COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Planning and Zoning	Presenter(s):	Pete Frisina and Tom Williams
Meeting Date:	Thursday, March 11, 2010	Type of Request:	Presentation/Recognition

Wording for the Agenda:

Presentation of a Proclamation to "Keep Fayette First!" by partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to help ensure a full and accurate count in 2010.

Background/History/Details:

April 1, 2010, is Census Day, the twenty-third since ratification of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. The Constitution calls for a census every 10 years to assist in equally apportioning representation in Congress and to determine budgetary requirements, amongst other purposes.

The 2010 Census questionnaires will be mailed to all residential street addresses in mid-March. The questionnaire is to be completed on April 1st and returned by mail.

Fayette County had the highest return rates amongst Georgia counties for the 1990 and 2000 Census (76% and 79%). This Proclamation promotes the goal to "Keep Fayette First!" for 2010. To that end we have already provided a list of sites for the Census Bureau to establish Questionnaire Assistance Centers and formed a Complete Count Committee to help in getting information out to various parts of the community. The Proclamation will give additional attention and support to the efforts underway.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Issue Proclamation. Tom Williams and Pete Frisina will be present.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past?	Yes	If so, when?	Wednesday, February 3, 2010
Do you need audio-visual for the presentation?	No	Back-up Material Submitted?	Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	Yes
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	Approved by County Clerk	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

PROCLAMATION
"Census 2010 Day in Fayette County"
"Keep Fayette First"

Whereas, April 1st is the 2010 Census Day, the twenty-third since adoption in 1787 of the United States Constitution which required a decennial census beginning in 1790; and

Whereas, The original intent of the decennial census was to aid the Federal government in allocating seats in the United States House of Representatives; and

Whereas, More than $400 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to states and communities based, in part, on census data; and

Whereas, The information gathered by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census is now used by government agencies at all levels to identify and target community needs, to determine and fund service levels, and to establish service delivery strategies that stimulate economic growth; and

Whereas, Every segment of our population benefits from the collection of Census data which is kept confidential and protected by law, therefore making it important that every person and every household participate in the Census process; and

Whereas, Fayette County had the highest rate of return for census questionnaires amongst counties in the State of Georgia for both the 1990 and 2000 Census, which means that our citizens made the most effort to complete and return their Census forms; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Fayette County Board of Commissioners supports a partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to help ensure a full and accurate count in 2010, do hereby proclaim April 1st as "Census 2010 Day in Fayette County", and in doing so, encourage all our citizens to *"Keep Fayette First!"* and to once again, make Fayette County Number 1 in the State in response to Census 2010.

So proclaimed this 11th day of March, 2010 by the

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

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Jack R. Smith, Chairman

Minutes

Board of Commissioners
February 3, 2010
3:30 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, met in Official Session on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, at 3:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room, Suite 100 of the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia.

Commissioners Present:	Jack Smith, Chairman Herb Frady, Vice Chairman Lee Hearn - arrived 4:11 p.m. Robert Horgan Eric Maxwell
Staff Present:	Jack Krakeel, County Administrator Scott Bennett, County Attorney Carol Chandler, Executive Assistant Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk

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NEW BUSINESS:

A. DISCUSSION OF ACTIVITIES IN PREPARATION OF THE 2010 CENSUS:

Director of Community Development Pete Frisina updated the Board on the activities in preparation of the 2010 census. A copy of the agenda request, identified as "Attachment No. 2", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof. He remarked that his department heads up the complete count committee and its purpose was to get the word out and educate the public on the upcoming census. He noted that Fayette County had a return rate of 79% and this was the highest return rate for any County in the State of Georgia during the last census ten years ago. He remarked that the Census Bureau would be setting up census assistance centers and this would occur between March 19th through April 19th. He said the Bureau would supply people who would be at these centers approximately fifteen hours per week to assist people filling out their census forms. He noted he had been calling polling places and putting them in touch with the Census Bureau to see if they would be willing to allow this activity. He said the people assisting at these centers would become paid employees of the Bureau and he felt this was a good time to create employment opportunities.