



Headline: East Point City Councilwoman Hubbard clears the air regarding City Finances, City Manager and other issues

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find attached, my press release regarding the Mayor's State of the City Address in East Point , GA. I will be holding a press conference to respond to the Mayor's State of the City address at the following location.

Jefferson Station, 6:15PM
1526 E Forrest Ave E
East Point City , GA 30269

I look forward to answering your questions in the future about leadership in East Point City .

Sincerely,
Sharonda Hubbard
East Point City Council, Ward A at Large

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said "The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be" I think the same can be said of a city. I would like to start out by saying that the politics of destruction have held this city back for far too long. The end results will always be division and failure of achievement. We must turn the page to a new chapter in East Point , to an era of civility, mutual respect and determination to work together to achieve tangible results. Unlike the City of Atlanta , which is a strong mayoral form of government, East Point is a City Council-City Manager form of government and majority of Council stand here today because we have chosen unity, we have chosen to shape East Point 's destiny, and we have chosen to begin a new conversation.

However, we do believe that in order to begin a new Chapter, we need to take a moment and clear the air and close the door on some of the recent negative information that has been put out in the media.

Let's start with unaccounted for funds: To the best of our knowledge and as demonstrated by our certified audits from 2003-2009 and 2010 preliminary audit results; there are no "unaccounted for" funds.

Late Audits – The City has made significant strides in our audit reporting. Last year the city cleaned up audits from 2003-2007 and finalized its fiscal year 2009 audit at the same time. The City also implemented new accounting controls and processes and moved a significant portion of our audit preparation work in house which has delayed the City completing the fiscal year 2010. Bottom line a lot of work has been done in our Finance Department over the past 12 months. Frankly, I personally commend the Finance Dept for their hardwork this year.

Credit card use – East Point has an established credit card policy that requires that expenses are related to City business and do not violate the law. In concerns related to appropriate usage of credit card, as we do with anything that is brought to our attention, look into and determine if any additional controls need to be put in place.

Here are the facts:

- The City is in the black – the City has turned a \$11 million fund balance deficit into a positive \$5.9 Million fund balance
- The city has reduced its short term borrowing (TAN) from \$14 million dollars 3 years ago to 8 million dollars today
- The city has implemented new Financial Controls - new audit procedures, processes and controls
- The City has invested in major equipment and infrastructure (Water & Sewer), Electric
- The City has reduced operational cost through its recovery program.

The City is well ran and managed and is in a sound financial position and we do believe that all our executive management staff, including the City Manager, is dedicated and committed to the City.

We are committed to starting a new Chapter in East Point and we hope that all of Council, including the Mayor, will join us in this new direction. This will not be an easy journey, nor will it happen over night, however, we believe with a committed spirit and unity towards shaping a better East Point that East Point will rise up and become the great City we all want her to be.

