



**CITY COUNCIL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**22-O-1635**

**AN ORDINANCE BY COUNCILMEMBER AMIR FAROKHI AS AMENDED BY ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE III, DIVISION 1, SECTION 2-190(B), CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2-196, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2-197, AND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2-201 OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ESTABLISH THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS; TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO CREATE THE APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND TO ANTICIPATE AND APPROPRIATE THE NECESSARY FUNDING IN CONNECTION WITH THE CREATION OF THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS; TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO TRANSFER ANY POSITIONS CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO ANY OFFICE OR DEPARTMENT OPERATING UNDER THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, TO THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS AS SHALL BE NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE IMMEDIATE COMMENCEMENT OF THE OPERATION OF THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta has commitment to the development and the fostering of relationships with Atlanta’s diplomatic corps, economic development and government agencies, and academic and cultural institutions, in order to position Atlanta as a global hub for commerce, innovation, education, culture, diplomacy, and sports; and

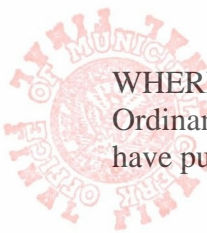
WHEREAS, currently the City of Atlanta furthers these commitments through the operations of the Mayor’s Office of International Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta is also committed to fostering a connected community of all Atlantans through programs and policies that improve the day-to-day lives of immigrant Atlantans; and

WHEREAS, currently, the City of Atlanta furthers these commitments through the Division of Immigrant Affairs contained within the Mayor’s Office of Equity Diversity and Inclusion; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet future challenges, it is the desire of the City of Atlanta to broaden the City’s influence in shaping national and global initiatives, by further connecting local and global affairs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta also desires to provide for an increased and formalized structure of internal accountability concerning the City’s operations related to international and immigrant affairs; and



WHEREAS, it is therefore the desire of the City of Atlanta to amend the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances to formally establish a stand alone office within the Department of the Mayor which shall have purview and scope over international and immigrant affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office of International and Immigrant Affairs would merge the Immigrant Affairs Division of the Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion with the Office of International Affairs, and would facilitate the City's efforts to advocate on a global level the various needs of the City's constituents with a focus on safe, healthy, connected neighborhoods, equity, empowering upward mobility, and youth development; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs shall have an expanded focus beyond the current international affairs focus areas: trade, diplomacy, global education, connectivity, culture, and sports, and will further align activities with the local initiatives of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs shall focus on connecting various departments within City government with counterparts abroad to address local issues and exchange best practices; and

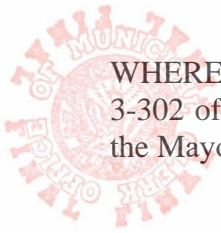
WHEREAS, cities such as New York and Los Angeles have established international affairs offices which have been fostering platforms to that of the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs through which local governments engage to share information and forge innovative solutions; and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 1-102, Subsection (b), of the City of Atlanta Charter, (Charter) vests the City with all powers necessary and proper to promote the safety, health, peace, and general welfare of the City and its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-302 of the City of Atlanta Charter provides that the Mayor is empowered to initiate, direct, and implement the reorganization of any department, and must do so by preparing and signing a plan of reorganization of any department or departments and submitting such plan to the Atlanta City Council; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-302 of the Charter further provides that any plan presented shall be in the form of a proposed ordinance and the council shall by majority vote approve, modify, or reject any such plan within 60 days of its submission to the council; and no reorganization shall become effective until the council has acted or 60 days have elapsed from the date of submission, whichever first occurs; and

WHEREAS, City Code Section 2-190(b) establishes the Department of the Mayor and its functional areas, (Offices) and Chapter 2, Article IV of the City Code contains provisions setting forth the functions and duties of the Offices within the Department of the Mayor; and



WHEREAS, this proposed Ordinance has been submitted by Mayor Andre Dickens pursuant to Section 3-302 of the Charter in order to initiate, direct, and implement the reorganization of the Department of the Mayor in order to establish the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs; and

WHEREAS, once the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs is established, the Finance and Executive Committee of the Atlanta City Council shall have purview to review the operation thereof pursuant to Section 2-135 of the City Code which provides that the operation of the office of the mayor, and departments under its jurisdiction that are not within the purview of another standing committee; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Atlanta City Council to authorize the Chief Financial Officer to create the appropriate Department number to transfer or otherwise allocate appropriate funding for the creation of the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of Atlanta City Council to authorize the Chief Financial Officer and the Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources to transfer any positions currently assigned to any office or department operating under the executive branch, to the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs as shall be necessary to facilitate the immediate commencement of the operation thereof.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, HEREBY ORDAINS as follows:

SECTION 1: That Chapter 2, Article III, Division 1, Section 2-190(b) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances shall be amended to add a new subsection (numbered sequentially) such that it shall read as follows (with permanent additions in underlined font and permanent deletions in strikethrough font):

(b) The department of the mayor shall include the following functional areas:

- (1) Office of communications;
- (2) Office of constituent services;
- (3) Office of contract compliance;
- (4) Office of intergovernmental affairs;
- (5) Office of special events coordination;
- (6) Office of emergency management;
- (7) Office of community technology;
- (8) Office of cultural affairs;
- (9) Office of entertainment;~~;~~
- (10) Office of violence reduction; ~~and~~
- (11) Office of equity, diversity, and inclusion; and

(12) Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs.

SECTION 2: That Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-196(a) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, (Organization; functions and duties of office of equity, diversity, and inclusion), shall be amended such that it shall read as follows (with permanent additions in underlined font and permanent deletions in strikethrough font):

Sec. 2-196. - Organization; functions and duties of office of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

(a) The office of equity, diversity, and inclusion shall be divided into the following divisions:

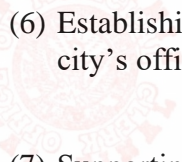
- (1)LGBTQ affairs;
- (2)Youth engagement;
- (3)Health;
- ~~(4)Immigrant affairs;~~
- ~~(45)~~Sustainability and Resilience; and
- ~~(56)~~Strategic partnerships

SECTION 3: That Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-197 of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, (Functions and duties of Office of Intergovernmental Affairs), shall be amended such that it shall read as follows (with permanent additions in underlined font and permanent deletions in strikethrough font):

Sec. 2-197. - Function and duties of office of intergovernmental affairs.

The functions and duties of the office of intergovernmental affairs shall include:

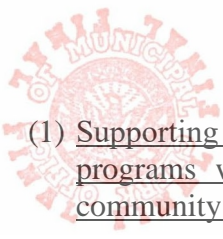
- (1) Establishing, organizing and maintaining a network and strategy to continually assess the level or status of the city's relations with other municipalities and with federal, state and county governments, and all agencies and instrumentalities;
- (2) Acting as liaison and communicating with other governments on behalf of the city;
- (3) Studying proposed legislative of other governments affecting the city, and recommending support or opposition of any such legislation, as may be in the interest of the city;
- (4) Analyzing the city's legislative needs and recommend methods to successfully enable passage of any laws beneficial to the city;
- (5) Soliciting grants and other funds as may be available to the city from other governments or any other parties; and

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- (6) Establishing, organizing and maintaining. A network and strategy to respond to the demand for the city's officials to support a variety of international economic and cultural community initiatives.;
- ~~(7) Supporting and expanding Atlanta's already established international recognition through progressive programs which are understanding of and responsive to governments and people of the global community;~~
- ~~(8) Providing international trade services to the small entrepreneur, as well as acting as liaison with the larger corporate community by working with local and national agencies and organizations on projects such as trade commissions, trade fairs and conferences and conventions;~~
- ~~(9) Cooperating with the consular corps and supporting its interests and objectives, providing guidance on protocol appropriate for visiting dignitaries;~~
- ~~(10) Welcoming international visitors to Atlanta from all walks of life and presenting the city and its resources in the optimal manner;~~
- ~~(11) Managing and supporting the city's sister city committees, by suggesting fund-raising strategies, and producing new guidelines for consideration of additional applications to the program;~~
- ~~(12) Formulating considerate and thoughtful municipal policy in areas of human civil rights issued throughout the world; and~~
- ~~(13) Lending support to international, cultural, educational, and social events and activities to the benefit of the global awareness of the community at large.~~

SECTION 4: That Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-201 of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, currently Reserved, shall be amended such that it shall read as follows (with permanent additions in underlined font and permanent deletions in strikethrough font):

Sec. 2-197. - ~~Reserved.~~ Function and duties of office of international and immigrant affairs.

- (a) The functions and duties of the office of international and immigrant affairs shall be to facilitate the efforts of the city to advocate on a global level the various needs of the city's constituents with a focus on safe, healthy, connected neighborhoods, equity, empowering upward mobility, and youth development; and shall connect internal city government stakeholders with counterparts abroad to address local issues and exchange best practices.
- (b) These functions shall include, but shall not be limited to:

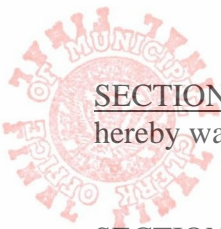


- (1) Supporting and expanding Atlanta's already established international recognition through progressive programs which are understanding of and responsive to governments and people of the global community;
- (2) Providing international trade services to the small entrepreneur, as well as acting as liaison with the larger corporate community by working with local and national agencies and organizations on projects such as trade commissions, trade fairs and conferences and conventions;
- (3) Cooperating with the consular corps and supporting its interests and objectives, providing guidance on protocol appropriate for visiting dignitaries;
- (4) Welcoming international visitors to Atlanta from all walks of life and presenting the city and its resources in the optimal manner;
- (5) Managing and supporting the city's sister-city committees, by suggesting fund-raising strategies, and producing new guidelines for consideration of additional applications to the program;
- (6) Formulating considerate and thoughtful municipal policy in areas of human civil rights issued throughout the world; and
- (7) Lending support to international, cultural, educational, and social events and activities to the benefit of the global awareness of the community at large.

SECTION 5: The Chief Financial Officer is authorized to create the appropriate Department number to transfer or otherwise allocate appropriate funding for the creation of the Mayor's Office of Office of International and Immigrant Affairs.

SECTION 6: That the Chief Financial Officer and the Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources are hereby authorized to transfer any positions currently assigned to any office or department operating under the executive branch, to the Mayor's Office of International and Immigrant Affairs as shall be necessary to facilitate the immediate commencement of the operation thereof. The Department Names and Number shall be:

Transfer from		
General Fund	Department/Org	Department Name
1001	040214	Exe International Affairs
1001	040604	Exe Immigrant Affairs

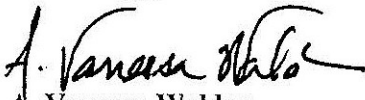


SECTION 7: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the terms of this ordinance are hereby waived to the extent of the conflict, only.

SECTION 8: This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval.

SECTION 9: That the Municipal Clerk is instructed to retain all legislative history references in the codified version of Chapter 2, including Editor's notes, and shall not delete any such references, but shall amend them to include this ordinance.

A true copy,

  
A. Vanessa Waldon  
Deputy Municipal Clerk

ADOPTED as amended by the Atlanta City Council  
APPROVED by Mayor Andre Dickens

AUG 15, 2022  
AUG 23, 2022

2022-28 ( 22-O-1635 )

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