



SEPTEMBER 10, 2026 - 9:00 a.m. - WORKSHOP and CITY MANAGER'S BRIEFING

CITY GOVERNMENT

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

The mobile tour (workshop) convened at 9:00 a.m., via a Trolley Bus behind City Hall. Mayor Johnson, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m., then Mayor Johnson recognized Ald. Kurtis Purtee to offer a prayer.

PRESENT:

Mayor Van R. Johnson, II

Aldерwoman Carolyn H. Bell, At-Large, Post 1

Aldерwoman Alicia Miller Blakely, At-Large, Post 2

Aldерwoman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1

Alderman Detric Leggett, District 2

Aldерwoman Linda Wilder, District 3 - Vice Chair

Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4 - Chairman

Aldерwoman Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, District 5 - Mayor Pro Tem

Alderman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

ALSO, PRESENT:

City Manager Jay Melder

Assistant City Manager Taffanye Young

City Attorney Bates Lovett

Clerk of Council Mark Massey

Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones

Deputy Assistant to Mayor Marty Johnston

Special Projects Coordinator Veleeta McDonald

Community Services Chief Ashley Reynolds-Marshall

Human Services Senior Director Kerri Reid

Human Services Grants Manager Sarah Saunders

Housing Services Senior Director Martin Fretty

Housing Services Assistant Director Luke Gardiner
Interagency Council on Homelessness ED Stephanie Kaple
Social Media Program Coordinator Ariuna Dorsey

Workshop Agenda Items

- 1. [Mobile Tour Workshop: Unhoused to Housed](#)
[Savannah City Council Mobile Workshop Handout -- Unhoused to Housed.pdf](#)

The Mobile Tour Workshop: Unhoused to Housed was presented by City Manager Melder, Assistant City Manager Young, Ms. Reid, Mr. Fretty, and various community partners, to include Union Mission, Chatham Savannah Homeless Authority, 916 MLK developers, Dundee Cottages/Cove, Family Promise, and Come As You Are Ministries.

Mobile Tour Route:

- Convened on River Street Behind City Hall
- Union Mission on Fahm Street
- 916 MLK
- 65 Dundee Street
- Savannah Gardens
- 1901 Pennsylvania Avenue (Come As You Are Ministries)
- Returned to City Hall

- 2. [Closed Executive Session: Personnel, Litigation and Real Estate \(As Needed\)](#)

HELD. Ald. Bell moved to hold an executive session regarding real estate and litigation, seconded by Ald. Leggett. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0. Mayor Johnson and Ald. Palumbo were not on the Trolley Bus at the time of the vote.

Executive session started at 1:04 p.m. All City Council members were present, including City Manager Melder, City Attorney Lovett, and Clerk Massey.

No action was taken during executive session. The executive session concluded at 2:02 p.m.

- 3. [City Manager's Update \(As Needed\)](#)

No City Manager's Update was held.

Upon entertaining a motion and second, Mayor Johnson adjourned the workshop/executive session at 2:02 p.m. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously, 9-0-0. No action was taken.

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council
Date Minutes Approved: _____
Signature: _____

The video recording of the Workshop can be found by copying and inserting the link below in your url:
<https://www.youtube.com/@cityofsavannah/videos>

