

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 1 of 17

Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on May 5, 2026 Following Work Session, Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Rusty Paul called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

II. Roll Call and General Announcements

Members Present: Mayor Rusty Paul, Councilmember John Paulson, Councilmember Melody Kelley, Councilmember Melissa Mular, Councilmember Frank Roberts, Councilmember Mary Ford, Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Rusty Paul led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

V. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Frank Roberts**, to approve the meeting agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. Consent Agenda

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Melissa Mular**, seconded by **Councilmember Mary Ford**, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A. 2026-113 Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2026 City Council Work Session
April 21, 2026 City Council Meeting

B. 2026-114 Request for Mayor and City Council to Approve Acceptance of a Purchase and Sale Agreement from Mark Humpherys and Christine Humpherys for Easement for Construction of Driveway and Temporary Construction Easement Rights (with a Cost to Cure Payment) on That Certain Tract of Land Located at 425 Windsor Parkway (Tax ID # 17-0066-0003-001-0), in Land Lot 66 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs, Fulton County, Georgia for the S2161 Windsor Parkway Sidewalk Project

Resolution No. 2026-05-063

VII. Presentations

A. 2026-115 A Proclamation in Recognition of Water Safety Month

***Mayor Paul** read the proclamation in Recognition of Water Safety Month.*

The representatives who received the proclamation are:

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 2 of 17

Facundo Texeira, Swim Safe
Ariana Bryant, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Allison Toller, Natalie Cato, Micki Robinson, Ryan Greenstein, YMCA Atlanta

VIII. Public Hearing

- A. **2026-116** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan

Dabney Brand, Grant Administrator, presented a recommendation to Adopt the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan.

The CDBG Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans, which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan.

In 2026, Staff will continue working on the implementation of the South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project, specifically the area south of Interstate 285 (Phase III), and other projects as determined, and begin the design for the Hope Road Sidewalk Project. Residents can offer input on this project at the public hearing, as well as other needs in their community relative to the CDBG Program.

The City's Fiscal Year 2026 CDBG allocation is \$500,669, representing a slight increase from the Fiscal Year 2025 allocation of \$485,216. The Section 108 Loan funds allow the City to accelerate project construction without significant financial impact.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Melody Kelley**, seconded by **Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky**, to Adopt the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan. **Vote on the motion.** The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2026-05-064

- B. **2026-117** ABL No. 28446
Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Approval of the Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Divinely Elegant Vines LLC at 203 Hilderbrand Drive, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. The Applicant is Jessena Waldo for Package Wine & Wine Tasting.

Cori Holiness, Revenue Manager, presented a recommendation to Approve the Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Divinely Elegant Vines LLC at 203 Hilderbrand Drive, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. The Applicant is Jessena Waldo for Package Wine & Wine Tasting.

This is a New Alcohol License for Package Wine & Wine Tasting. The business is located at – 203 Hilderbrand Drive, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. Applicant submitted a completed application on March 03, 2026 and has passed the background investigation.

There being no public comment, **Mayor Rusty Paul** closed the public hearing.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Melissa Mular**, seconded by **Councilmember Frank Roberts**, to Approve the Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Divinely Elegant Vines LLC at 203 Hilderbrand Drive, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. The Applicant is Jessena Waldo for Package Wine & Wine Tasting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- C. **2026-118** ABL No. 28478
Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Crave Kitchen & Bistro, LLC at 8610 Roswell Road Suite 140, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. The Applicant is Habip Reis Gumus for Consumption on the Premises for Distilled Spirits, Beer and Wine.

Cori Holiness, Revenue Manager, presented a recommendation to Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Crave Kitchen & Bistro, LLC at 8610 Roswell Road Suite 140, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. The Applicant is Habip Reis Gumus for Consumption on the Premises for Distilled Spirits, Beer and Wine.

This is the New Application of Consumption on the Premises for Distilled Spirits, Wine and Malt Beverage. The business is located at 8610 Roswell Road Suite 140 Sandy Springs, Ga 30350. Applicant submitted a completed application on March 25, 2026, and has passed the background investigation.

There being no public comment, **Mayor Rusty Paul** closed the public hearing.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Melody Kelley**, seconded by **Councilmember John Paulson**, to Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Crave Kitchen & Bistro, LLC at 8610 Roswell Road Suite 140, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. The Applicant is Habip Reis Gumus for Consumption on the Premises for Distilled Spirits, Beer and Wine. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IX. New Business

- A. **2026-119** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Approve Contract Award to AtkinsRealis USA, Inc. for Design Services for Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project, S2123, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director, presented a recommendation to Approve Contract Award to AtkinsRealis USA, Inc. for Design Services for Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project, S2123, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract

The Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project will enhance the safety and mobility of pedestrians and cyclists traveling on Roberts Drive from Dunwoody Place to Island Ford Parkway. Proposed work includes a twelve (12)-foot-wide concrete sidepath with landscaped buffer, street tree planting and pedestrian scale lighting. Two (2) midblock pedestrian crossings are planned—one located near Pride Place and the other near the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area – Island Ford Park to connect the new sidepath to existing sidewalks. The Project also connects to new sidepath, and the recently reconstructed Roberts

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 4 of 17

Drive bridge over SR 400 constructed by the Georgia Department of Transportation (“GDOT”).

City staff advertised a Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) on August 13, 2025. Since this Project will use federal funds provided by the Atlanta Regional Commission through GDOT, and in accordance with City Procurement Policy and GDOT’s Manual on Procurement of Engineering and Design Related Services, the RFQ was issued as a multiphase advertisement. Phase I Statement of Qualifications were due on October 1, 2025. Of the eight (8) consultants responding, four (4) were selected and shortlisted. On October 28, 2025, the four (4) shortlisted consultants were invited to submit the Phase II Technical Approaches.

The following is a list of the four shortlisted consultants:

1. AtkinsRealis USA, Inc
2. BCC Engineering, LLC d/b/a Heath & Lineback
3. Gresham Smith and Partners (L.P)
4. Infrastructure Consulting Engineering, LLC

Proposals were evaluated by a committee of five (5) staff members:

- Allen Johnson, TSPLOST Program Manager
- Connor Mok, CIP Project Manager
- Bebe Lee, CIP Project Manager
- Joan Estinval, Right of Way Coordinator
- Ko Seo, CIP Project Manager

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	POINTS
PHASE I		
Project Manager, Key Team Leader(s) and Prime’s Experience and Qualifications	1. Project Manager education, registration, relevant engineering experience, relevant project management experience, experience in utilizing GDOT specific processes, manuals, or guidance. 2. Key Team Leaders’ education, registration, relevant technical experience, and relevant experience in utilizing GDOT specific processes, manuals, or guidance. 3. Prime Consultant’s experience in delivering projects of similar complexity, size, scope, and function.	30 points
Project Manager, Key Team Leader(s) and Prime’s Resources and Workload Capacity	1. Project Manager Workload 2. Workload capacity of Key Team Leader(s) 3. Resources dedicated to delivering project 4. Ability to Meet Project Schedule	20 points
PHASE II		

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 5 of 17

Technical Approach	1. Provide any unique technical approaches your firm offers relative to addressing anticipated design concepts, use of any alternative methods for delivery (if applicable), and/or management of the project. 2. Identify any unique challenges of the project and how your firm intends to mitigate these challenges, including quality control, quality assurance procedures. 3. Provide any specific qualifications, skills, knowledge of the project and project area which may uniquely benefit the firm and project, and your ability and willingness to meet time requirements.	40 points
Past Performances	The Selection Committee considered information obtained from references for relevant projects, any knowledge a Selection Committee member may have regarding performance on relevant projects, and performance evaluations or other information concerning City and GDOT projects. The Selection Committee shall consider these factors in their totality and assign a final Past Performance score on a scale of 0 to 10.	10 points

Proposal Scoring by the evaluation committee for the four (4) firms were as follows:

OFFEROR	CONSENSUS PROPOSAL SCORE	RANKING
AtkinsRealis USA, Inc.	850	1
Infrastructure Consulting Engineering, LLC	700	2
Gresham Smith and Partners (L.P)	675	3
BCC Engineering, LLC d/b/a Heath & Lineback	575	4

Based upon the review and scoring by staff as well as a review of the Atkins fee proposal, the staff recommends that the City award the design contract for S2123 Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project to AtkinsRealis USA, Inc in the amount of \$901,634.17.

The current fee proposal provided by Atkins is \$901,634.17. Adequate funds have been budgeted and allocated to fund this planned design through federal funding provided by the Atlanta Regional Commission and GDOT (80%) and with the balance of the funding being provided by the TSPLOST 2021 (20% local match).

Motion and second. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Melody Kelley**, to Approve Contract Award to AtkinsRealis USA, Inc. for Design

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 6 of 17

Services for Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project, S2123, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract.

Councilmember Kelley asked were the consensus proposal scores calculated by the five individuals on the committee?

Public Works Director Martin said yes. Scores were given from 1000 available points.

Councilmember Kelley asked for information on how the numbers correlate.

Public Works Director Martin said score sheets are not available tonight. With oversight from Purchasing, Staff provided their consensus score. Within this, there was an adjustment against the overall score.

Eden Freeman, City Manager, said with Council's consent, this item can be tabled to May 19.

Mayor Paul said we want to ensure the numbers add up.

Councilmember Paulson asked will tabling this affect the project timeline and can the City loose funding?

Public Works Director Martin said this item can return to Council in two weeks for approval.

Substitute Motion. A substitute motion was offered by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Melody Kelley** to Table Contract Award to AtkinsRealis USA, Inc. for Design Services for Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project, S2123, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract.

Vote on the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- B. **2026-120** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Approve Supplemental Agreement #1 to the Original Project Framework Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the Design of the Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Agreement

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director, presented a recommendation to Approve Supplemental Agreement #1 to the Original Project Framework Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the Design of the Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Agreement.

The original GDOT PFA for this Project, dated September 4, 2025, was approved by Mayor and City Council on August 5, 2025 and provided \$216,000.00 in federal funding for preliminary engineering ("PE") funds with a Local match of twenty percent (20%) (or \$54,000) to develop the design for the Project.

In January 2026, the City requested additional PE funds from the Atlanta Regional Commission ("ARC")

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 7 of 17

after an independent cost estimate determined that the original funding request was insufficient by \$504,307. This request was approved, and the Supplemental Agreement reflects the additional design funding.

	PE		ROW		Utility Relocation		Construction	
	Federal	Local	Federal	Local	Federal	Local	Federal	Local
Original PFA	\$216,000	\$54,000						
TIP Solicitation			\$96,000	\$24,000	\$96,000	\$24,000	\$1,608,000	\$402,000
Supplemental #1	\$505,307	\$126,327						
Totals	\$721,307	\$180,327	\$96,000	\$24,000	\$96,000	\$24,000	\$1,608,000	\$402,000

As detailed in the table above, the ARC has increased their award for this Project, providing a total of \$721,307.00 in federal funds with a required local match total of \$180,327.00. There are adequate funds available in the budget for TSPLOST Project S2121 budget to provide the required local match.

Mayor Paul asked if this agreement with ARC and GDOT has any impact on the actual contractor.

Public Works Director Martin said no.

Councilmember John Paulson said if this is approved but there is not enough to fund the project, we may need to re-fund the project again.

Mayor Paul said regardless of who the contractor is, we need to approve the agreement to fund what is available. If we do not agree to receive the money, there is a possibility that it will go away.

Public Works Director Martin said if an additional \$20,000 for instance was needed, ARC would be supportive of this additional fund request.

Mayor Paul said they are two separate decisions and not dependent on who the contractor is.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Melody Kelley**, to Approve Supplemental Agreement #1 to the Original Project Framework Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the Design of the Roberts Drive Sidepath Phase I Project and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Agreement. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2026-05-066

- C. **2026-121** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Approve Contract Award to Excellere Construction, LLC to Construct the Mountain Creek Road Stormwater Maintenance Phase 2 Project and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director, presented a recommendation to Approve Contract Award to Excellere Construction, LLC to Construct the Mountain Creek Road Stormwater Maintenance Phase 2 Project and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract.

In 2024, the City of Sandy Springs (the “City”) engaged a consultant to develop plans to correct deficiencies in the stormwater system under Mountain Creek Road near the properties located at 5760 Mountain Creek Road and 5775 Mountain Creek Road. The construction plans for the planned maintenance Project were developed and permitted. The construction project is divided into two (2) phases. Phase I construction was completed earlier in 2026. Work in Phase II includes trenchless rehabilitation of the 60” Corrugated Metal Pipe (CMP) culvert and reconstruction of the headwall at the downstream property. The Project scope consists of:

- Restoration of approximately ninety (90) linear feet of 60” CMP pipe using Centrifugally Cast Concrete Pipe method
- Installation of one (1) cast-in-place reinforced concrete headwall with veneer on the downstream embankment
- Installation of gabion baskets for streambed protection at the downstream headwall.

To advance the Project, the City issued Invitation to Bid (“ITB”) 26-044 on March 5, 2026, seeking bids from qualified contractors to construct the Project. Addendum 1 was issued on March 27, 2026 and Addendum 2 was issued on April 2, 2026. Bids from three (3) contractors were received prior to April 6, 2026, due date. Bid results were as follows:

Bidder	Bid
Excellere Construction, LLC	\$404,030.00
HD Excavations & Utilities, LLC	\$478,135.68
Helix Grading & Utility, LLC	\$523,610.65

The engineer's cost estimate for the work was \$408,153.24.

Upon review of the bids, City Staff recommends that contract award be made to the lowest most responsible and responsive bidder, Excellere Construction, LLC in the amount of \$404,030.00.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky**, seconded by **Councilmember Melissa Mular**, to Approve Contract Award to Excellere Construction, LLC to Construct the Mountain Creek Road Stormwater Maintenance Phase 2 Project and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2026-05-067

- D. **2026-122** Request for Mayor and City Council to Approve and Accept an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement from Atlanta Board of Realtors Educational Foundation Inc. on that Certain Tract of Land located at 5784 Lake Forrest Drive in Land Lot 123 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs, Fulton County, Georgia in relation to the T2405 Lake Forrest at Allen Road Roundabout Project

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director, presented a recommendation to Approve and Accept an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement from Atlanta Board of Realtors Educational Foundation Inc. on that Certain Tract of Land located at 5784 Lake Forrest Drive in Land Lot 123 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs, Fulton County, Georgia in relation to the T2405 Lake Forrest at Allen Road Roundabout Project.

The acquisition of 3,138.04 square feet (0.072 acres, more or less) of fee simple Right of Way, 1,877.55 square feet (0.033 acres, more or less) of Temporary Construction Easement on the subject property is necessary to construct the Lake Forrest at Allen Road Roundabout Project.

The City and the Property Owners have come to an amicable agreement in the amount of \$203,700.00, which is the City's Appraised Fair Market Value. Therefore, the Agreement is deemed to be in the best interest of the City and Staff hereby recommends Council's approval of the Agreement.

Motion and second. A motion was made by **Councilmember Melissa Mular**, seconded by **Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky**, to Approve and Accept an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement from Atlanta Board of Realtors Educational Foundation Inc. on that Certain Tract of Land located at 5784 Lake Forrest Drive in Land Lot 123 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs, Fulton County, Georgia in relation to the T2405 Lake Forrest at Allen Road Roundabout Project.

Councilmember Chinsky said this is less than a tenth of an acre of land that the City is purchasing for over \$200,000, and it is interesting how much the value of land has increased in Sandy Springs, as we are evaluating other projects.

If GDOT moves forward with the DDI project at I-285 and Roswell Road, and before the City spends another \$200,000 on the Allen Road Roundabout Project, we should consider if this project is worth it.

Public Works Director Martin said it is a long way to go on decisions and impacts with a DDI interchange or more as a solution at I-285 and Roswell Road.

Vote on the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
Resolution No. 2026-05-068

- E. **2026-123** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Approve the Project List for Submission to Fulton County for Incorporation into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Use and Distribution of Proceeds Generated by the 2026 Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) Referendum

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 10 of 17

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director, presented a recommendation to Approve the Project List for Submission to Fulton County for Incorporation into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Use and Distribution of Proceeds Generated by the 2026 Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) Referendum.

During the 2015 legislative session, the Georgia General Assembly passed SB 369, amending, among other provisions, Article 5A of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the special district mass transportation sales and use tax; and further amended in 2016, to create separate tax districts for the City of Atlanta (“COA”) and the other municipalities within Fulton County outside the COA, including the City of Alpharetta, the City of Chattahoochee Hills, the City of College Park, the City of East Point, the City of Fairburn, the City of Hapeville, the City of Johns Creek, the City of Milton, the City of Mountain Park, the City of Palmetto, the City of Roswell, the City of Sandy Springs and the City of Union City (collectively, “Cities”). In 2016, governmental officials representing the Cities, Fulton Co., MARTA and formulated a Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) program that was approved by referendum on November 8, 2016 in which collections for this program began on April 1, 2017 and concluded on March 31, 2022. Again, in 2021, governmental officials representing the Cities, Fulton Co., and MARTA formulated a Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) program that was approved by referendum on November 2nd, 2021. Collections for this program began on April 1, 2022 and will conclude on March 31, 2027.

With collections for the second TSPLOST program ending in March 2027, governmental officials representing the Cities and Fulton County have been meeting publicly since early 2026 to formulate a new TSPLOST program to propose as a referendum for public voting on November 3, 2026. During this period, each jurisdiction has been tasked to prepare a list of proposed projects meeting the criteria outlined in SB 369 and per O.C.G.A. 48-8-260(5) and 48-8-121(b)(1).

City staff has prepared a list of proposed projects that meet the criteria of the TSPLOST program. These proposed projects have been vetted publicly through public information meetings held April 8 through April 16, 2026 and through a publicly accessible web page, seeking public feedback.

Jurisdiction lists are due to Fulton County May 31, 2026. These lists will be incorporated into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County and the jurisdictions. If the referendum is approved by the public and a City/County that adopts the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), it is anticipated that Fulton County will approve and execute a resolution authorizing the TSPLOST to begin on April 1, 2027 and to conclude on March 31, 2032.

SB 369 authorizes the imposition of a maximum tax rate of 0.75% within Fulton County outside the City of Atlanta. The generated revenue will be distributed based solely on jurisdictional population with proceeds from the TSPLOST distributed directly to each jurisdiction by the Georgia Department of Revenue. Fulton County will be responsible for the Administrative Functions of the TSPLOST, with support from Cities, including the Fulton Transportation Investment Citizens’ Oversight Council. Any jurisdiction which fails to execute the IGA cannot legally receive funds from TSPLOST, since there is no way to assure compliance with provisions of state law as delineated in SB 369.

The 2026 timeline moving forward with getting the referendum out to public voting is as follows:

- May 5: Council adopt Project List
- May 31: Submit Project List to Fulton County
- July: Intergovernmental Agreement Confirmed by Cities and Council adopts IGA
- July: Resolution Signed by Fulton County
- August: Resolution signed by County and Call for Referendum Coordinated with Elections

- Aug. – Nov.: Voter information education
- November 3: Vote by Citizens

The expected funds received from the TSPLOST over a 5-year period for the City of Sandy Springs utilizing the 2024 population as part of the formula distribution, is anticipated to be up to a maximum of \$129,191,942.

Motion and second. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Frank Roberts**, to Approve the Project List for Submission to Fulton County for Incorporation into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Use and Distribution of Proceeds Generated by the 2026 Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) Referendum.

Councilmember Paulson asked how will the community know what they are voting for in November?

Public Works Director Martin said there have been four open houses on the project. Also, in advance of early voting there will be voter education of the proposed projects for the City, and around August 2026 there will be a complete update on the program.

Mayor Paul said T-SPLOST has a long history. With the cities in charge, voters felt comfortable that it would be done correctly. Sandy Springs provided the margin for victory on the first and on the second by significant margin. The results prove that the City has been good stewards of the money.

Councilmember Melody Kelley asked can the projects be changed after approval?

Public Works Director Martin said we are bringing a list of proposed projects across three tiers to the voters. These programs have flexibility as opportunities arise, and we have adjusted in previous years. We bring these recommended changes to funding or projects on the list for Council approval and the public can see a vote on that list.

Councilmember Kelley said my constituents often ask me about Trowbridge. Are there updates on what is happening there now?

Public Works Director Martin said there is a signal upgrade and some curb line improvements, but a plan is not available tonight to explain what is currently happening. Within TSPLOST III, one of the midblock crossings contemplated in the Midblock Crossing Program is near Roswell Road at Trowbridge. That puts protected pedestrian median and the pedestrian landing features associated with a midblock crossing like the midblock crossing at North Fulton Government Center, for example. Also, we look for opportunities in Tier II and Tier III that might avail themselves to the City.

Councilmember Kelley said high injury intersections rankings with the Safe Streets program for example, include Trowbridge. This is listed as one of the most dangerous intersections.

Public Works Director Martin said the plan for Trowbridge is important and it will target certain accidents at that intersection with the improvements we are undertaking right now to reduce risks.

Councilmember Kelley said the entrance for the new North Springs High School will be on Trowbridge. This is in the safety plan as a dangerous stretch and the City needs to look at it.

Councilmember Melissa Mular asked when will you return to Council with the proposed projects for the midblock crossing, intersection program, and access management program?

Public Works Director Martin said a comprehensive presentation will be done in August.

Councilmember Mular asked does the midblock crossing program have a structured scoring method for prioritization as the sidewalk program?

Public Works Director Martin said no. The state route will suggest there will be big pedestrian numbers, and those areas are going to be scored against other studies the City has done like the Safe Streets 4 All. Neighborhood streets are far less, and do not have the traffic.

Vote on the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2026-05-069

- F. **2026-124** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Award Fiscal Year 2026 Nonprofit Arts and Recreation Program Contracts and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Agreements

Brent Walker, Director of Recreation and Parks, presented a recommendation to Award Fiscal Year 2026 Nonprofit Arts and Recreation Program Contracts and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Agreements

The City of Sandy Springs (the "City") created a program (the "Program") to collaborate with duly organized nonprofit organizations to offer new programming or to expand eligible existing recreational programs targeted to underserved populations and low-income communities within the City. In previous fiscal years Mayor and Council allocated up to \$150,000 annually to the Program. Recognizing its value, the appropriation was increased to \$200,000 for Fiscal Year 2026.

In previous years, two types of awards were offered: Category One awards for partial funding of the previous year's awards and Category Two awards for "new" programs. For this current award cycle, the City elected to simplify the process by removing the categories and allowing applicants to apply for a maximum of \$15,000 for either an existing program or a new program. Projects funded by this Program are intended to serve Sandy Springs' underserved and low-income populations.

On October 21, 2025, the City issued a Request for Proposals #26-013 ("RFP") to solicit responses ("Proposals") from qualified nonprofit organizations ("Offerors") to partner with the City's Recreation and Parks Department to provide programs and recreational activities for the benefit of underserved and low-income residents of the City. Each eligible nonprofit organization proposing and meeting the requirements of the RFP were allowed to request up to \$15,000 in funding. Proposals were due on November 19, 2025. Mayor and Council awarded eleven (11) non-profits funding at the January 20, 2026 meeting and requested staff to open up the program for a second round of funding.

On January 23, 2026 the City issued a Request for Proposals #26-034 ("RFP") and received nine (9) applications on or before February 23, 2026. During the review process, the City received notice from the Sandy Springs Police Foundation that they withdrew their submittal from consideration.

The City formed a team of personnel ("Evaluation Committee") to evaluate submitted proposals using the

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 13 of 17

criteria set forth in the RFP and to recommend qualified nonprofit organizations to receive funds from the Program for specific eligible programs. The Evaluation Committee consisted of the following individuals:

- Dabney Brand, Grants Administrator
- Jane Jarrett, Program Coordinator
- Erika Rose, Executive Administrative Assistant
- Brent Walker, Recreation and Parks Director

The City reviewed proposals from the following eight (8) organizations:

1. Call for Caring, Inc.
2. City Springs Theatre Company
3. Sandy Springs Education Force
4. The Healthy Youth USA Foundation, Inc.
5. Unique Individual Ranch, Inc.
6. Reviving Leaders Collective, Inc.
7. Vegal Life Corporation
8. Within the Mix, Inc.

The total request for funding is \$120,000. Only \$86,600 is available within the program.

Evaluation Criteria

Pursuant to Section 4 of the RFP, the City ranked proposals according to the following criteria:

Criteria for Consideration	Weight in Evaluation
Providing creative programs to meet the needs of underserved, diverse, and low to moderate income Sandy Springs residents	40%
Impact (number of Sandy Springs residents served)	20%
Program performance measures	15%
Financial Reports	10%
Tenure of nonprofits	5%
Program partnerships (two or more nonprofits providing programs together)	5%
Matching funding	5%

Results

The Evaluation Committee members first reviewed the proposals individually and then met as a group to discuss and develop final recommendations. The following table outlines the Evaluation Committee's recommendations for the applicants for FY 2026 program.

Nonprofit Organization	Program	FY2025 Total Award	Recommended Award
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Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 14 of 17

Nonprofit Organization	Program	FY2025 Total Award	Recommended Award
Call for Caring	The Young, Gifted and Caregiving (YGC) program developed by CFC provides young caregivers under the age of 18 years a space for learning, sharing, and respite from their caregiver journey of supporting a loved one with dementia or other chronic health issues	\$27,171	\$15,000
City Springs Theatre Company	The funds will be used to ensure that Sandy Springs students have access to City Springs Theatre Conservatory's high quality arts education programming regardless of their financial status. If awarded, this grant would allow CSTC to continue and build on the scholarship program it established under last year's grant program.	\$13,513	\$15,000
Unique Individual Ranch Inc.	Adaptive Summer Camp designed specifically for children and young adults with special needs and disabilities, ages 4 to 22. Our mission is to provide a safe, inclusive, and joyful environment where every camper can explore, grow, and thrive at their own pace	\$12,995	\$15,000
Sandy Springs Education Force Inc.	After School All Stars, an after-school program which is conducted for students who attend Sandy Springs Middle School. This comprehensive program includes academic, enrichment and recreation activities.	NA	\$15,000
The Healthy Youth USA Foundation Inc.	Summer Camp Scholarship program which will allow Sandy Springs elementary age children to attend 6 weeks of full day summer camp during June and July 2026. Each day consists of snacks, outdoor play, field trips around the Atlanta area and weekly swim.	\$26,290	\$15,000
Reviving Leaders Collective Inc.	Circle 7, Community Leadership & Peer Support Circles, a structured enrichment program designed to foster leadership development, social connection, and community engagement among underserved youth who are residents of Sandy Springs. Circle 7 provides facilitated group sessions that combine leadership development, peer connection, creative reflection, and life-skills enrichment in a supportive, non-clinical environment. Through consistent participation, youth build communication skills, confidence, and a stronger sense of belonging within their community.	NA	\$0
Vegan Life Corporation	The Creative Keys program, a youth-focused arts education initiative designed to teach piano fundamentals, songwriting, and digital music production. The program will empower youth to develop core music skills and produce original compositions.	NA	\$0
Within the Mix Inc.	Within the Mix: a Mind, Body & Culture Wellness Initiative, is a recreation and wellness initiative designed to serve approximately 120 underserved Sandy Springs	NA	\$0

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
May 5, 2026 Following Work Session
Page 15 of 17

	residents annually. Prioritizing youth and young adults from low-income households and communities with limited access to structured recreation and wellness services.		
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All applicants requested \$15,000, which is the maximum amount allowed by the program.

Upon review of the applications, staff determined that all eight (8) of the applicants were eligible to receive funding. However, sufficient funding is not available to fund all requests. Given the available funds, staff recommend prioritizing applicants who have prior partnerships with the City and robust experience working with the Sandy Springs community. Given the funding prioritization, Staff recommend no funding for Reviving Leaders Collective Inc., Vegan Life Corporation and Within the Mix Inc., during this funding cycle. Staff recommend that the remaining five (5) applicants be awarded the requested allowable amount of \$15,000 each.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky**, seconded by **Councilmember Mary Ford**, to Award Fiscal Year 2026 Nonprofit Arts and Recreation Program Contracts and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Agreements. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2026-05-070

X. Reports

A. 2026-125 Mayor and Council Report

Mayor Paul said the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) held their Legislative Policy Council and Board of Directors meeting last week in College Park. There will be minor policy recommendations at the convention this summer, and the focus of conversations was on legislation that impacted municipal funding revenues. My recommendation was that we create proposals to achieve the policy goals that the legislature wants to see without hurting the ability to provide services our communities expect.

The Service Delivery Strategy (SDS) conversations are ongoing with Fulton County, but there are no significant reports yet. Staff will continue to have conversations, and a public meeting is scheduled for May 12.

The budget process began today and will end in June with the final public hearing and budget adoption. This is a great opportunity for the community to engage in conversations with Council on how the City is proposing to spend revenues.

The ribbon was cut for the new ceramics studio at Abernathy Arts Center. It is a beautiful facility and we are looking forward to beginning the classes. Sandy Spring has become the arts and cultural hub for the North Metro area, and this is another opportunity to provide more services in the arts and cultural area for the community.

The City's summer concert series kicked off on Sunday and is a great way to start the summer. The first concert on City Green will be on May 22 with a performance by popular rock band Sister Hazel, and tickets sold quickly. Everyone is encouraged to come to the concert series and enjoy some great music.

Councilmember John Paulson said the GA-400 Managed Lanes Project received a Notice to Proceed last week and other work, for example turning dirt over, can be done.

During the last election, in District 1 there was a voting precinct in Johns Creek to vote for city council. After discussion with **Raquel Gonzalez, City Clerk**, an alternative location was found for District 1 folks to vote in Sandy Springs for Sandy Springs items. The Dunwoody Church is new polling location for area of District 1. Several other locations that have changed. One affects District 1 and the other may be District 2.

City Clerk Gonzalez said the third polling location was Lake Forest Elementary School which is currently relocated to the Heritage Sandy Springs Facility.

Precinct	Previous Location	New Location
SS01 & SS01A	Johns Creek Environmental Campus	Dunwoody Community Church
SS06 & SS31	Lake Forest Elementary School	Heritage Sandy Springs
SS15 A/B/C	Sandy Springs Middle School	Temple Emanu-El of Greater Atlanta

Councilmember Paulson said Fulton County shuffled locations, and everyone should be aware of the correct place.

Mayor Paul said visit the voter registration website to check your voting location, and early voting is already underway. Please vote.

Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky said this is championship week at Sandy Springs Youth Sports. The spring baseball and softball teams will have closing ceremonies on Saturday and it has been a fun season.

Yesterday Jamaican ambassador to United States, Antony Anderson, visited Atlanta from Washington. Also, there is a Jamaican Consulate who is a long-time resident of Sandy Springs and a Leadership Sandy Springs graduate. Ambassador Anderson was interested in the history of Sandy Springs and how the City has been able to attract business. He was also fascinated with how many times we vote here compared to other areas around the country.

This past weekend was the annual gala for Zoo Atlanta. This zoo will be one of three in the country to have pandas from China. Although outside the border of Sandy Springs, this is a great regional treasure.

Mayor Paul said it was an honor to have Ambassador Anderson here. The City has a significant diplomatic corps and its own foreign policy.

B. 2026-126 Staff Reports

There were no staff reports.

XI. Executive Session

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Frank Roberts**, to recess from regular order and enter executive session for the purposes of real estate and litigation discussion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Passed Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0

Yeas: John Paulson, Melody Kelley, Melissa Mular, Frank Roberts, Mary Ford, Andrew Chinsky

Nays: None

The Executive Session began at 7:23 p.m.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Frank Roberts**, to adjourn the executive session and return to regular order. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Passed Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0

Yeas: John Paulson, Melody Kelley, Melissa Mular, Frank Roberts, Mary Ford, Andrew Chinsky

Nays: None

The Executive Session ended at 8:37 p.m.

Councilmember Andrew J. Chinsky left the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

XII. Adjournment

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Frank Roberts**, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38p.m.