair
- Developing and beautifying major City gateways

•**Spurring economic development**

- Partnering with BIDA to share in the cost of hiring a consultant to focus on developing the downtown Commons area
- RFP for the development of a Government Center

•**Improving customer service**

- Expanding customer service - new customer service center and two additional customer service representatives

•**Increasing public safety**

- Hiring of 6 additional police officers

•**Recovering increase cost of operating utilities**

- \$28.30/month increase for 3k gallons of combined water/sewer use
 - \$37.18/month increase for 5k gallons of combined water/sewer use
 - \$7.35/month increase for average power user
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This budget will result in a stronger, healthier, sustainable East Point and continue to move our city in the right direction. We will finally be able to move from the diamond in the rough to our rightful place as the crown jewel of South Fulton County.

Sincerely,

Sharonda Hubbard
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