

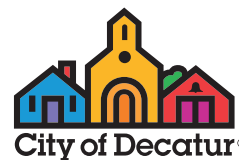
DECATUR 101

2022

Information and Insight | How the City of Decatur Works



Meet Your Commissioners



Patti Garrett, Mayor, District 2 Commissioner

First elected November 2009, current term expires 2025
patti.garrett@decaturga.com

Patti Garrett was elected to the City Commission in 2009, served as mayor pro tem in 2015 and was elected mayor in 2016. She has been active in the community since moving to Decatur in 2001. She has served as chair of the Decatur Tour of Homes committee, house captain and long-time volunteer on the Martin Luther King Jr. Service Project, as a board member of the Oakhurst Community Garden Project, and as secretary of the Oakhurst Neighborhood Association. She attends Decatur First United Methodist Church and has served on its Board of Trustees.

Patti is a 2012 graduate of Leadership DeKalb, a member of the 2010 class of the Regional Leadership Institute, and serves on the Environmental and Natural Resources Committee of the Georgia Municipal Association. She also serves on the Atlanta Regional Commission's Community Resources Committee and Regional Housing Strategy Leadership Committee and is former policy chair of the DeKalb Municipal Association. A graduate of Texas Christian University and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Patti serves on the Advisory Council of New American Pathways refugee resettlement organization and the Advisory Council for the Islamic Speakers Bureau of Atlanta. Patti also received the 2010 Georgia Dietetic Association Distinguished Service to a Community Award and was the 2017 Recipient of the National League of Cities' Michael H. T. Lynch Memorial Scholarship Award. She and her husband, Gary, live in Winnona Park and have three grown sons and six grandchildren.



Tony Powers, Mayor Pro Tem, At-large Commissioner

Elected November 2019, current term expires 2023
tony.powers@decaturga.com

Tony Powers was elected to the City Commission in 2015. As a native of Decatur, Tony has served the Decatur community for many years. Tony grew up in the Oakhurst Community and is a proud graduate of Decatur High School.

Tony served as co-president of the Oakhurst Elementary School PTA from 2001-2002, was a founding member of the Decatur Education Foundation and served as chair of the Education Foundation from 2010-2012. He served as chair of the Housing Infill Task Force from 2007-2008 and joined the City Planning Commission in 2009. He served as Chair of the City Planning Commission, a position he held since 2012. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the South Fork Conservancy since 2012. Tony was also honored with a Hometown Hero Award in 2002.

Tony earned a degree in marketing from the University of Georgia and is a co-owner of Intown Ace Hardware. He and his wife Leisa live in the Great Lakes neighborhood, they have two daughters, Diondra and Alexandra and all are proud graduates of Decatur High School.

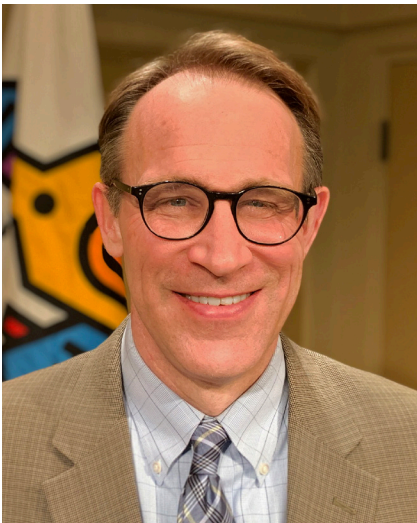


Kelly Walsh, District 1 Commissioner

Elected November 2017, current term expires 2025
kelly.walsh@decaturga.com

Kelly Walsh was elected to the City Commission in 2017. Since moving to Decatur in 2005 Kelly has served on several boards and committees in the city including the Decatur Active Living Advisory Board, the Clairemont Elementary PTA, and the Decatur Education Foundation PTA Council. Kelly was proud to be honored as a Decatur Hometown Hero in 2015. She has also been an advocate of health and fitness through coaching youth participants in Girls on the Run, serving on the board of Atlanta Track Club, and organizing the Fifth Avenue 5K and the Mayor's Mile community run/walk event in Oakhurst. She recently graduated from the Leadership DeKalb Class of 2018.

Kelly holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and a Master of Business Administration from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. Kelly works as a residential Realtor for Keller Williams and lives with her husband, Pat, and their two children near downtown Decatur.



George Dusenbury, District 1 Commissioner

First elected November 2019, current term expires 2023
george.dusenbury@decaturga.com

With the encouragement of Commissioner Scott Drake, George helped found the Downtown Decatur Neighbors to give voice to the concerns of downtown residents. He also was a co-founder of the Decatur Parents Network, whose goal is to strengthen ties between Decatur city school parents and promote a nurturing environment that encourages kids to make safe, smart decisions. George has served as secretary of the Decatur High School PTSA and is a graduate of the 2017 class of Leadership DeKalb.

George graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor of Arts in English. After earning his Juris Doctor from Emory University School of Law, he spent ten years working for Congressman John Lewis, serving as his legislative director in Washington D.C. and district director in Atlanta. George left the congressman's office to serve as executive director for Park Pride and then as commissioner for Parks and Recreation for the City of Atlanta. For the past three years, he has been the Georgia-Alabama state director for The Trust for Public Land, a non-profit dedicated to preserving land and building parks for people.

In his free time, George enjoy tennis, bicycling, bridge and spending time outdoors with his wife, Courtenay, and their two sons.



Lesa Mayer, District 2 Commissioner

Elected November 2019, current term expires 2023
lesa.mayer@decaturga.com

Lesa Mayer was elected to the City Commission in 2019. A City of Decatur resident since 2003, Lesa has been an active volunteer in the community, as well as at Oakhurst Elementary, Fifth Avenue 4/5th Academy and Renfroe Middle School. Lesa served as the co-chair of the Fifth Avenue spring fundraiser in 2018 and 2019, and as coordinator of the first Renfroe Tailgate in 2019. Outside of Decatur, Lesa is an active volunteer with Junior Achievement.

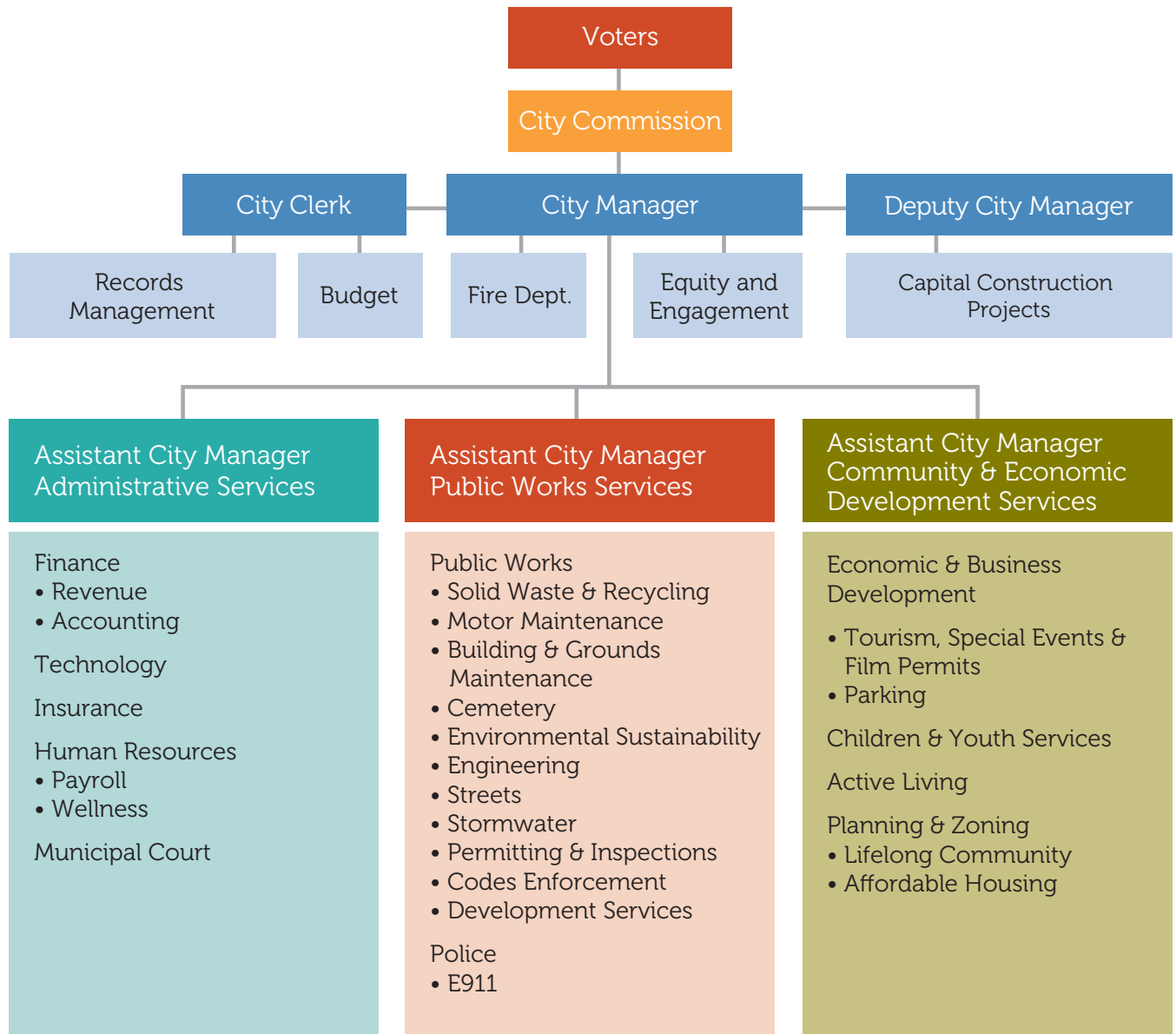
Lesa works as a Vendor Risk Manager for SunTrust, now Truist, and has been with the organization for more than 12 years. She resides in Oakhurst with her husband, Hurai (Rudy) Vazquez and her three sons, Zak, Dash and Prince.



Decatur City Commissioners determine the policies of the city and enact the local laws necessary for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. They provide leadership in identifying community needs and developing programs to meet community objectives. They oversee the delivery of services to citizens and are responsible for adoption of an annual budget and the levying of taxes necessary to finance local government operations.

Five City Commissioners are elected in nonpartisan elections for overlapping four-year terms — two from District 1, two from District 2, and one At-Large. Each January, Commissioners elect two of their fellow members to serve as Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.

City Organization



City Facilities



CITY HALL

509 N. McDonough St.

City Manager

- Budget
- Capital Bond Projects

Administrative Services

- Finance • Insurance
- Personnel • Payroll
- Records Management
- Technology • Wellness

Community & Economic Development

- Economic & Business Development
- Civic Engagement, Communications & Marketing
- Special Events
- Lifelong Community
- Planning & Zoning



PUBLIC WORKS

2635 Talley St.

Public Works

- Solid Waste & Recycling
- Motor Maintenance
- Building & Grounds Maintenance • Cemetery

Development Services

- Engineering • Streets
- Stormwater
- Permitting & Inspections
- Codes Enforcement



BEACON MUNICIPAL CENTER

430 W. Trinity Pl.

**Police Department
E-911**

Municipal Court

Active Living

- Gym • Meeting Space
- Stage
- Playground, Field & Pool



FIRE STATION NO. 2

356 W. Hill St.



FIRE STATION NO. 1

230 E. Trinity Pl.

Fire Department



LEGACY PARK ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

500 S. Columbia Dr.

Children & Youth Services

- Afterschool
- Summer Camp

RECREATION CENTER

231 Sycamore St.

Active Living

- Athletics • Parks & Pools
- Safe Routes to School



Andrea Arnold

City Manager
andrea.arnold@decaturga.com

The City Commission hires a full-time professional administrator, the City Manager, who supervises and manages the daily operations of the City. Decatur's current city manager is Andrea Arnold who has worked for the City since 1997. She has served as City Manager since January 2019. She began as an Assistant to the City Manager, became the director of Administrative Services in 1999, and was appointed Assistant City Manager in 2004. She received a BA in political science/urban studies from Furman University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Georgia. She is an active member of the International City/County Management Association and served on its Executive Board from 2009-2012. She is a graduate of Leadership DeKalb and is a graduate of Leadership ICMA's inaugural class of 2007. She attended the Atlanta Regional Commission's Leadership Institute in 2018. Andrea is married with three children and has lived in the City since 1996.



Teresa Taylor

Assistant City Manager, Administrative Services
teresa.taylor@decaturga.com

Teresa serves as assistant city manager over Administrative Services. She has oversight of human resources, finance, IT, risk management and municipal court. Previously she served as the assistant city manager for LaGrange, and before that was an assistant to the city manager and communications manager for the Chamblee. Taylor began her local government career as an ICMA fellow with Decatur from 2012 to 2014. She has a bachelor's degree in English and history from Emory University and a master of public administration in management and finance from Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. She serves on the ICMA Assistant/Deputy City Managers Advisory Board, as well as the Digital Strategies Advisory Board. She is a graduate of Leadership ICMA and has attended ICMA's Senior Executive Institute.



Hugh Saxon

Deputy City Manager
hugh.saxon@decaturga.com

Hugh oversees the city's capital improvement and construction management programs. He was hired as Decatur's economic development director in 1977 and became public works director in 1989. He was appointed deputy city manager in 2004. Hugh has a BA in economics from the University of North Carolina and a master's degree in landscape architecture from Harvard University.



Meredith Roark

City Clerk and Budget Director
meredith.roark@decaturga.com

Meredith is responsible for managing the city's elections and records. She also prepares the city's budget by coordinating departmental requests, incorporating vision-based budgeting components, and adding performance measures. She oversees the city's performance management program and works on special projects including assisting with emergency planning efforts as well as coordinating the citizen survey and census efforts. Meredith has a BBA in economics from the University of Georgia and an MS in public policy from Georgia Tech.



Gwen Blackwell

Office Manager for the City Manager's Office
Gwen.blackwell@decaturga.com

Gwen (Gwendolyn) Blackwell currently works in the City Manager's Office as an office manager and provides administrative support to the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Deputy City Manager, and the City Clerk. She also assists with managing risk management claims, the annual employee service awards, and the administrative professional annual retreat among other tasks. Gwen began her employment with the City of Decatur in October, 2016. She is a native of Oakland, Calif., and holds associate's degree in business from American International University-Atlanta. Before relocating to Atlanta in 2011, Gwen was a residency program coordinator for UCSF East Bay Surgery Program at Highland Hospital in Oakland. Gwen enjoys reading, listening to jazz, watching sci-fi movies, and designing and handcrafting unique jewelry and accessories.



Renae Jackson

Communications Manager/Public Information Officer
Renae.jackson@decaturga.com

Renae is responsible for Decatur's communications initiatives including serving as the city's public information officer. She plays an active role in the City's community engagement efforts and is one of the staff liaisons to the city's Better Together Advisory Board. In addition to her regular communications duties, Renae serves as Planning Team lead for the employee leadership academy and co-chair to the City of Decatur's Employee Equity Team- facilitating difficult conversations within the organization and in the community, and guiding the City of Decatur through their journey to lead with an equity lens. Renae holds a bachelor's in Mass Communications and Psychology from Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana and recently received her Master of Arts in Writing and Digital Communication from Agnes Scott College.



Nia Roberts

Digital Media Specialist
Nia.roberts@decaturga.com

Nia Roberts joined the Community and Economic Development Dept. as a digital media specialist in 2021. During her time as an undergraduate student at Agnes Scott College, she worked as an intern for Emory University's Marketing and Communications Department. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature in 2015, Nia served as the assistant to the ombudsman for Atlanta Public Schools. In 2016, Nia began working for the Georgia Lottery Corporation as a communications specialist to provide assistance with press efforts and advanced to communications coordinator in 2017 to expand her responsibilities to include social media management. In 2021, Nia obtained her Master of Arts in Writing and Digital Communication from Agnes Scott College.



Laura Spriggs

Content Editor & Writer
lspriggs@decaturga.com

Laura Spriggs has been a Decatur resident since 2012 and is passionate about the Decatur community. She has volunteered in the schools and with the City, supporting various programs, events, and initiatives. Prior to joining the City of Decatur's Community & Economic Development Department as a content editor/writer, Laura worked in marketing and communications for the construction industry with a particular focus on sustainability. Most recently, she worked in promotional marketing, assisting local and national clients with branding and event promotion.

Community & Economic Development



Linda Harris

Assistant City Manager, Community and Economic Development
linda.harris@decaturga.com

Linda oversees the Community & Economic Development Department as well as the Active Living and Children & Youth Services Divisions. Her primary focus is on Community Development including civic engagement, marketing, community building, special events and tourism. She is the Executive Director of the Decatur Tourism Bureau. She received a BA in English literature/creative writing from Agnes Scott College and a master's degree in communications from Georgia State University. Linda is a certified professional coach.



Angela Threadgill

Planning and Economic Development Director
angela.threadgill@decaturga.com

Angela Threadgill has been in the community development and urban planning field since 1999 and is currently the Planning and Economic Development Director, specializing in community development and engagement, plan making, urban design, zoning administration, economic development, policy analysis, and site plan analysis. Prior to joining the City of Decatur, Angela has been an urban planner and historic preservation planner for the City of Asheville, City of Atlanta, and City and County of San Francisco. She works to implement many of the city's economic growth tasks outlined in the Decatur: 2030 Strategic Plan and strives to be thoughtful and intentional about the way we shape our city through equitable and inclusive growth.



Tammy Washington, MBA

Operations Analyst
tammy.washington@decaturga.com

Tammy serves as operations analyst for the City of Decatur Community and Economic Development department. She has been with the city since 2003. Tammy oversees the finances and operations of the department by maintaining the financial records, monitoring the bank accounts, processing and tracking purchase orders/invoices, payments, and assists with the development of the department's yearly budget. She provides primary supervision for the parking division and serves as staff support for the Decatur Business Association. She was raised in Decatur and attended Oakhurst Elementary, Renfroe Middle School (now Beacon Hill Middle School) and graduated from Decatur High School. She has a B.A. in Accounting from Georgia State University and an MBA with a concentration in public administration from Keller Graduate School of Management.



Kristin Allin

Planner
Kristin.allin@decaturga.com

Kristin is a planner with a focus on housing, and began her role with the City of Decatur in 2019 when she returned to school and received a Master of Urban Studies at Georgia State University. With an interest in affordable housing, Kristin interned for the City of Decatur as a liaison to the 2019 Affordable Housing Task Force, and then from 2020 to 2022 as the Affordable Housing Fellow. She also holds an MBA from Saint Mary's College of California. Kristin served as a Board Member of the Wylde Center from 2010 to 2013, and as president of the Clairemont-Great Lakes Neighborhood Association from 2009 to 2010. She is a member of the Atlanta Triathlon Club and enjoys swimming and cycling. She lives in Decatur with her husband, Billy, and they have two sons.



Shirley Baylis

Business Development Manager
shirley.baylis@decaturga.com

Shirley is responsible for recruitment and retention of retail and restaurant businesses. Shirley is also the film liaison for the City, working with film production teams on a weekly basis bringing some of the most popular shows on television to the City. Prior to coming to the City of Decatur, Shirley worked as a credit manager for a family owned business as well as owned and operated her own catering and events business in Florida. She came to Decatur in 2009 as an Administrative Assistant in the City's Engineering Department and later becoming the Payroll & Benefits Coordinator in the Personnel Department. She joined the Community & Economic Development Department in November 2015, and transitioned from the Special Events Coordinator in 2019 to her current role. Shirley holds a BA degree in organizational leadership.



Aileen de la Torre

Planner
Aileen.delatorre@decaturga.com

Aileen de la Torre was born in Atlanta to Cuban immigrants many moons ago. After stalking the halls of Cross Keys High School, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in French from University of Colorado, with which she did absolutely nothing in French, followed by a Master of Historic Preservation from University of Georgia. She has since lived all over the U.S. preaching how "good city planning can solve the world's problems." She is involved with the Peachtree Creek Greenway, Defend the Atlanta Forest, We Love BuHi, and the Marti Historical Society. She has a husband who's a professor at Arizona State University and two awesome children in college. She serves as planner for City of Decatur and staff to the Historic Preservation Commission.



Sherry Jackman

Tourism Manager
Sherry.jackman@decaturga.com

Sherry is the tourism manager for the City of Decatur. Her office is at the Decatur Visitors Center at 113 Clairemont Ave. She works closely with the Hampton Inn, Marriott Courtyard Hotel & Decatur Conference Center, Decatur Arts Alliance, Decatur Business Association, and other city departments to promote and support Decatur's tourism industry. She is also the Volunteer! Decatur coordinator and organizes volunteers for Decatur's special events such as Decatur Wine Festival, Book Festival and Arts Festival. Sherry has worked in the travel and tourism industry for more than 35 years and for 15 of those years she owned her own travel agency. Sherry is happy to call Decatur home.



Lee Ann Harvey

Lifelong Community Program Manager
leeann.harvey@decaturga.com

Lee Ann is Decatur's Lifelong Community coordinator and works to implement the lifelong community vision spelled out in Decatur's 2010 Strategic Plan. She provides staff support to the Lifelong Community Board. Lee Ann also coordinates the MLK Jr. Service Project, A Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur, and the Decatur Neighborhood Alliance. Lee Ann develops and implements projects that respond to a variety of lifelong community issues such as: aging in place, intra-city transportation options for seniors, and affordable housing. Lee Ann has a BA in business. She is a past president of the National Association of Volunteer Programs in Local Government (NAVPLG) and is a 2005 graduate of Leadership DeKalb. In 2007 Lee Ann was presented with Decatur's Thomas O. Davis Public Servant Award.



Jacqueline Moore

Special Events Coordinator
jacqueline.moore@decaturga.com

Jacqueline Moore is the Special Events Coordinator for the City of Decatur. She began her career with the City in 2012, as the administrative assistant in the Design, Environment & Construction Division of Public Works. She is a member of the International Festival and Events Association, Southeast Festivals and Events Association and the American Public Works Association. Her past work includes an internship with Community and Economic Development and volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity-DeKalb County. Jacqueline is a recent graduate of Clayton State University. When she is not busy working special events, she enjoys spending time and traveling with her family.

Community & Economic Development *continued*



Kristen Leach

Administrative Assistant
kristen.leach@decaturga.com

Kristen serves as the administrative services assistant for Community and Economic Development, Planning and Zoning. She assists with the day-to-day operations of the office by doing tasks such as keeping up office supply demands, answering phone calls, and preparing documents for meetings. She also takes and records minutes of meetings and distributes them accordingly. She is a member of the International Association of Administrative Professionals. She also supports the Decatur Visitor Center.



Russ Madison

Finance Director
russ.madison@decaturga.com

Russ has managed the billing of city taxes since 2008, and the city's accounting office since 2018. As chair of the city's technology committee, Russ is committed to a strategic and collaborative approach to innovation. He served as a non-commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Reserves and deployed to Iraq from 2010-11 where he was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. Russ earned an associate's degree in intelligence operations from Cochise College, a bachelor of arts in political science from Emory University, and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Georgia.



Tracy Carter

Human Resources Director
Tracy.carte@decaturga.com

Tracy Carter has more than 20 years of human resources experience working with large and small companies in the public and private sectors. She has extensive hands-on experience leading HR initiatives, including policy design, compensation, performance management, talent management, compliance reporting, training and development, and benefits administration. She previously served as the deputy director of human resources with the Georgia Department of Human Services and as director of human resources with the Housing Authority of Dekalb County. In those roles, she was responsible for working with the management team to ensure that Human Resource goals and practices aligned with the organization's goals and objectives.



Scott Richards

Chief of Police
Scott.richards@decaturga.com

Scott Richards was hired by the Decatur Police Department in 1994 as a patrol officer. He was appointed police chief in April 2022. His responsibilities include planning, directing, and coordinating operations of the entire department. Scott is a member of the Internal Association of Chiefs of Police, Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police, the DeKalb County Chief's Association, and the Southern Police Institute's Alumni Association. He received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 1994 from Georgia State University. In 2007, he graduated from the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute's Administrative Course. He is a 2018 graduate of Leadership DeKalb. He graduated from the Columbus State University's Command College in 2021 with a master's degree in Public Safety Administration.



Mike Matics

Deputy Police Chief
mike.matics@decaturga.com

Mike joined the Decatur Police Department in 1994 as a police officer. He was promoted to deputy chief in 2022 and is responsible for the administration of the criminal investigations/special units, patrol, administrative services, and communications divisions. He is a part-time adjunct instructor at the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Law Enforcement Academy. He is an active member of the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association. He is an alumni of the 2020 Leadership DeKalb program. Mike has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Georgia State University and a master's degree in public administration from Columbus State University.



Billy Woodruff

Police Captain
billy.woodruff@decaturga.com

Billy was hired by the police department in 2003 as a police officer. In 2017, he was promoted to Captain. He is responsible for the Criminal Investigations and Special Units Division. He received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2002 from Georgia College and State University. He is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officers Course through the University of Louisville and a graduate of Leadership DeKalb.



Richard Phillips

Police Captain
richard.phillips@decaturga.com

Richard Phillips joined the City of Decatur Police Department in 2013. He came to Decatur as a veteran officer with 12 years with the police department in Cleveland, Ohio. He also has 5 ½ years with honorable service in the United States Army with specialized training in law enforcement, corrections and leadership development. In Decatur, he has served as a patrol officer, field-training officer, school resource officer, patrol sergeant, patrol lieutenant and now police captain over the administrative services division. He has a Bachelor's Degree with academic honors from Liberty University in Criminal Justice Administration and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Georgia State University. He has advanced certifications in supervision, management and executive leadership. He also serves as an adjunct senior instructor with the Georgia Piedmont Technical College.



Chris Clark

Police Captain
chris.clark@decaturga.com

Chris joined the Decatur Police Department in May of 2004 as a police officer. In 2022, he was promoted to captain and is responsible for the Patrol and Support Services Division. Chris has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Georgia College and State University and he is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officers Course.



Geri Jones

Office Manager
geraldette.jones@decaturga.com

Geri manages the daily activities of the City of Decatur Police Department. She has been working with the police department since October, 2021. She was born and raised in Mobile, Ala., and moved to Georgia from Louisiana in March 1987. She has an Associate's of Science Degree in legal studies. She has worked in the legal field for more than 35 years, beginning as a legal secretary for a small general practice law. Geri has two adult children and a granddaughter, and her hobbies are watching movies with her granddaughter, fishing, reading, and cooking.



Toni Washington

Fire Chief
toni.washington@decaturga.com

Toni joined the City of Decatur in 2009 as the fire chief. Her work involves planning and managing the operations of the fire department in fire prevention, fire suppression, emergency management, and emergency medical services. She began her public safety career at the State Fire Marshal's office and next at a metro Atlanta fire department where she worked her way to the position of deputy fire chief. Her professional achievements include a wide variety of fire operations, and public education and training certifications. Toni received her bachelor's of business administration in marketing and management at Savannah State University and a master's of science in managerial leadership from National Louis University.



Vera Morrison

Deputy Fire Chief
Vera.morrison@decaturga.com

Vera joined DeKalb County Fire Rescue 16 years ago as a firefighter, and six years later was promoted to the rank of Captain, and four years later, to Battalion Chief. She joined the City of Decatur Fire Rescue as the Deputy Chief in 2017. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Columbia Southern University. She and her husband share this same profession, as he holds the rank of Assistant Chief with DeKalb County Fire Rescue. They are guardians of their granddaughter, Chloe, who is as good a fire officer as Chief was at 9 years old. Vera's most treasured moments are laughing with, and at her family and enjoying a hot cup of tea, in cozy pajamas. She believes that when your career is what you love, then it's never work, and feels blessed to get to live her dream.



Ninetta Violante

Assistant Fire Chief & Fire Marshal
Ninetta.violante@decaturga.com

Ninetta Violante has been with City of Decatur Fire for almost 17 years and has lived in the city for 16 years. Her current duties relate to plan review, managing fire inspections, and community risk reduction projects. She is working on city performance measures, fire investigations, and strategic planning. She holds multiple certifications from fire and EMS training, and earned her master's degree in public health policy from Emory's Rollins School of Public Health.



Gary Menard

Fire Captain, Community Wellness Officer
Gary.menard@decaturga.com

Gary has been in fire service for 18 years. Prior to coming to City of Decatur, he was with Riverdale Fire Service where he focused on prevention and community health initiatives, collaborating with other local organizations. After 12 years with the same department, Gary came on as a firefighter with the City of Decatur. Gary is the lead on a number of community initiatives for the department and has presented at the Fire Rescue International Conference and the Georgia Women in Public Safety Conference. Last year, he was selected to receive the Thomas O. Davis award for public service.

Public Works



David Junger

Assistant City Manager
Public Works Services
david.junger@decaturga.com

David oversees sanitation and recycling, the Pay-As-You-Throw program, facilities and grounds maintenance, Design, Environment & Construction services including engineering, streets, stormwater, permitting and inspections, and codes enforcement. In addition David oversees Police and E-911 services. He has been with the city since 1990 and began his service in the Police Department, rising through the ranks to become the deputy police chief. He served as the deputy public works director until his appointment as public works director in 2006. David received a BS in criminal justice from Georgia State University and is a 2004 graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va.



Denisal McAlpin

Public Works Office Manager
Denisal.mcalpin@decaturga.com

Denisal began working for the City of Decatur Public Works since November 2013. She maintains day to day duties for most of the sub-departments of Public Works. She is a representative for the City with GA Recycling Coalition and Continuing Education for Admins at UGA. She is also a member of IAAP, and also participates in the GA Prima Association. Denisal attended Alabama State in 1990-1991, and Gwinnett College in 1999 where she received her Associates for Business Administration. Denisal enjoys time with her family and two beautiful grandchildren, taking care of others, cooking, and watching old television sitcoms and Westerns.



Sean Woodson

Sanitation Services Superintendent
sean.woodson@decaturga.com

Sean is a 20-year veteran of the department. He began as an equipment operator in the sanitation division in 1989. He also served as a fire fighter for five years. In 1997 he was promoted to sanitation services superintendent. He is a native of Louisville, Ky., and is currently a member of the Solid Waste Association of North American and the American Public Works Association.



Felix Floyd

Facilities Maintenance Superintendent
felix.floyd@decaturga.com

Felix was hired in August 2005 as a city management intern. He became facilities maintenance superintendent in March 2006, and manages the city’s buildings, grounds and cemetery. He is a member of the American Public Works Association and completed the University of Georgia’s Carl Vinson Institute in the Certificate of Public Works Management Program. He holds a BS degree in criminal justice from Albany State University and a master’s degree in public administration from Troy University.



John Maximuk, AICP

Development Services Manager
john.maximuk@decaturga.com

John was named the first director of Development Services (originally Design, Engineering and Construction) in July 2013. Through 24 years of experience in Georgia, Massachusetts, and Virginia he has always been a champion of design and best practices in planning. He has been active locally and nationally having served as the chair of the American Planning Association’s Urban Design and Preservation Division from 2006-2008 and serving on the board of Atlanta’s Architecture and Design Center. He is a certified planner with the American Institute of Certified Planners. John earned a master’s in Regional Planning at UMass-Amherst and a B.S. in Environmental Geography at Ohio University. John, his wife Lily and kids Stella and Nico, live in Candler Park.



Jennings Bell

Project Civil Engineer
jennings.bell@decaturga.com

Jennings has been with the city’s Engineering Department since 2011 as the city project civil engineer. He coordinates Drainage Division activities including infrastructure maintenance, plan review, and site inspection of new drainage facilities and site developments. He also supports the Streets Engineering Division and the Planning, Zoning, and Inspections Department as needed. He is a Georgia registered engineer-in-training with bachelor’s degrees in civil engineering and architecture from Georgia Tech.



Cynthia Hardnett

Code Enforcement Officer
cynthia.hardnett@decaturga.com

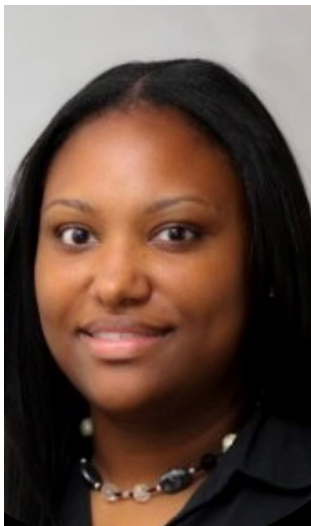
Cynthia has been with the City of Decatur since 2005. Her duties are to research code enforcement complaints, respond as necessary, and conduct field investigations of potential code violations. She issues verbal and written warnings, correction letters and notices of violation, and meets with property owners, tenants and business operators to review and explain code requirements and potential violations. She investigates suspected violations of health, safety, public nuisance, or other codes and takes follow-up action as necessary to pursue compliance. She has been an active member of the Georgia Association of Code Enforcement (GACE) for 12 years.



Kay Evanovich

Arborist
kay.evanovich@decaturga.com

Kay has held her International Society of Arboriculture Certification as an arborist for 14 years. She has taken numerous courses on environmental issues through the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education beginning in 1999 and she continues to broaden her scope of knowledge yearly. She is a Georgia soil and water conservation certified inspector, plan reviewer, and trainer. Kay was the City of Brookhaven arborist from 2013 to 2016. She was the owner and consulting arborist for Arbordiva, a tree health assessment focused business prior to that. Kay also served as the only female chief of environmental inspections for the DeKalb County Department of Planning and Development from 2003 to 2009. Her hobbies include photography, soccer and nature walks.

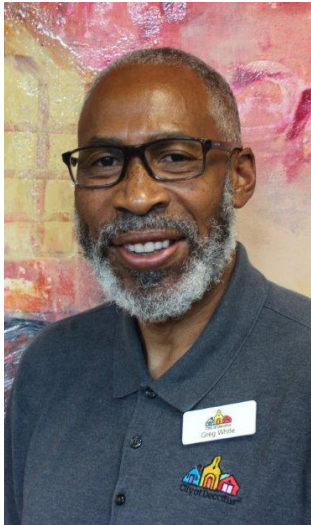


LaNeta Johnson

Development Services Administrative Assistant
laneta.johnson@decaturga.com

LaNeta began working for the City of Decatur in February of 2021. She serves as the support for the day to day functions of the departmental staff. LaNeta is a member of IAAP, and she enjoys spending time with her two sons, drinking coffee and shopping.

Active Living



Gregory White

Active Living Director
greg.white@decaturga.com

Greg started his employment with the City of Decatur in 1994 and is responsible for the Active Living Division overseeing athletics, tennis/aquatics, parks, dog parks, skate parks, recreation facilities including the Legacy Park gym/field, Scott Park community garden and Active Living special events. He is a member of National Recreation and Park Association and Georgia Recreation and Park Association. He completed Leadership DeKalb in 1996 and serves on the boards of GRPA Executive Board as Vice President, Decatur High School Wall of Honor and Atlanta Sports Hall of Fame. Greg coordinates the shared used agreements with Decatur High School, Agnes Scott College and Oakhurst Indoor Pool. A native of Durham, N.C., he attended Tuskegee University and Atlanta University.



Sara Holmes

Active Living Assistant Director
cheryl.burnette@decaturga.com

Sara began working with the City of Decatur in 2016 as the adult and senior program supervisor, and moved into the assistant director role in 2021. Her primary responsibility is the day-to-day operations of the active living division including management of the division; marketing and communication; coordinating the city's Safe Routes to School program; staff liaison for the Active Living Advisory Board and the Pedestrian Advisory Committee; run/walk permitting; special events such as Touch A Truck and Bike Month; and manages the Bicycle Friendly and Walk Friendly community designation. Sara is currently the Project Manager for Decatur Recreatur – the Decatur Parks and Recreation Master Plan. She graduated from Brevard College and is currently attending Georgia State University for her master's degree in Public Administration.



Virginia Atchison

Active Living Administrative Assistant
Virginia.atchison@decaturga.com

Virginia has worked for the city as the administrative assistant for Active Living for 22 years. She began my career with the City working in the Children and Youth Services Department where she was a summer camp counselor and after school counselor. She joined the Active Living Department as a part time receptionist and was later promoted to full time. Virginia grew up in the City of Decatur and attended City Schools of Decatur.

Children & Youth Services



Claire Miller

Children & Youth Services Director
claire.miller@decaturga.com

Claire came to the city in 2005 as the Children and Youth Services program supervisor, became assistant director in 2009, and moved into the director role in 2011. Her primary responsibilities include strategic visioning, partnerships, and organization management for the CYS division. CYS operates the city's afterschool programs, all day camps, and summer camps. She is a member of the National Afterschool Association and the American Camp Association. Claire spent two and a half years as the education and programming coordinator at the Oakhurst Community Garden Project before coming to the city. She has a bachelor's degree in sociology from Oberlin College and received a master's degree in public administration from the University of Georgia.



Nancy Brune

Children & Youth Services Assistant Director
nancy.brune@decaturga.com

Nancy joined the city in 2012. Her primary responsibility is the overall operations of the afterschool programs and summer camps, risk management and accreditation preparation. She is a member of the American Camp Association and the National Afterschool Association. Nancy previously worked for Girl Scouts of the USA as the science, technology, engineering and math program manager and at the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta as the program manager. She is a graduate of the University of South Carolina with a degree in physical education and recreation.



Lillie Johnson

CYS Administrative Assistant
Lillie.johnson@decaturga.com

Lillie has been with the City of Decatur for 18 years, beginning her career in the Active Living Department and transferred to Children & Youth Services in 2011. Lillie moved to Georgia in 1988 from her hometown of Pensacola, Florida where she attended Pensacola State College and studied Business Administration. Lillie has 2 children a daughter and son (both adults) and is a 1st time grandmother of the cutest baby boy imaginable.

Social Media / Documents



City of Decatur GA- Government



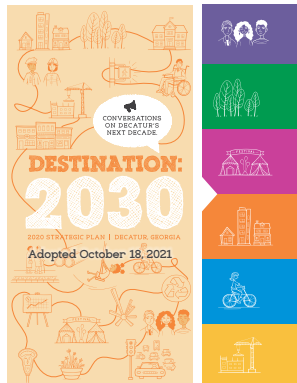
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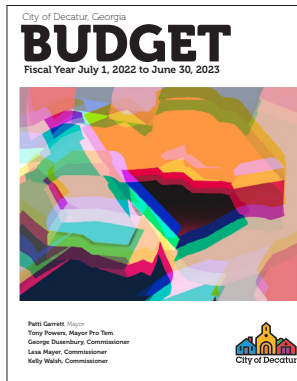


City of Decatur



2020 Strategic Plan

[decaturga.com/planning/page/2020-strategic-plan-•-destination-2030](https://decaturga.com/planning/page/2020-strategic-plan--destination-2030)



Decatur City Budget

decaturga.com/cmo/page/annual-budget-fiscal-year-2022-23



Decatur Focus

decaturga.com/focus

