DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023 AT 2:00 P.M. IN THE SUITE 2052 (PEACHTREE LEVEL) CONFERENCE ROOM FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER BUILDING

MINUTES

Present were the following Members of the Authority:

Mr. Michel M. Turpeau – Chairman Mr. Brandon Beach – Vice Chairman Mr. Kyle Lamont – Secretary Mayor Mike Bodker – Treasurer Mr. Tom Tidwell – Board Member Ms. Erica Long – Board Member Dr. Mike Looney – Board Member Ms. Pinky Cole – Board Member Mr. Kwanza Hall – Board Member

Also present were Ms. Sarah-Elizabeth Langford, Executive Director of the Authority, Ms. Sandra Z. Zayac Ms. Ansly Moyer, Ms. Lauren W. Daniels, and Mr. Hanish Patel, attorneys for the Authority, and Ms. Marva Bryan, Ms. Doris Coleman, Ms. Daniella Gutierrez and Ms. Sabrina Kirkland, staff of the Authority.

Mr. Lamont gave the invocation and Vice Chairman Beach called the meeting to order at approximately 2:02 p.m.

<u>RECOGNITION OF VISITORS</u>: Also present were Commissioner Bridget Thorne, Mr. Samir Abdullahi of Select Fulton, Mayor John Bradberry of Johns Creek, Economic Development Director of Johns Creek Mr. Randall Toussaint, Director of External Affairs of Fulton County Ms. Jessica Corbitt, Ms. Susan Pease Langford of Butler Snow LLP, Mr. Jim Stevens of On-Call Accounting, Mr. Tom Harrold and Mr. Bruce McCall of Miller & Martin PLLC, Mr. Nick Blessing of Quality Technology Services, LLC, Ms. Dyana Bagby of the Atlanta Business Chronicle, Mr. Scott Trubey of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, and Mr. Edward Leidelmeijer, Ms. Raechel Blitchington, Mr. Rahul Bali, Ms. Stacy Skinner, Mr. Stephen Wright, Mr. Steve Williams, Mr. Thomas Wheatley, Mr. Tyler Hancock, Mr. Tyler Wilkins, Ms. Wendy McArthur, Mr. James Martin, Mr. Craig Collins, Mr. Andrew Haney, Mr. Ben Howard, Ms. Bernitta Harris, Ms. Caroline Redd, Ms. Cindy Cox, Ms. Donna Wolfman, Ms. Jasmine Hope, Mr. Eric Wadley, Ms. Erin Elwood, Mr. Heath Milligan, Mr. Isaac Kirwan, Mr. James Brechtel, Mr. James Hicks, Mr. Jarvis Lakemaker, Ms. Jill Johnson, Mr. John Jackson, Mr. John Rose, Ms. Keyoshe Wilson, Mr. Kyle Kessler, Mr. Larry DiBiase, Ms. Lynn Mays, Ms. Maggie Lee, Mr. Michael Ulmer, Mr. Nicholas Seoane, Mr. Julian Bene, Mr. James Martin, Mr. Craig Collins, and Mr. Arthur Toal members of the public.

<u>COVID-19 UPDATE, GROUND RULES AND PUBLIC COMMENT</u>: Vice Chairman Beach explained that while this Regular Meeting was being conducted in person and open to the public, the Authority also had a Zoom videoconference and teleconference line available for the public in accordance with the Open Meetings Act (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-1 (g)) in light of concerns surrounding the spread of COVID-19 in Fulton County and nearby communities and pursuant to President Biden's Continuation of the National Emergency Concerning Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic ("President Biden's COVID-19 Order") and the Authority's finding that COVID-19 conditions continue to exist in Fulton County. Vice Chairman Beach further explained that in the event a quorum of Members are unable to attend in person due to COVID-19 precautions and related conditions not conducive to in-person appearance, the Regular

Meeting would be held with a quorum of Members participating by videoconference/teleconference, in compliance with O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-1(g). Vice Chairman Beach acknowledged that due to the upcoming expiration of President Biden's COVID-19 Order, meetings of the Authority that occur on or after May 11, 2023 would be held in person and require in-person attendance of the Members of the Authority.

Vice Chairman Beach explained the ground rules for participating in the Zoom videoconference and teleconference meeting. Vice Chairman Beach announced that the public could visit the homepage of the Authority's website at <u>www.developfultoncounty.com</u> for more information on how to submit a public comment.

Vice Chairman Beach further announced that any guests that would like to be recognized as being present for the Regular Meeting should also send an email to <u>Doris.Coleman@fultoncountyga.gov</u> so that their attendance may be formally documented in the minutes. Vice Chairman Beach invited the public to visit the homepage of the Authority's website at <u>www.developfultoncounty.com</u> for the most up-to-date information regarding Authority meetings.

<u>MINUTES</u>: The minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 28, 2023 were presented to the Authority for approval. Upon a motion made by Ms. Long, which was seconded by Mr. Hall, the Authority unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

<u>APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA</u>: Vice Chairman Beach announced that at the request of the applicant, the Letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC (originally listed as Item H.2.) had been removed from this Regular Meeting agenda. Upon a motion made by Mr. Hall, which was seconded by Ms. Long, the Authority unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

<u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u>: Vice Chairman Beach announced that the Authority's staff had received several public comments in advance of this Regular Meeting. Vice Chairman Beach reminded the Authority that in accordance with the Rules and Procedures for DAFC Meetings and Public Hearings adopted by the Members of the Authority, the public comments, copies of which are attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>, had been distributed to the Members of the Authority. In addition, Mr. Julian Bene, Mr. James Martin, Mr. Craig Collins, Mr. Arthur Toal, Mr. Tom Harrold and Mr. Nick Blessing each appeared to provide a public comment.

OLD BUSINESS:

<u>Modification of Woodward Academy, Inc., Series 2006, 2007, and 2008 Bonds.</u> Mr. Carlos Encinas and Mr. Zach Ladu of Alston & Bird LLP and Ms. Allison Dyer of Holland & Knight LLP appeared in connection with the request to approve certain modifications to the bond documents, including but not limited to, changing interest rate provisions in the bond documents to replace the current formula that uses the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") as a reference index to one that uses a replacement reference index. Upon a motion made by Mr. Hall, which was seconded by Mr. Lamont, the Authority unanimously approved the modification.

NEW BUSINESS:

Letter of Inducement for Toro Development Company, LLC ("Toro").

Mayor Bodker announced that he would recuse himself from voting and would leave the meeting in order to refrain from discussions and voting on this matter due to the appearance of a conflict. Mayor Bodker left the meeting at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Tom Lauth and Mr. Andrew Egan of Kutak Rock LLP, Mayor John Bradberry of Johns Creek, Commissioner Bridget Thorne, Mr. Mark Toro, Mr. John Kelley, Ms. Vicky Boyce, Mr. Richard Munger, and Mr. Brandon Cox of Toro appeared in connection with the request to approve a letter of inducement for the issuance of \$400,000,000 in taxable revenue bonds to finance the development of a mixed-use economic development opportunity, including approximately 200,000 square feet of retail space, 110,000 square feet of office space, and 750 residential units to be located at 11650 Johns Creek Parkway in the City of Johns Creek. More specific details are described in the Fact Sheet included as part of this item posted on the Authority's website. Upon a motion made by Mr. Hall, which was seconded by Mr. Lamont, the Authority approved the letter of inducement for Toro.

Mayor Bodker rejoined the meeting following the discussion and vote at approximately 3:18 p.m.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

<u>Discontinuation of President Biden's COVID-19 Order</u>. Vice Chairman Beach announced that Senate Bill 26 had not been enacted into law due to reasons unrelated to virtual meetings. Vice Chairman Beach further announced that since the Authority had been relying on President Biden's COVID-19 Order to hold meetings via videoconference/teleconference in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-1(g), President Biden had signed legislation that would terminate President Biden's COVID-19 Order on May 11, 2023. Vice Chairman Beach explained that this would require in-person attendance for the Members of the Authority at upcoming meetings of the Authority.

The Authority then discussed how to handle Committee Meetings moving forward given the in-person attendance requirement, including the possibility of consolidating meetings to a specific day. The Authority further discussed the possibility of designating specific champions to work directly with staff of the Authority and the Executive Committee.

<u>Update from the Executive Director</u>. Ms. Langford commended the Board for the robust, ongoing discussions they have had on several economic development opportunities and briefly addressed market conditions, the role of the Authority, and affordable housing. Ms. Langford noted that new economic development opportunities were in the pipeline.

<u>Committee Updates</u>. On behalf of the Executive Committee, Chairman Turpeau stated that the Committee had no updates at this time.

On behalf of the Financial Review/Audit Committee, Mayor Bodker provided an update on cash flow and income and stated that expenses were aligned with budget. Mayor Bodker announced that in accordance with Section III(F)(3) of the Authority's Amended and Restated Cash and Investments Policy, which outlines the procedure for making certain investment decisions on an expedited basis, approximately \$200,000 was moved from the Authority's checking account to Georgia Fund 1 in order to effectively maximize interest earnings.

On behalf of the Strategic Initiative Committee, Mr. Lamont informed the Board that the Committee would be scheduling a meeting soon. Mr. Lamont further commended Ms. Langford's efforts to facilitate economic development opportunities and engaging in conversations with the community.

On behalf of the MFBE Committee, Ms. Long stated that the Committee had no updates at this time. Ms. Long commended the work of the Authority's staff in effectively communicating the importance of MFBE participation in economic development opportunities facilitated by the Authority.

NEXT MEETING:

Vice Chairman Beach announced that the Authority's next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. and that the Authority may schedule a Special Call Meeting before then. Vice Chairman Beach announced the Regular Meeting would be held in person and reminded the public to visit the Authority's website at http://www.developfultoncounty.com for updates on upcoming meetings.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Lamont, seconded by Ms. Long, and approved by all Members present.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:28 p.m.

<u>Kyle Lamont</u> Mr. Kyle Lamont, Secretary

Exhibit A

[Attached]



March 18, 2023

By Electronic Transmission

Sara-Elizabeth Langford Executive Director, Development Authority of Fulton County 141 Pryor Street, S.W., Suite 2052 Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Proposed Tax Abatement application by Toro Development Company, LLC for a project to be located in Johns Creek, GA

Dear Ms. Langford:

Please accept this letter of support for the above-referenced project in Johns Creek.

As you may be aware, The City of Johns Creek enacted the Town Center Vision and Plan in October 2021, setting in motion an effort to create a "Downtown Johns Creek" and afford our residents the opportunity to have their own place to gather and recreate.

Shortly thereafter, we received an inquiry from Mark Toro of Toro Development Company about redeveloping a keystone site in The Plan. City staff has engaged with Mr. Toro and his team since then. Recently, the council approved a zoning application for them to develop a mixed-use community on the site of a long-vacant State Farm Insurance corporate campus.

Given the developer's track record of creating compelling community centers, we are excited for Toro Development to bring their unique capabilities and skillsets to Johns Creek. Therefore, I respectfully submit my support for the application before you.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

John Bradberry, Mayor City of Johns Creek

Office of the Mayor

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FULTON COUNTY

FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER 141 PRYOR STREET SW, 10024 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

Bridget Thorne COMMISSIONER District 1

April 7, 2023

EULTON COUNTY

Sara-Elizabeth Langford Executive Director Development Authority of Fulton County 141 Pryor Street, S.W., Suite 2052 Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Proposed Tax Abatement application by Toro Development Company, LLC for a project to be located in Johns Creek, GA

Dear Ms. Langford:

I am writing today to voice my unequivocal support for the above referenced application.

As you may be aware, the principals of Toro Development Company ("TDC"), led by Mark Toro, have made a significant positive impact on Fulton County and Metro Atlanta for decades, delivering such impactful projects as Camp Creek MarketPlace in South Fulton, Avalon in Alpharetta and Colony Square in Midtown Atlanta.

In the case currently before you, my understanding is that TDC proposes a mixed-use community in Johns Creek similar to the aforementioned projects, bringing their unique capabilities to one of Fulton County's most diverse cities. Their proposal includes the kind of placemaking that has brought significant "halo" investment in communities in the past and I expect that will be the case here by redeveloping this vacant office campus into Johns Creek's gathering place.

You may also be aware that The City of Johns Creek recently (October 2021) passed their long awaited Town Center Vision and Plan, intended to attract just this type of development. I could not think of a more perfectly suited developer or a more impactful development that than which is proposed.

Again, I wholeheartedly support this application along with Mayor John Bradberry and the Johns Creek City Council and I am delighted to join the unanimous bi-partisan support for the above referenced project. I will make myself available to answer any questions you or the Board of DAFC may have.

Very truly yours. Howe

Bridget Thorne

TELEPHONE 404-612-9800 FACSIMILE 404-730-7285

From: Sent: To: Subject: mc1618@murray.net Tuesday, April 25, 2023 9:00 AM publiccomment@dafc.us Please Oppose Tax Abatement for QTS at 1010 W. Marietta St NW

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Report Suspicious

Hello,

I am writing to oppose the tax abatement for QTS located at 1010 W. Marietta Street NW. The development does not bring jobs, housing, or public engagement opportunities to the Beltline-adjacent community. QTS chose for their massive development to not be included within the Upper Westside CID which would have brought much needed funds for local community improvements. Now they want to contribute even less to the surrounding community. QTS should make contributions for the betterment of the communities where they are located.

Thank you,

Walter Chad Murray Historic Howell Station

From: Sent: To: Subject:

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Susan Rice <susanriceatl@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:45 AM publiccomment@dafc.us Vote NO on QTS bond inducement!

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No plausible justification for this huge handout. Incentives are not needed here.

Not only is this the wrong kind of development for property near the Beltline, but it's a data center! -- offering few permanent employment opportunities and no much-needed housing.

Please - no more unnecessary handouts.

Susan Rice Fulton County and City of Atlanta taxpayer for 35+ years

From: Sent: To: Subject: Robert Udell <drivin951@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:42 AM publiccomment@dafc.us NO to QTS!!

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Please vote NO to the QTS \$1.3 billion tax abatement request!! This would be sacrosanct to the taxpaying citizens of this community! Again, please say NO to this...

Best regards, Rob Udell

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From: Sent: To: Subject: c2162 via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:37 AM Publiccomment@dafc.us QTS tax break

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I'm writing regarding the proposed \$45 million dollar/ 10 year tax break for the QTS data center in Howell Station. As a commercial property owner who pays 5%+ additional SAP tax for being in the beltline overlay district, we find it particularly galling that a property along the beltline would request such a break while providing so few jobs, consuming so many resources, and being an antithesis to the concept of the district. While such facilities may be necessary, they should have a business model that allows their operation without being a detriment to the community.

I would request that you deny the request and have the company operate as other respected businesses in Atlanta and pay their taxes as they are due.

Respectfully,

Cindy Cox, RLA

From:	Craig Collins <craig.collins1@gmail.com></craig.collins1@gmail.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:35 AM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Cc:	zachary.hansen@ajc.com; Bakhtiari, Liliana
Subject:	25-APR-2023 - DAFC meeting request
Attachments:	Fulton_to_weigh_45_million_tax_break_for_dataAtlanta_Journal-
	Constitution_The_GA April 25 2023 pA1.pdf

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Dear Authority,

I'm writing to express my desire to attend virtually today's meeting on the pending vote for proposed tax break for QTS data center. My opinion is to vote no as the basis for their corporate tax break appears unwarranted.

Craig Collins tax payer & registered voter

From: Sent: To: Subject: Michael Meyer <mmeye16@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:35 AM publiccomment@dafc.us Do not allow QTS tax break

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Please do not allow QTS to benefit from this loophole. Their data center will not provide a sizable amount of jobs and will not lead to additional investment in the area. More importantly, QTS has repeatedly violated its agreement with the surrounding neighborhood and is not interested in investing in ATL. They're just using space that should serve the neighborhood to generate revenue. I do not understand what benefit anyone thinks this could possibly have for the city or county. Save the \$45M to invest elsewhere for the taxpayers.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Arthur Toal <heyart@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:31 AM publiccomment@dafc.us Public comment request. April 25th

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To whom it may concern,

I request the opportunity to address the board during public comment at the Regular Meeting this afternoon.

Name: Arthur Toal (representing Howell Station Neighborhood Association) Topic: QTS Inducement request

Thank you very much

Arthur Toal President, HSNA

From: Sent: To: Subject: herc554 <herc554@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:24 AM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS: opposition to tax break

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I am a resident of Howell Station neighborhood, which is adjacent to the QTS development in west midtown, Atlanta. I oppose any tax breaks requested by QTS.

QTS is in the process of developing a very large property that will not significantly contribute to Atlanta jobs, infrastructure, neighborhoods or the overall community. There is no reason that they should get a tax break. I believe they should pay their share in taxes just as I do.

Josue Gallegos

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Laura Straka <laurastraka21@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:20 AM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS tax abatement comment by Laura Straka

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QTS should not be granted a tax abatement for building their data center on West Marietta. As a resident of Howell Station, I believe their presence should contribute to the community. Please deny this request and use their tax dollars for the good of Atlanta! Do not give them this loophole.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Marshall Norseng <mnorseng@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:18 AM Publiccomment@dafc.us Please Vote NO on QTS North

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Report Suspicious

The proposed tax break is not in the best interest of the county, the city, or APS. It should not be approved.

Sincerely,

Marshall Norseng 222 Westminster Dr NE, Atlanta, Ga 30309

From: Sent: To: Subject: Weston Straka <wjstraka@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:16 AM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS tax abatement - Weston Straka

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I don't believe QTS should receive the tax incentive. As a resident of the neighborhood that they are building in, they have not done well to ingratiate themselves with the neighborhood and I would like to ask that you deny their request for the incentive. They can pay themselves.

Weston

Weston Straka wjstraka@gmail.com (828)455-5072

Lamentations 3:22

From: Sent: To: Subject: mbailie88@gmail.com Tuesday, April 25, 2023 7:34 AM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS 45 million tax abatement NO

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Report Suspicious

Good morning,

I live in Howell Station a few blocks from the QTS Data Center. The development has risen to heights not initially approved impacting the line of sight of downtown Atlanta for many of our neighbors on Herndon with height variances approved after work was started. Now after initially telling NPU tax abatement would not be sought, the ask is being made. Please stop this from happening.

As a Fulton county resident there are pressing community needs - funding our schools, better roads, and job creation. QTS should be required to be a part of supporting these community needs, and denied the request for the \$1.3 billion tax bond sale to net them a \$45 million tax abatement.

Please deny QTS's tax abatement request. These dollars should help our community, not be grabbed for use by a corporation whose building has decreased the quality of life of our neighbors on Herndon and now with this request, can grow to negatively impact the quality of life and infrastructure of the communities, schools, roads and job creation throughout Fulton county.

Marleen Bailie 1262 Niles Ave Atlanta, Ga

From: Sent: To: Subject: Santosh Nayak <sannayak@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 1:23 AM Publiccomment@dafc.us Quality Technology Tax Abatement

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Report Suspicious

Ladies and Gentlemen;

As a resident of Fulton County, I am appealing to you to vote NO on the proposed tax abatement requested by Quality Technology. I don't see them adding any significant employment opportunities to us.

Thanks,

Santosh Nayak 404 435 6845 (M) 228 Montag Circle, Atlanta 30307

From:	Howell Station < howell.station1893@gmail.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, April 25, 2023 1:10 AM
To:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Cc:	Howell Station Board; zachary.hansen@ajc.com; thomas.wheatley@axios.com
Subject:	Please deny QTS's Inducement Request

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To the Development Authority of Fulton County,

We are the representatives of the Howell Station Neighborhood Association. We've been in communication with QTS regarding their Project Granite since 2020. Upon completion, this complex will be the third largest data center in the world and it is located right in the heart of Atlanta and our home.

When QTS approached us to request the rezoning necessary to demolish portions of our neighborhood and build their data centers, they promised that they would bring new homes and new jobs to our community. One of the questions that we asked was whether or not they would be seeking any tax abatements for the development. They implied that they did not intend to , although they were reticent to commit to that. With the help of community advocates and our city councilperson, we were able to agree to a Community Benefits Agreement with QTS that would somewhat offset the vocational loss that a data center represents. The new data center complex consumes more than 40 acres and will supply, at most, 20 jobs. More jobs than that were lost when QTS evicted the locally owned and operated Strongbox coworking space to clear space for their construction trailers.

As soon as QTS received their requested rezoning, they relegated the office, retail, and residential portions of their site plan to "Phase 2 and 3" construction and pressed forward with building their data centers. We have had regular meetings with QTS and Brasfield and Gorrie. These meetings have been attended by QTS representatives including David Lasiter (Development Program Manager) and John Mansour (Director of Development). Despite QTS's promise to provide jobs and housing, their representatives have expressed a singular focus on building data centers that will provide 20 or fewer permanent jobs. This zip code (30318) has the seventh highest rate of unemployment in the state of Georgia and QTS's data centers will provide less than 0.5 jobs per acre. When it comes to economic benefit to our area, a farm would be better. Furthermore, in our most recent meeting on 4/24, Mr. Lasiter implied that the townhome portion of the project may no longer be feasible. Representatives of Atlanta City Councilmember Byron Amos have been present at all of these meetings and can corroborate our account.

The ONLY benefit that could possibly come from QTS's data centers is the taxes that they <u>must</u> pay. We need infrastructure. We need improved public safety. Our schools are struggling. In yesterday's AJC article by Zach Hansen, QTS claimed that they began construction without tax breaks "at risk". In the same article they bragged that these developments were 80% leased before they even opened. QTS **does not** need to be "incentivized" to spend their money in this area. Market conditions have already provided enough incentive for them to outbid many other high quality developers for this property. Furthermore, the threat of removing much needed jobs and housing if they do not receive their "incentive" rings hollow. Those portions of the development were key to their pitch in the first place. Fulton County and the City of Atlanta should hold QTS accountable for the promises that they've made to this community and refuse to be held hostage to weaponized incompetence.

Best Regards,

Howell Station Neighborhood Association



From: Sent: To: Subject: Molly Chase <molly.chase@gmail.com> Tuesday, April 25, 2023 12:39 AM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS tax bond sale

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I am writing with the strongest possible objection to QTS's bid to make a tax bond sale that will net them a huge tax abatement.

Their handling of the data center in Howell Station shows bad faith. This development is not contributing toward job creation, infrastructure improvements, or school taxes. They claimed at the NPU vote that they would not seek tax abatements; now they are. That's just one example.

I understand why a corporation would try this - they're responsible to the shareholders, who do not care about impact or promises the company made. But our elected representatives do have responsibility. There's a whole system of NPUs and elections specifically to look out for taxpayers and the public good. Allowing QTS a tax abatement completely undermines that system.

I hope we can count on QTS being denied the tax abatement/ tax bond sale. They're extracting great value and giving little back. For them to avoid millions (\$45M?) in taxes is nonsensical as well as insulting to Atlanta taxpayers/voters.

Thanks, Molly Chase Homeowner in Howell Station (30318)

From:	Christy Dodson <christy.s.dodson@gmail.com></christy.s.dodson@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 11:59 PM
То:	Coleman, Doris
Cc:	bdamos@atlantaga.gov; info@kwanzahall.com; kylenlamont@gmail.com; Abdur Rahman, Khadijah
Subject:	Public Comment - QTS Bond Inducement Resolution

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Good Evening Board Members -

I am writing as a resident of the Howell Station neighborhood to ask that you deny the request for tax abatement for the QTS North project located on West Marietta Street. The economic benefits given as justification on the application fall severely short of a project that should be considered for tax abatement by the Development Authority according to the stated mission and mandate of the Authority.

The project is located in the most in-demand real estate submarket in the southeast, yet it is providing only 20 permanent jobs. When considering the substantial size of the development - 50 acres - this yields only 0.4 jobs per acre, a job density comparable to an exurban or rural area.

Further, this development fails to meet any of the adopted policy goals of the City as it reduces the feasibility for mixed use or walkable development, provides no housing, provides minimal jobs (particularly on a per acre basis), and provides no neighborhood necessities or amenities. A tax abatement would also mean that this development would fail to contribute critical funds to support affordable housing, support public schools, and support the maintenance and repair of basic public infrastructure and utilities.

Please support the Development Authority goals of stimulating quality economic development, expanding and diversifying the tax base, providing quality jobs, retaining existing businesses and sustaining quality of life for residents throughout Fulton County by denying this application.

Best Regards, Christy Dodson

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

'Sam Zell-Breier' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Monday, April 24, 2023 11:59 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Quality Technology Services bond inducement

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Please vote "no" on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement for their new data center on West Marietta Street. Since this project is already underway, providing it with a tax savings of \$45,035,738 qualifies as an unnecessary handout to the company -- one that comes at a cost to Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County. This is a prime investment property in that it's next to the popular Atlanta Beltline. No inducement is needed for a place where developers are already willing to invest. It's exactly the kind of tax break that DAFC needs to stop providing. These big companies need to pay their taxes for the public good!

From: Sent: To: Subject: 'ALEX TAWSE' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Monday, April 24, 2023 11:40 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS

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Please DO NOT approve QTS' proposal for a \$1.3 billion bond sale and \$45 million tax abatement.

This is a company that continuously lies to local community organizations, destroys the skyline of Atlanta, and takes value away from historical communities through its presence and operating procedures.

DATA CENTERS BELONG OUTSIDE OF THE CITY.

If you have any doubts, please visit Herndon Avenue in Howell Station and see for yourself. QTS itself is a blight on this city.

Thanks, Alex Tawse Howell Station homeowner.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Holly Personius <holly.personius@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 11:23 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Re:QTS request for tax abatement

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To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Howell Station, I strongly advise council to vote against QTS's request for tax abatement.

In my opinion, this is a money grab by a corporation who is seeking to shirk their responsibilities in bettering the community in which they have chosen to build. This development is not contributing toward job creation, infrastructure improvements, or school taxes.

This is a data center building and it is nothing but an eyesore that is bringing few jobs and even fewer development opportunities to this area.

I feel that they have repeatedly proven to be bad neighbors during the construction process by violating noise ordinances for work hours and have broken a number of promises to the community already, not the least of which is the fact that QTS indicated that they would not seek tax abatements when this development was being voted upon at NPU.

If the board truly cares about the city and its residents, it will not allow QTS to take money away from the community in this way. They have already done significant damage to our neighborhood, I just ask that you ensure that they pay their share of taxes so that some community benefit will come of this boondoggle.

Regards,

Holly Personius

1036 Rice St

From: Sent: To: Subject: 'Todd Sleeme' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Monday, April 24, 2023 11:11 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS \$45 million tax abatement

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DAFC members,

As a citizen of Fulton County and the City of Atlanta, I strongly oppose QTS' tax abatement for their data centers next to Howell Station in NW Atlanta. This is money that is very much needed for the city and county. Also, QTS said they wouldn't seek tax abatements when during the NPU voting process. Please do not approve this.

Todd

From: Sent: To: Subject: 'Ayesha Khanna' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Monday, April 24, 2023 11:08 PM Publiccomment@dafc.us No Vote to Tax Abatement

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Dear Development Authority of Fulton County,

Please vote NO to approving a \$45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services, LLC on the west side next to the Beltline.

Atlanta City Council unanimously adopted legislation almost 3 years ago calling on the DAFC to stop issuing tax abatements inside Atlanta without specific reasons that benefit all, and this deal does not meet criteria to do so This is a 50 acre site that would only offer 15-20 permanent employees and it is next to the Beltline. They've started construction and do NOT need the incentive.

We the residents of Atlanta/Fulton County are the ones who ultimately pay for these tax abatements and this is wasteful of our tax dollars.

Ayesha Khanna

Sent from my iPhone Plz excz typos & brevty

From: Sent: To: Subject: Jennifer Higgins <jhiggins16@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:53 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Oppose the tax abatement for QTS

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Hello--

This is Jennifer Higgins of Niles Avenue in Historic Howell Station. I would like to encourage you to oppose a tax abatement for the new QTS data center adjacent to our neighborhood. When QTS worked with the Howell Station Neighborhood Association on plans for the site, they told us that they would not seek a tax abatement.

Now that their enormous facility is being constructed right next to residential houses, it is clear that the QTS facility will be making millions of dollars per month (and employing a small number of people for its footprint). Please do not support a tax abatement. Fulton County, City of Atlanta and our schools need this tax money and QTS does not need to profit from a loophole law.

Thank you, Jennifer Higgins

Jennifer Higgins 404-405-2772

From: Sent: To: Subject: Elizabeth Dee <edecker2@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:43 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Public comment - quality tech services

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stine of

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Hello,

Emailing to provide comment on the inducement up for vote tmrw. Vote "no" on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement for the new data center on West Marietta Street. Since this project is already underway, providing it with a tax savings of \$45,035,738 is an unnecessary handout to the company -- one that comes at a cost to Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County.

This is a prime investment property in that it's next to the popular Atlanta Beltline. No inducement is needed for a place where developers are already willing to invest. It's exactly the kind of tax break that DAFC needs to stop providing. These big companies need to pay their taxes for Atlanta to progress in the right direction.

Thank you,

Liz

From:	'Deborah Bursa' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us></publiccomment@dafc.us>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 10:37 PM
То:	Publiccomment@dafc.us
Subject:	Vote NO to approving a \$45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services, LLC

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As a taxpayer in Fulton County, I request that you vote NO to approving a \$45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services, LLC.

Deborah Bursa 793 Lake Ave NE Atlanta

From: Sent: To: Subject: Abiy Kaltiso <abiyk7@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:29 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Vote "NO" on corporate welfare for QTS

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We do not want APS to lose out on precious tax funding just to provide QTS with a free welfare handout. Please vote "NO" on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement.

I would seriously doubt the wisdom and ethics of any economic development board that would grant this project a huge tax relief when the land in question is in a very in-demand area that does not need any additional tax incentives to lure development.

QTS needs to pay their fair share!

Thank you,

--

Abiy Kaltiso (Fulton county resident)

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Shane Scott <srandallscott@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:25 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Say no to this big tax break for the data center.

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I understand tax abatements/breaks expected to total well more than forty-million dollars may soon be approved for a data center project along the beltline.

This is a bad deal, and should be rejected.

It seems property like this is bound to see development, whether or not extraordinary public accommodations are provided to the private developers (and/or other benefiting entities).

Such an incentive as this should be used to incentivize, when deemed necessary and proper, and should never be considered "a given."

Try harder to get businesses that will pay their taxes, rather than cozy up to those empowered to potentially give them a "free ride."

That's my contribution to the matter.

- Shane Scott Atlanta resident 352 Inman Street Southwest, 30310

From: Sent: To: Subject: eileen rhea brown <eileenrheabrown@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:24 PM Publiccomment@dafc.us Vote NO on \$45million tax abatement!!

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Vote NO on the \$45million tax abatement for the 50 acre property next to the Beltline westside!!! As an Atlanta tax payer, I do Not want to be required to subsidize this unworthy project!!! eileen brown Inman Park

From: Sent: To: Subject: 'Judith Clements' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:10 PM Publiccomment@dafc.us Vote NO

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Please do not approve the requested \$45M tax abatement for The Quality Technology Services LLC. The building is already under construction and does not warrant tax abatement. It does not benefit the property tax payers if the City of Atlanta. Please Vote NO!

Judy Clements 820 DeKalb Ave Atlanta, GA 30307

Sent from my iPad
From: Sent: To: Subject: Ellen Wright <ellenmwright17@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:02 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS tax bond sale

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Hello,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed tax bond sale which would result in a \$45 million tax abatement for QTS. I live in the neighborhood adjacent to QTS and have been shocked that this development was even allowed to be built on the beltline overlay. Further, QTS, has proven to be the definition of a bad "neighbor" as they have neglected the negotiated CBA, and proved dishonest in conversations with the neighborhood. These tax dollars should be reserved for entities that truly need the funds and will benefit the community, not a for profit business that has no need for the funds nor regard for the communities they impact.

Sincerely,

Ellen Wright ---Ellen Wright

From: Sent: To: Subject: Sheila Dolinger <sheiladolinger@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 9:56 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Tax abatement? Are you kidding me?

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The QTS request for tax abatement is a slap in the face to our schools, our children, our neighborhood.

And believe me, anyone in this council who supports it is going down. We are the canvas door-to-door, empowered constituents that you want on your side.

Tell QTS to step up and be a good citizen - like they PROMISED.

We will not forget.

Grateful,

-

Sheila 404.735.2377

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Sarah Margulies <sarahmargulies@gmail.com></sarahmargulies@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 9:56 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Cc:	bdamos@atlantaga.gov; info@kwanzahall.com; kylenlamont@gmail.com; Abdur
	Rahman, Khadijah
Subject:	QTS Tax Abatement

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I am writing in opposition to the tax abatement requested by QTS. The development of QTS's data center is not contributing to the West Midtown community. They have built a massive, unattractive data center on prime West Midtown property that does not create a benefit to the community in terms of creating jobs, spurring economic development, improving infrastructure, improving transportation, or beautifying our community. Therefore, I do not believe that there is any reason that they should receive additional tax abatements or incentives from the city or county.

Furthermore, this move goes against what QTS stated to both the Howell Station Neighborhood Association Board and the NPU when the development was initially being voted upon. This reversal follows a pattern established by this company in their dealings with the community, which have been less than transparent.

Please do not approve this request from QTS. This money is much better spent supporting our communities and our children.

Sincerely,

Sarah Margulies

From: Sent: To: Subject: Anna Hovind <anna.a.hovind@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 9:54 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS proposec tax abatement

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Please vote to deny this request.

It's not fair for a giant corporation to try and cut a deal to give them such a huge tax break. Our city, our schools, the Beltline and the community deserve to benefit from the tax revenue that QTS SHOULD be paying the city.

Please deny the tax abatement request.

Anna Hovind Howell Station resident

From:	Jena Losch <luvkiwi@gmail.com></luvkiwi@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 9:47 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Cc:	Brian P Hamilton
Subject:	QTS seeking \$45 Million tax abatement from Fulton County

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Hello,

I am opposing QTS seeking a \$1.3 BILLION tax bond sale that will net them a \$45 million tax abatement for the building of the data center.

This is a money grab by a corporation who is seeking to shirk their responsibilities in bettering the community in which they have chosen to build. This development is not contributing toward job creation, infrastructure improvements, or school taxes.

QTS indicated that they would not seek tax abatements when this development was being voted upon at NPU - this money needs to go to the communities in which their Data Center is now impeding - or show us how they are going to invest that \$45 million back into Howell Station and surrounding community.

Thank you,

Jena Losch

940 Herndon St NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

From: Sent: To: Subject: Amanda Baxter <aczabor@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 9:47 PM Publiccomment@dafc.us Vote no

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Please vote no on the \$45 million tax abatement in West Midtown. Thank you, Amanda (30309)

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Shelley Brown <shelleyrbrown@gmail.com></shelleyrbrown@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 9:21 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us; dgutierrez@dafc.us; selangford@dafc.us;
	kylenlamont@gmail.com; Amos, Byron D; info@kwanzahall.com
Subject:	Tax Abatement for QTS

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To Whom It May Concern,

Organization being opposed: QTS Data Center Subject of Opposition: Tax Abatement Organization Name: HSNA Zoning Committee Representative: Shelley Brown Position: HSNA Board Zoning Committee Chair Telephone: 770-331-4767 Email: <u>shelleyrbrown@gmail.com</u>

Purpose: This letter is in opposition to the tax abatement being sought by QTS Data Center for the parcel at 1010 Marietta Street.

As Chair of the Howell Station Neighborhood Association Zoning Committee, I fully oppose the request from QTS to seek a tax abatement for their ongoing development. I believe that using taxpayer monies for these purposes would be

1) An irresponsible use of funds that can instead be used to support business or resources that would better serve the citizens of the Historic Howell Station Community and surrounding neighborhoods

2) The project when proposed to the NPU K was not seeking this tax abatement during the time of the voting procedures and indicated that they would not seek tax assistance for this development.

3) The citizens of this community being directly impacted by this development will not have the opportunity for a direct vote in this abatement proposal.

4) The Historic Howell Station Neighborhood Association opposes this abatement as it will not serve the community with any net benefit of job creation, school assistance or infrastructure improvement.

This construction project is well under way with an already existing negative impact on surrounding communities with parking violations, noise ordinance violations, obstruction of sight lines, and infrastructure disruption. To offer this company a tax incentive is a direct insult to the people that our elected officials are sworn to represent. We ask that you do not approve this measure when these monies would be better utilized to offer benefits to companies that are serving the communities with net improvements.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Shelley Brown

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To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to <u>publiccomment+unsubscribe@dafc.us</u>.

From:	Kellen Denny <kellendenny@gmail.com></kellendenny@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 8:44 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Cc:	dgutierrez@dafc.us; selangford@dafc.us
Subject:	Public Comment: Tax Abatement being sought out by QTS Data Center.

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To whom it may concern,

As a Howell Station Neighborhood community member, I fully oppose the recent push from the QTS data center to seek out a tax abatement. I believe that using taxpayer monies for these purposes would be irresponsible as the funds can be used in support of businesses that promote a healthy community and provide multiple long term jobs for those in the community.

Companies like QTS have ample resources that already allow them to get what they want and bulldoze their way through local regulations. The amount of long term jobs per capita that are being provided at the QTS development next to our neighborhood is miniscule in comparison to the amount of growth that is happening in the area and the number of jobs that are necessary. I would rather see tax abatements be granted to companies that would better serve the citizens of the Historic Howell Station Community and NPU K of the city of Atlanta where this development resides.

Additionally when the project was proposed and seeking approval for zoning conditions from the community, they were not seeking this tax abatement and was not something that the members of our community were able to weigh in on. The citizens of the communities will not have the opportunity for a direct voice in his abatement proposal, and I ask that you please do not allow another large corporation to take away valuable resources from our community.

Very Respectfully, Kellen H. Denny 937 Tilden Street NW Atlanta GA, 30318 404-934-5651

From:	'Karen Goeckel' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us></publiccomment@dafc.us>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 8:42 PM
To:	Publiccomment@dafc.us
Subject:	\$45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services, LLC

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To all who have a say in such matters,

Please consider voting NO to approving a \$45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services, LLC on the west side next to the Beltline.

I urge you to please consider voting NO to a \$45M tax abatement in a part of town where developers are climbing on top of each other to develop. No incentives needed! This parcel is HUGE (50-acre site) and will only add 15-20 permanent jobs, is next to the Beltline and already under construction. I am a resident of Fulton County and us residents of Atlanta/Fulton Co are the ones who ultimately pay for these tax abatements! It does not meet the "common sense" "read the room" requirements to receive an abatement. Developers do not need incentive to build in these parts of town. If you don't vote against it, you are ultimately voting for the residents of this city to pay developers millions of unncessessary dollars. Please say no

Thank you,

Respectfully,

Karen Goeckel Dixie Ave, Atlanta GA

From: Sent: To: Subject: Amy Hoover <amyh@strongboxwest.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:37 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Comment for 2pm Meeting 4/25/2023, 2pm

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My name is Amy Hoover. I am a founding partner and the first employee of Strongbox West, a co-working business in Northwest Atlanta founded in 2009. We moved from our original site at 1736 Defoor Place to 1040 West Marietta St. in January 2015 and expanded from about 5,000 to about 46,000 square feet. At 1040 West Marietta Street we had three successive landlords MVW, Westrock and finally QTS.

The pandemic and pandemic-related lockdowns were very hard on our business, but we managed to remain open as some of our clients were essential businesses. We were on a good trajectory of recovery and the business was growing again by mid/late-2021. In December of that year, we received a surprise 90-day notice of lease termination from QTS. This was the minimum permissible notice under the terms of our lease at the time. It was a surprise because we had been assured that they had no other plans for the site for at least two years. We asked repeatedly for a longer time to find and relocate to a different location after we received notice, considering it was only two weeks before the holiday season, and the number of our client businesses who would need to relocate with us, but were told it was important that we vacate as quickly to make way for the redevelopment of the site. As a result of this rapid eviction, we were forced to cease operations and our tenant businesses closed or dispersed. Collectively these represented about 80 jobs at the time that we received notice. One of those was my own.

Most of the workers housed at Strongbox were either self-employed or employed by small start-up businesses. Many of them worked in the tech industry. In this regard, Strongbox was a sort of tech incubator of the form that development authorities have seen fit to incentivize elsewhere. It baffles me that DAFC would now consider rewarding the destruction of such a business. Our destruction served no public interest. Some of our client businesses and workers may have found space elsewhere in Atlanta, but I am not one of them and I doubt that I am unique in this regard.

The ~80 jobs that were lost from Strongbox were real jobs held by real Atlantans. This is a stark contrast to the projected 15-20 jobs held by imagined future Atlantans that QTS is promising. Whether or not these jobs will ever be created or made available to current residents of the city is unknown, but the past performance of QTS provides some guidance on this. In 2015, QTS promised DAFC to "create" 100 jobs with an expansion of their Jefferson Street facility in return for an incentive abatement. Those 100 jobs are now a subset of the 58 jobs that they are promising to "preserve". QTS is walking into this deal owing DAFC more than 40 job creations and asking for an extra \$45 million to fulfill less than half of that prior commitment.

Strongbox was founded and thrived in the free market. We neither needed nor sought a publicly-funded incentive or a gratuity for our business. I personally believe that this is how our economy should work. Regardless of whether you agree with that, gifting public money to a business that is neither needy nor worthy such as QTS is something that you should find utterly ridiculous. I urge you to deny this abatement.

Amy Hoover, Co-Founder Strongbox West

From: Sent: To: Subject: C WEINBAUM <cweinbaum@bellsouth.net> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:36 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Quality Technology Services, LLC

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Dear Development Authority of Fulton County,

Please vote no on the \$45M tax abatement for Quality Technology Services, LLC development on Atlanta's Westside. I understand that Atlanta City Council called on the DAFC to stop issuing such tax abatements inside Atlanta 3 years ago. Quality Technology Services has started construction and they do NOT need the incentive. We the residents of Atlanta/Fulton Co are the ones who pay for these tax abatements. Given the location on the Beltline, there's no need for an abatement.

Thank you for your attention.

Cindy Weinbaum 934 Waverly Way Atlanta GA 30307

From: Sent: To: Subject: Karen Heim <karen.heim1@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:24 PM publiccomment@dafc.us VOTE NO to The Quality Technology Services, LLC

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To the Development Authority of Fulton County:

I am a resident of Fulton County and respectfully request you vote NO to approving the \$45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services, LLC. This is the type of business that should be increasing tax revenue to the county, not decreasing it!

Sincerely,

Karen Heim 798 Lake Ave NE Atlanta GA 30307

From: Sent: To: Subject: Karen Heim <karen.heim1@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:24 PM publiccomment@dafc.us VOTE NO to The Quality Technology Services, LLC

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To the Development Authority of Fulton County:

I am a resident of Fulton County and respectfully request you vote NO to approving the \$45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services, LLC. This is the type of business that should be increasing tax revenue to the county, not decreasing it!

Sincerely,

Karen Heim 798 Lake Ave NE Atlanta GA 30307

From: Sent: To: Subject: Jason Holland <jlh1825@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:18 PM publiccomment@dafc.us No to 45 million tax abatement

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I am against this abatement for the data center along beltline.

J Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: To: Subject: Charles <charles.h.thomas@comcast.net> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:14 PM Publiccomment@dafc.us Tax Abatement

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I recommend that you vote no on tax abatement for Quality Technology Services. Dawn Hines Tax payer in Atlanta

Sent from my iPhone

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

'Mark Schmitt' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:09 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Quality Technology Services bond inducement

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Please vote no on this "inducement." This project is already underway, so no inducement is necessary. Also, this would literally take money away from Atlanta Public School, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County. Large corporations need to be good corporate citizens and pay taxes just like the rest of us. They do not need, nor deserve any tax incentives.

Mark Schmitt City of Atlanta Fulton County Resident

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Karin Mebius <karinmebius@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 7:29 PM Publiccomment@dafc.us Please Vote NO to Quality Technology Services Tax Abatement

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Please vote NO to a \$45M tax abatement for The Quality Technology Services, LLC. This parcel is HUGE (50-acre site) and will only add 15-20 permanent jobs, is next to the Beltline and already under construction.

We, the residents of Atlanta/Fulton County, are the ones who ultimately pay for these tax abatements. This company should not be considered to receive our money.

Kind regards,

Karin Mebius 860 Euclid Ave NE Atlanta, GA 30307 --

From:	Frank Schultz <frankschultz@gmail.com></frankschultz@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 7:32 PM
То:	Publiccomment@dafc.us
Subject:	Vote no on 45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services

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Hello,

Please vote NO on the 45M tax abatement to The Quality Technology Services. They are already broken ground and don't need that abatement to proceed. This is City of Altanta/Fulton County Taxpayer money and is not needed for this project to move forward. The employer will only add 15-20 permanent jobs and is next to the beltline. Sincerely, Frank Schultz Austin Ave NE Atlanta 30307

From: Sent: To: Subject: 'Donna Wolfman' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us> Monday, April 24, 2023 8:00 PM publiccomment@dafc.us No Tax Break for QTS Data Centers

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Dear DAFC,

Please do not give QTS data centers a \$45 million tax break. QTS is owned by Blackstone, a company with a \$100+ billion market cap. They can afford to pay for this data center.

Also, how did Kwanza Hall end up on DAFC? Is he still married to Natalie Hall? He couldn't show up for debates when he ran for Lieutenant Governor, do we think he will show up for Fulton County residents?

If QTS wants to save money, they can buy furniture at Gallery Furniture. We have locations in Gainesville and College Park.

Best Regards,

Donna Wolfman

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From: Sent: To: Subject:

Erin Kruger <erinlkruger@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 6:35 PM publiccomment@dafc.us No Quality Technology Services tax break

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You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Please vote "no" on the Quality Technology Services data center tax break. They're already building it and there's no worthwhile benefit to residents.

From: Sent: To: Subject: leigh hays <intownhays@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 6:01 PM publiccomment@dafc.us VOTE NO - QTS Tax Break

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DAFC -

I'm writing to you as a long-time resident of Fulton County and the City of Atlanta. <u>VOTE NO for any tax break for QTS</u> <u>Property on the Westside</u>. Quality Technology Services does NOT need the break and these breaks continue to hurt those of us who are paying taxes.

Leigh Hays 413 Sinclair Ave, NE Atlanta GA 30307

From: Sent: To: Subject: Anton Gudiswitz <agizzi99@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 5:37 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Deny Tax Handouts to QTS Development.

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Good evening,

I am a resident of the city of Atlanta in Fulton County. Please do not provide any development tax breaks to this QTS development. This project does not need any inducement to proceed and this tax break would be a horrendous loss to the county.

DAFC handouts should be reserved for projects that actually need inducement and would be positive for the county. For example, deeply affordable housing.

The citizens of Fulton county deserve to collect tax dollars from billion dollar companies. As stewards of public funds DAFC should be ashamed to even consider deals like this.

Sincerely, Anton Gudiswitz Resident, City of Atlanta District 4

From: Sent: To: Subject: Leigh Farr <leigh.farr@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 5:25 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS Tax Abatement Request

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I am writing to oppose the tax abatement request for QTS's new facility on Marietta Boulevard. I am a resident of the neighborhood adjacent to the property, Howell Station.

The property was purchased after a request for bid and while there was other interest QTS was winning bidder by a substantial margin. This is not surprising given the wealth of resources a company of their size has. Unfortunately a more appropriate use was not able to be constructed on their site. While their masterplan shows additional uses (multifamily, commercial, and townhomes), those developments are not part of their current construction and will likely not be developed until QTS is complete with both phases of their construction.

Much like property on the east side of town in Old 4th Ward, this property is going to be built out regardless of obtaining a tax abatement. This property could have been used to supplement housing supply in the City, as well as provide a significant retail commercial hub, but instead the neighbors are left with two 90-ft tall totalling 1.5 million square feet of mostly dormant uses. This property could have been a vibrant hub on the westside, but now won't even create a substantial number of jobs.

THERE IS NO NEED TO PAD THE POCKETS OF A BILLION DOLLAR CORPORATION THAT WAS ABLE TO OUTBID MORE COMMUNITY MINDED DEVELOPERS FOR A PRIZED PIECE OF LAND. PLEASE DO NOT GRANT QTS THEIR REQUESTED TAX ABATEMENT.

Leigh Farr Howell Station Resident

--

From:	Sarah-Elizabeth Langford <selangford@dafc.us></selangford@dafc.us>
Sent:	Tuesday, April 25, 2023 9:40 AM
То:	Coleman, Doris; Daniels, Lauren W.; Lim, Eunice C.; Moyer, Ansly P.; Patel, Hanish S.
	Zayac, Sandra Z.
Subject:	Additional public comment Fwd: Message sent on behalf of Dr. Eloisa Klementich
Attachments:	Executed Fulton County Development Authority Letter 4-24-2023 ver 2.pdf

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------Forwarded message ------From: Bernitta Harris <<u>bharris@investatlanta.com</u>> Date: Mon, Apr 24, 2023 at 5:25 PM Subject: Message sent on behalf of Dr. Eloisa Klementich To: <u>mturpeau@dafc.us</u> <<u>mturpeau@dafc.us</u>>, <u>selangford@dafc.us</u> <<u>selangford@dafc.us</u>> CC: Dr. Eloisa Klementich <<u>eklementich@investatlanta.com</u>>, Noah Downer <<u>ndowner@investatlanta.com</u>>

Good afternoon, Mr. Turpeau:

The attached correspondence is being sent on behalf of Dr. Eloisa Klementich.

Thanks,

Bernitta Harris | Paralegal

133 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2900 | Atlanta, GA 30303 | 404.614.8319

bharris@investatlanta.com



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April 24, 2023

Chairman Michel M. Turpeau Fulton County Development Authority 141 Pryor Street, S.W. Suite 2052 Atlanta, Georgia 30303 <u>mturpeau@dafc.us</u>

Re: Quality Technology Services, LLC, EDO QTS North Bond Inducement Resolution

Dear Mr. Turpeau:

I am writing to you on behalf of The Atlanta Development Authority d/b/a Invest Atlanta ("Invest Atlanta") to express our opposition to the use of tax incentives for the proposed mixed-use development on West Marietta Street in the Knight/Howell Station Historic District, within the City of Atlanta's BeltLine Tax Allocation District.

While we are excited to have more broadband in the city and acknowledge the potential economic benefits that such a project will bring, we have evaluated the incentive proposal and have determined that it does not align with the purpose of a targeted tax incentive. Furthermore, the tax incentive is inconsistent with our mission and values as an organization.

One of Invest Atlanta's main objectives is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth in the City of Atlanta. We believe that tax incentives should be used to support projects that create meaningful economic benefits such as job opportunities for residents, particularly those who have been historically underserved, and provide meaningful community impact. Based on the publicly available information, the company proposes two data centers (755,000 square feet) that will create a total of 15-20 new permanent jobs and is providing only limited direct economic benefit and/or support to the community.

In light of these concerns, we urge you to reconsider granting a tax incentive for the project under consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Greetings,

Dr. Eloisa Y. Klementich, CEcD President & CEO

cc: Sarah-Elizabeth Langford, Executive Director, selangford@dafc.us

Atlanta Development Authority Urban Residential Finance Authority Downtown Development Authority Atlanta Urban Redevelopment Agency WWW.INVESTATLANTA.COM P 404.880.4100 | F 470.498.4100 133 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2900 Atlanta, GA 30303

From:	Julian bene <julianbene@gmail.com></julianbene@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 5:25 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Subject:	Re: Request to make public comment at DAFC board meeting Tues Apr 25, 2023

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Good day,

As a Fulton County resident and taxpayer, I wish to make a public comment in person to the board on item H2 of their agenda for Tues Apr 25, 2023.

Please let me know if this will be via teleconference or in person at the board's meeting room.

Thank you.

Julian Bene julianbene@gmail.com 404.317.9320

On Sun, Apr 23, 2023 at 2:31 PM Julian bene <<u>julianbene@gmail.com</u>> wrote: Good day,

As a Fulton County resident and taxpayer, I wish to make a public comment in person to the board on item H2 of their agenda for Tues Apr 25, 2023.

Please let me know if this will be via teleconference or in person at the board's meeting room.

Thank you.

Julian Bene julianbene@gmail.com 404.317.9320

Julian Bene julianbene@gmail.com 404.317.9320

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Public Comment" group.

From:	Sarah-Elizabeth Langford <selangford@dafc.us></selangford@dafc.us>
Sent:	Tuesday, April 25, 2023 9:37 AM
To:	Coleman, Doris; Daniels, Lauren W.; Lim, Eunice C.; Moyer, Ansly P.; Patel, Hanish S
	Zayac, Sandra Z.
Subject:	Additional public comment Fwd: QTS Inducement Memo 4.24.23
Attachments:	Memo QTS Inducement 4.24.23.pdf

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------Forwarded message ------From: Vicki Cimkentli <<u>VCimkentli@atlbeltline.org</u>> Date: Mon, Apr 24, 2023 at 4:51 PM Subject: QTS Inducement Memo 4.24.23 To: Sarah-Elizabeth Langford <<u>selangford@dafc.us</u>> CC: Aasia Mustakeem <<u>amustakeem@atlbeltline.org</u>>, Clyde Higgs <<u>CHiggs@atlbeltline.org</u>>

Sarah-Elizabeth:

Please see attached memo, signed by Clyde.

Thank you.

Vicki Cimkentli Executive Assistant to the CEO Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.

100 Peachtree Street NW, Ste 2300

Atlanta, GA 30303 Cell: 954.684.0174

Office: 404.477.3641 // vcimkentli@atlbeltline.org // beltline.org



- TO: Development Authority of Fulton County
- FROM: Clyde Higgs, President and CEO, Atlanta BeltLine Inc. ("ABI"

DATE: April 24, 2023

RE: Letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC ("QTS")

Thank you for the opportunity to review the inducement package for the QTS data center expansion in northwest Atlanta. While ABI recognizes the significance and importance of these types of facilities for Atlanta and Georgia, we cannot support the inducement. Given that the project is already under construction, it does not appear the project requires the inducement to be financially feasible. Furthermore, the execution of the Atlanta BeltLine project relies on future property tax growth within the BeltLine Tax Allocation District. Granting a property tax abatement in this instance would limit ABI's future ability to deliver on key programmatic goals such as trails, parks, and affordable housing.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Steven Shinn <choix6@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 4:48 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS Tax Incentive

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I am firmly against giving such a large corporation any tax break to incentivize more eye sore data centers. My personal taxes are going up by the year and they should pay their fair share as well!

Sincerely,

Steven Shinn

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Mark Erhart <erhart1@hotmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 4:31 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Public Comment to the Regular Monthly Meeting of DAFC on 4/25/23

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To whom it may concern,

As a citizen of the city of Atlanta and resident of Fulton County I strongly urge you to vote no on the Quality Technology Services Bond Inducement Resolution in the Regular Monthly Meeting on April 25th, 2023. The County and the city continues to fail to deliver adequate services to its residents, yet we continue to give unneeded tax incentives to forprofit organizations. In this case, QTS has finished a significant portion of the development already. Surely they would not abandon their estimated \$1.3B investment without this tax break. And with such close proximity to the Beltline, the Westside Reservoir Park and areas that are being improved, there should be no concern about potential redevelopment of this property without tax incentives in the long term.

Regards,

Mark Erhart 1061 Cumberland Road, Atlanta, GA

From:	'Ross Gandy' via Public Comment <publiccomment@dafc.us></publiccomment@dafc.us>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 4:21 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Cc:	selangford@dafc.us
Subject:	Vote NO on the Quality Technology Services Bond Inducement

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Hello,

As a Fulton County taxpayer, I would like to respectfully ask you to deny the request to issue a \$45MM tax break to Quality Technology Services' project that is already under construction. This money could go towards better incentivizing other initiatives, rather than funding a project that is a certainty.

Thanks, Ross

Ross Gandy 90 W. Wieuca Road Atlanta, GA 30342 ross@wahoofitness.com

From: Sent: To: Subject: Carden Wyckoff <cardenwyckoff@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:56 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Vote No on QTS Bond

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Hi-

Please vote no on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement.

Since this project is already underway, providing it with a tax savings of \$45,035,738 qualifies as an unnecessary handout to the company -- one that comes at a cost to Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County.

Thanks Carden Wyckoff Fulton County Resident

From: Sent: To: Subject: Linda Posner <lindapoz@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:53 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Quality Technology Services Bond Inducement

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Good Afternoon,

I would like the following comment to be included in the April 25, 2023 scheduled meeting:

"I strongly oppose the proposed (approximate) \$45 million tax break that you will vote on tomorrow. This is an unnecessary handout that Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and the citizens and stakeholders of Fulton County will ultimately have to bear. Developers have been more than willing to invest in the Beltline overlay areas without additional inducement. A "NO" vote is appropriate."

Thank you. -Linda Posner-Downing City of Atlanta resident, Former Fourth Ward Neighbors President
From: Sent: To: Subject: Tom <tjmstrong@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:48 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Comment on QTS board inducement resolution

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Hi – resident of our fair metro area here. Why on earth would you offer a company \$45 million in tax savings for a property they are already going to profit on, and take those funds away from our schools and public services? This company does not need the help.

Tom Strong 2387 Bradcliff Dr NE Atlanta, GA 30345

From: Sent: To: Subject: Julie Marceau <jdmatlanta@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:46 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS

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To whom it t concern,

I have just received word that QTS is requesting a \$45,000,000 incentive from Fulton. I am beyond disappointed that they would even suggest such a thing.

I urge you to do the right thing and vote again QTS's request. Our tax money needs to go elsewhere. Roads, schools just to mention a few of the deteriorating functions of this county that I have lived and paid taxes to since 1997.

This is of upmost importance that you do not support this ridiculous request by QTS.

Best Regards, Julie Marceau

From: Sent: To: Subject: Mallory Brooks <mallorylbrooks@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:34 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Re: Regular Monthly Meeting of DAFC on 4/25/23

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Hello,

I'd like to ask the members of the Development Authority of Fulton County to vote NO on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement. This tax break giveaway would be a waste of taxpayer money to go towards a project that is almost complete and has gone forward without the need of public funds when our limited taxpayer dollars can and should go towards Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County.

Please vote NO!

Thank you, Mallory Brooks 1080 Euclid Ave NE Apt 320 Atlanta, GA 30307

From: Sent: To: Subject: Robin Cornacchio <rcornacchio27@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:41 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS

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Do NOT give QTS any money that is supposed to be earmarked for Fulton Co, Atlanta City Schools or the Beltline! \$45 M is a lot of money that should be used for the City and NOT for a multi million dollar company. They've already ruined our neighborhood (Howell Station) with that monstrosity data center!!! Don't give them a dime!!!

Howell Station Resident Robin

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: To: Subject: Derrick Green <mr.derrickgreen@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:30 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Opposing the QTS \$45 Million Tax Abatement Request

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Fulton Development Authority:

As a Fulton County, GA resident, I am vehemently opposed to a \$45 Million Tax Abatement for QTS. With the economic stress being placed on our households for services, it is imperative that corporations act as good corporate citizens and pay their fair share for government and essential services through the accurate assessment of property taxes. It is of poor conscience to allow corporate property owners to abate taxes while neighboring citizens struggle with a lack of access to quality healthcare, inadequate funding of law enforcement, and continued under-investment in arts and culture. Fulton County should not sell itself or its citizenry short with such a proposal.

Sincerely,

Derrick Green Fulton County Resident

From: Sent: To: Subject: John Rose <john.rose3@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:23 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Comments for 4/25/23 meeting

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I'm writing to respectfully ask for you to vote 'no' on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement. This is an investment that has no need for enticements, which would sap tax money away from our city and schools. Please save incentives for more marginal investments in areas where development is lacking.

Thank you,

John Rose

From: Sent: To: Subject: Kaleb <kaleb.price@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:07 PM publiccomment@dafc.us NO on QTS Bond Indcuement

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Please deny bind inducement for the QTS North project. This project is already being built, no incentive for building is necessary. Over \$45MM in tax revenue for the county would be lost for a project that is being built anyway. That's taking money from critical services to hand it over to a private company.

Kaleb Price

Resident, City of Atlanta and Fulton County

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: To: Subject: Lisa Safstrom <lsafstrom@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 3:02 PM publiccomment@dafc.us please vote no on QTS bond inducement

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Hi,

I'd like to voice my disappointment at your consideration of offering a \$45m bond inducement to Quality Technology Services for their data center development. The project is already underway so this enticement is not necessary, and companies are already eager to develop in the area of the Beltline. The lack of taxes received will contribute to underfunding our schools and other public services. Atlantans are tired of large companies receiving unnecessary tax breaks. Please vote no on this initiative.

Thank you, Lisa Safstrom 994 Kirkwood Avenue SE Atlanta, GA 30316 Fulton County

From:	Andrew Haney <haney8604@gmail.com></haney8604@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 2:53 PM
To:	info@kwanzahall.com; publiccomment@dafc.us
Subject:	DAFC - 4/25 Mtg - QTS NORTH BOND INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION FACT SHEET

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Hi Mr Hall,

I'm a resident of the Howell Station neighborhood in West Midtown and my home is less than 2 blocks away from the enormous QTS data center that's currently under construction. I'm writing to ask you to advocate for DAFC to disallow QTS' request of \$45,035,738 in tax relief during tomorrow's DAFC meeting (page 6 of the current agenda). I will be unable to attend the meeting tomorrow so I'm writing here instead.

As a resident since 2016 and an active participant on the neighborhood's Zoning Committee I have been closely involved with oversight of the process QTS took to gain approvals for this new data center, which required combining and rezoning numerous lots, and I have firsthand experience of their ability to game the system to get approval from the neighborhood and the city by misrepresenting their intentions, to build whatever building they wanted to build on that site (1010 West Marietta St NW, Atlanta, GA 30318). Specifically they misrepresented plans that were shown to the neighborhood during negotiation of the CBA to show a different, shorter building configuration, and then raised the height of the building through a permit revision during construction without the consent of the neighborhood. To accomplish this, without violating local zoning height restrictions, they backfilled against their building to raise the "average grade elevation," which is the term the zoning code uses to measure building height.

They've also, in no particular order:

-Applied for noise variances using a residential address instead of their actual commercial address, and used to start construction earlier and end later, until the neighborhood caught this and brought it to the attention of the city. -They've done a very poor job of managing their workers, who frequently park and clog our neighborhood streets near the site, despite this being disallowed by a CBA. The neighborhood has struggled to get them to enforce this provision. -It took months of vigilance from the neighborhood to get them to enforce roadway restrictions on their large delivery trucks/trailers to keep them out of the neighborhood.

-Despite being directly adjacent to the existing QTS data center, they would frequently ride their carts through the neighborhood to get from the construction site to the existing data center because there was no direct onsite connection between their own two buildings.

-Promised the neighborhood - and development officials - that the sites surrounding their data centers would be redeveloped into townhomes and apartment/office buildings and have made ZERO effort to achieve this outcome since their permits were approved. It remains to be seen if this will ever come to fruition.

In response to their listed "Economic Benefits," my comments are below in blue.

- \$1.3 billion investment in a site that was in a serious state of disrepair, including several abandoned warehouses and other structures that have been an eyesore and posed serious safety and security risks to the surrounding community.
 - This ignores the fact that the site is in an area being redeveloped rapidly and incorrectly assumes that a data center is somehow the best use of the site as it pertains to benefitting it's surroundings. The site

was previously in use until they purchased the land, at which point it emptied and was well fenced off, maintained and contained - it was not a safety/security risk other than to their own property.

- Contribution of more than \$30 million in system and infrastructure improvements, including donations of cash, land, and public access enhancements for the BeltLine.
 - These concessions came as a result of the neighborhood pushing them to do these things and them fighting against it. The beltline access they mention is on a portion of their land that would otherwise be empty. The "infrastructure improvements" do not benefit anyone but QTS.
- The EDO expects to create 15-20 new permanent, and 500-600 temporary construction jobs.
 - 15-20 new permanent jobs for a building that is several hundred thousand square feet and has a high cost to construct is not a good thing that's a VERY low number and is not something to be praised.
 What hiring practices are in place? Are they hiring local workers or commuters?
 - 500-600 temporary jobs are not a benefit to the community this point again precludes the fact that the site could have been redeveloped into a property that could have an actual benefit to the community and created a similar amount of temporary jobs.

All in all, providing a tax incentive here encourages future data center development - a form of development that in no way improves its surroundings. It's a serious oversight to assume that the highest and best use of this property, in a highly active area of redevelopment, is for a data center that provides zero benefit to its surrounding neighbors/community. Had this property been put on the market as a consolidated property there would have been a serious bidding war (as goes for the adjacent land of the Fulton County Jail now sits on - a quality that was not a consideration in the assessment on relocating/updating the jail that was produced by Fulton County).

Long story short - they have built an absolutely massive data center, immediately adjacent to and at the expense of a historic single family neighborhood. This data center will and has brought down our property values. The very least they should be compelled to do is to pay the taxes they owe - money that will be used by the county, by the City of Atlanta, the Beltline, and by Atlanta Public Schools. The latter of which desperately needs funding to improve schools in the district. The fact that QTS would do what they've already done, and then go to the county to ask to do LESS to improve their surroundings is insidious and disingenuous, and it makes them even worse neighbors than they already have been.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration,

Andrew Haney 1088 Longley Ave NW Atlanta, GA 30318

--

From: Sent: To: Subject: Jonny Newburgh <jonnynewburgh@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 2:46 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Regular Monthly Meeting of DAFC on 4/25/23

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Hello,

I am emailing in regards to the proposed bond inducement resolution for quality Technology Solutions LLC.

Since this project is already underway, providing it with a tax savings of \$45,035,738 qualifies as an unnecessary handout to the company -- one that comes at a cost to Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County.

This project is next to the Atlanta Beltline. No inducement is needed where developers are already willing to invest.

It is exactly the kind of tax break that DAFC needs to stop providing.

Thank you, Jonny Newburgh

From:	Sarah Doyle <swhitey3@gmail.com></swhitey3@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 2:35 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us; Amos, Byron D; info@kwanzahall.com; kylenlamont@gmail.com; Khadijah.abdur-rahman@fultoncounty.ga.gov
Subject:	Vote no for the QTS tax break

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Good Afternoon,

My name is Sarah Doyle and I am a resident of Howell Station here in Atlanta. QTS is on the agenda for the Development Authority of Fulton County(4/25) and they will be asking for the county to incentivize the construction of their data centers. This tax break for 45 million dollars is NOT in the best interest of the city, its residence or future development.

QTS has not been a good neighbor, as someone who is directly impacted with the build at 1010 West Marietta, QTS has shown that they only have their own self interest in mind. They claim that their build deserves a tax break when they will not be even employing 30 people. They have directly impacted our property values and have misled the neighborhood in terms of their build.

\$45 million dollars is a very large sum of money that would be best suited in many other areas. As a public school teacher, that money would definitely help underserved schools and neighborhoods that have been ignored by the city government for decades. The neighborhoods of Bankhead, Vine city, etc... do not have adequate public schools, services or funding and yet QTS, who is not doing anything to help the area they are impacting, gets to keep 45 million dollars?

Our trash, recycling and other city services are often skipped and the roads, bridges and infrastructure of the West side is in shambles. The city wants more development and density, well now you potentially can have \$45 million more in tax revenue to help repair roads, put in sidewalks, etc...

My taxes have gone up every year regardless of the fact that QTS has really hurt my property but yet they deserve a tax break? I am a public servant, a teacher and yet large developers are paying less in taxes than I am and, I can argue I have done more to invest in our city by educating our youth, helping to send students to our colleges, encouraging them to work in the Atlanta area and promote the growth of our city.

The number one priority of a city government should be the safety and well being of its citizens, not a billion dollar company that disregards the citizens that live by their build. If the citizens and constituents that you serve are why you went into public service, then it is your duty to make QTS pay their fair share and use that money to improve the lives of your citizens.

Please move to oppose and deny QTS's tax abatement request.

Thank you for your time

Sarah Doyle Always Be Kind. --

From: Sent: To: Subject: Bonnie Lapwood <bvlapwood@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 2:19 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Vote No on QTS Bond Inducement

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Good afternoon,

As a resident and taxpayer in Fulton County and the City of Atlanta, I urge the board to vote no on the resolution to approve a bond inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC at tomorrow's meeting. This project would take place in a location that has seen significant investment in the past few years without inducement. This bond inducement is wholly unnecessary and would deprive the county, city, and public school students of tax dollars that can be used for the public good. Please make the right choice to prioritize the people rather than providing another handout to a large corporation.

Thank you, Bonnie Lapwood

From:	Arthur Toal <heyart@gmail.com></heyart@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 2:03 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Cc:	Byron Amos (CoS); info@kwanzahall.com; Kyle Lamont; Abdur-Rahman, Khadijah
Subject:	Please oppose QTS Inducement

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Dear Development Authority of Fulton County,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed \$45 million tax break for QTS, which is item H.2 on the agenda for the upcoming meeting on April 25th. This is a waste of public funds and would not benefit the community.

QTS is a large, profitable company that is already well-established in Fulton County. The company has received millions of dollars in tax breaks in the past, and it is still profitable. There is no reason to give QTS another tax break. They have already determined that their project will be profitable without the inducement and are roughly halfway through construction.

The money that would be given to QTS could be better spent on other things, such as education, infrastructure, or public safety. These are all areas that would benefit the community more than a tax break for a wealthy company.

In addition, QTS implied that they would not be seeking tax breaks while they were seeking Howell Station Neighborhood Association approval for their rezoning in 2021. This is a clear example of QTS not being transparent with the community and trying to deceive them in order to get what they want.

I urge you to reject the proposed tax break for QTS. This is a waste of public funds and would not benefit the community.

Sincerely, Arthur Toal President, Howell Station Neighborhood Association

From: Sent: To: Subject: Reid Davis <reid.davis@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 1:57 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Regular Monthly Meeting of DAFC on 4/25/23

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To whom it may concern -

I am 100% opposed to the \$1.3 billion bond resolution under consideration for Quality Technology Services, LLC, for its project on West Marietta Street.

There are several reasons for my opposition:

1) The property is already in the construction phase, therefore no inducement is necessary to produce physical results. This means the \$45M cost of this will come straight from budgets that should support my three children in APS schools, as well as my wellbeing as a City of Atlanta resident, with no marginal benefit.

2) As a data center, this project involves a large physical plant, but very few jobs. In my opinion, this is not the kind of project that DAFC should be incentivizing.

3) In an urban area, a data center functions as a large blank space. It offers no housing, and there is nothing added as a neighborhood amenity, as would be the case with restaurants or retail. Furthermore, this close to the Beltline, land uses should be tilted toward mixed-use residential, retail, and employment centers offering jobs to many people (who may then be able to arrive on foot, via bike/scooter, or on future Beltline transit.)

Thanks for hearing my concerns. Again, I urge a NO vote on this resolution.

Best regards, Reid Davis 410 Maynard Terrace SE Atlanta, GA 30316 404/441-3228

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Jameela Reed <jameelareed@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 1:38 PM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS TAX ABATEMENT

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To whom it may concern:

Qts must not avoid paying taxes or be granted this \$45 million tax abatement. APS has only 2 moderately good high schools(north atlanta and midtown). Many families in atlanta that are middle class end up sending their kids to private schools if they can afford it . And many older residents are being priced out of their homes due to increasing property taxes. The appropriate taxing of this company would do wonders to keep atlanta diverse and increase education funds.

Please consider this as you move forward in this decision, Jameela

Jameela Reed, MPH Biology Teacher, Holy Innocents' Episcopal School Spelman Class of 2004 CSUN Class of 2018

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachments: Martin, James S <james.martin@me.gatech.edu> Monday, April 24, 2023 1:15 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Kirkland, Sabrina; Coleman, Doris Public Comment for Tomorrows DAFC Meeting QTS DAFC comments _ JSM.pdf

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Sabrina and Doris,

The attached document contains my comments for tomorrow's DAFC meeting. They are also copied below in plain text. I plan to virtually attend tomorrow's meeting to read them into the record as I understand that this is the current procedure for such things. Please let me know if there is something about this that I am misunderstanding.

My comments:

You have on your agenda today what may well be the worst lease purchase bond deal (AKA incentive tax abatement) ever brought before this body: agenda item H.2, a deal that would cost Atlanta taxpayers \$45 million while offering nothing of public value in return. My name is Jim Martin. I have been the chairman of NPU-D, which adjoins the QTS site to the north, for 16 years. The site itself is in NPU-K. The proposed abatement is opposed by both the current and former chairmen of NPU-K as well as myself.

I pass by this site several times a week. The construction of this facility appears to be roughly half complete with the shell of the first build already completed. Grading and streetscape also appear to be complete. Vertical construction began months ago. Extensive site work began months before that. The site has been an ongoing hive of activity for about a year. This development is obviously going to be completed with or without a tax abatement, which would therefore be incentivizing nothing. It would simply be a gratuity gifted by DAFC to QTS. Need is the sine qua non for an incentive abatement. If there is no need, as there obviously isn't in this case, then the merits of the project itself don't require consideration before the proposal is rejected. In this case, the project is a destroyer of jobs that will reduce housing affordability in the city and have negative knock-on economic effects in the surrounding area. It fails to support any of DAFC's stated goals in any way.

According to the fact sheet, this project will optimistically employ 15 to 20 people on a 50-acre site. This is near the lowest employment density of any imaginable use. If the proposed incentive were to somehow be credited with "creating" these jobs they would come at a public cost of about \$3 million each. Moreover, the site was not empty and vacant when this project began. There were existing businesses there that were razed to make way for this development. Those businesses employed considerably more people than this development ever will. One of these businesses, Strongbox West, was a co-working site with over 80 workers. These were artists, entrepreneurs, and small businesses - exactly the sort of jobs that DAFC should be incentivizing the creation of rather than rewarding the destruction of. Housing affordability in Atlanta is an issue that DAFC claims to be concerned with. This abatement will exacerbate our problem in two ways. Firstly, it will divert money from the Beltline's affordable housing trust fund, which is funded by TAD revenue. Secondly, it will divert money from the Beltline project itself, which under the current financing structure will shift costs over to the Special Services District – a funding source that comes out of the pockets of rental tenants in the Beltline area. The project itself, regardless of the unneeded public subsidy, is bad for housing affordability because it has involved the demolition of older and more affordable housing stock and has sequestered substantial land that could otherwise be used for new housing construction precisely where we are trying to encourage new housing on the Beltline.

Data centers are essentially a dead use that generate almost no knock-on economic activity in the surrounding community as is readily evidenced by the existing QTS data center on Jefferson St. The meager number of employees at this site bring little commerce into the surrounding community, and the nature of the use itself demands neither significant goods nor services from the surrounding community. As there are no physically present customers, no one is drawn to these sites. This was why the city created a moratorium on data center construction near the Beltline followed by an attempt at an outright prohibition and then by zoning restrictions on their form and scale with ordinance 19-O-1049. The preamble to this ordinance states: "data center uses are incompatible with the purposes and intent of the Beltline Overlay District". It is absurd to consider the idea of looting tax money from the Beltline project as a reward for the development of exactly such an unwanted use. As previously mentioned, the QTS site has displaced businesses with considerably more knock-on economic benefits in the community. It is thus a net negative rather than a negligible positive in this regard. The idea that this project would have an overall economic impact exceeding its cost of construction by \$1 billion as DAFC staff suggest is laughably absurd. The correct number is both small and negative.

The features of the QTS project that are described as public goods are either required by the underlying zoning (e.g. streetscape), required by the 25 conditions attached to that zoning (e.g. publicly accessible space and street front uses), required by the Beltline zoning overlay (e.g. a unified development plan), required by a community benefits agreement (e.g. a Beltline easement, cash contributions to the Beltline and the neighborhood, etc.), or needed for the project itself (e.g. internal roads and storm-water management). These aren't things that need to be incentivized. They are things that either have already happened or will happen and must happen without publicly funded incentive.

James Martin 2023 Chairperson NPU-D 764 Verner St Atlanta GA 30318 Home: 404-351-6949 Work: 404-894-6794 email: james.martin@me.gatech.edu

From: Sent: To: Subject: Matthew Swift <swift.matthewj@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 12:57 PM publiccomment@dafc.us Vote No on QTS bond inducement

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Hello,

I'm an Atlanta (Fulton) resident, and I'm writing to encourage a "No" vote on the bond inducement for the Quality Technology Services development on West Marietta Street. The over \$45 million tax savings being given to QTS is an unnecessary handout to the company and a relative waste of public funds.

Thank you, Matthew Swift

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Rachel Knowles <rachelknowles99@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 12:11 PM publiccomment@dafc.us No on Quality Technology Services Bond Inducement

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Hello,

My name is Rachel, and I'm a social worker living on the east side of Atlanta. I'm writing to urge you not to approve the Quality Technology Services bond inducement.

This development is already underway and is located in an area where developers are already motivated to invest. This expensive incentive is unnecessary, and these public funds would be better spent on housing, schools, and other public goods.

Thank you,

Rachel Knowles

From:	Joshua Lacey <williamjoshualacey@gmail.com></williamjoshualacey@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 12:01 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Subject:	Please vote "NO" to tax break for Quality Technology Services LLC

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I am a concerned citizen of district 5 in Atlanta. Giving tax breaks to corporations *always* means taking something away from citizens of the city. If the city does not have net positive gain in providing a tax break to the city i.e. Jobs, Affordable Housing, Complete Streets, then the city is giving away resources built off of the backs of its citizens.

After reading the Resolution Fact Sheet I have the following points.

- \$1.3 Billion investment in a property off the beltline means nothing if it doesn't serve to boost the long term economic prosperity of the beltline. That means businesses that offer consumer goods. A data center is the same as building a public storage facility. It is not a reason for people to want to come to the beltline. Once built it can't be unbuilt, that land will not be able to be used for the purpose it should be for, which is to service pedestrians. This data center could literally be built anywhere.

- a \$30 million donation to the city from the company does not make up for the decades of lost revenue that could have come from this land because it doesn't serve its designed purpose.

- 15 - 20 new jobs for such a large piece of valuable land is not worth it.

Please stop selling out our city with these tax breaks. Look what happened with the Microsoft deal, where citizens on the Westside are going to be dealing with inflated house prices for years to come due to the broken promise.

Atlanta is one of the best places to live in this country. Going forward let's put it on a path to be *the* best instead of repeating the mistakes of the past. Since this project is already in motion, a tax break doesn't benefit us in the long term.

Please vote "NO" to tax break for Quality Technology Services LLC!

Regards,

Joshua Lacey / 678-848-8831

From:	Coleman, Doris <doris.coleman@fultoncountyga.gov></doris.coleman@fultoncountyga.gov>
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 12:00 PM
То:	Doris M Coleman
Subject:	FW: Public Comment related to the. Letter of Inducement for Quality Technology
	Services, LLC
Attachments:	QTS Opposition Letter - Final.pdf

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From: Eric Harrison <<u>oharrison@gmail.com</u>> Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2023 9:00 PM To: <u>publiccomment@dafc.us</u> <<u>publiccomment@dafc.us</u>> Subject: Public Comment related to the. Letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC

Please find an attached PDF of my public comment in opposition to item H.2 on Tuesday's agenda the letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC.

I am traveling for work that day but will also make an effort to be available to provide oral notice of my opposition for the record.

V/R Eric Harrison 678.773.3710

From:NPU K <npukatlanta@gmail.com>Sent:Monday, April 24, 2023 11:27 AMTo:publiccomment@dafc.usSubject:QTS oppositionAttachments:Hope_Letter of Opposition for QTS Abatement_NPUK.docx (2).pdf

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Greetings,

My name is Dr. Hope and I am the current NPU K Chair. Historic Howell Station will be submitting a letter of opposition on my behalf, but I want to make it clear that I oppose the H.2. Letter for Inducement for QTS.

Best,

-Dr. Hope

Jasmine Hope, PhD

Chair, NPU-K Executive Board

Westin Heights/Bankhead, Hunter Hills, Knight Park/Howell Station, Mozley Park, Washington Park 678.799.0621 cell

Meeting regularly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month with exception of November & December when we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of those months. Meeting Location: Bistro Room, The City of Refuge, 1300 Joseph E. Boone Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA) Zoom: <u>https://zoom.us/j/99492641610</u> Meeting ID: 994 9264 1610



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Letter of Opposition

To Whom It May Concern,

This Letter of Opposition was made as of 4/22/2023 by the Chair of NPU-K, Dr. Jasmine Hope.

Organization being opposed: QTS Data Center Subject of Opposition: Tax Abatement

Organization Name: NPU K Representative: Dr. Jasmine Hope Position: NPU K Chair Telephone: 678-799-0621 Email: <u>npukatlanta@gmail.com</u>

Purpose: This Letter is in Opposition of the tax abatement being sought out by QTS Data Center.

As Chair of NPU K, I fully oppose the recent push from the QTS data center to seek out a tax abatement. I believe that using taxpayer monies for these purposes would be 1) irresponsible as the funds can be used in support of a business or resources that would better serve the citizens of the Historic Howell Station Community and surrounding neighborhoods 2) the project when proposed to the NPU K was not seeking this tax abatement during the time of the voting procedures 3) the citizens of the communities will not have the opportunity for a direct voice in this abatement proposal, and 4) the citizens of Historic Howell Station oppose this abatement. As the budget season is upon us, I ask that you seriously reconsider entertaining this notion.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jasmine Hope, NPU K 04/22/2023

James Hephi

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Matthew Garbett <matthewgarbett@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 11:26 AM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS Bond

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I'll keep it short and simple. No. No. No. No. No. No to Quality Technology Services.

Matthew W Garbett matthewgarbett@gmail.com Home & Text: 770.464.6016 Office: 404.272.8108

Reality has a well known liberal bias - Stephen Colbert

From: Sent: To: Subject: Eric Phillips <ep2007@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:53 AM publiccomment@dafc.us QTS Data Center Incentive

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Good morning,

As a resident of Fulton County of over a decade, I am emailing to implore you to deny the tax incentive to QTS Data Centers within city limits of Atlanta including on West Marietta.

QTS should not be provided a single dollar of tax incentives, as it is located directly adjacent the Atlanta BeltLine and walking distance to Howell Mill, one of the strongest economic submarkets within the southeast United States.

If QTS needs additional funding assistance, they should sell their abundance of land for better land use such as housing and offices. It is not the city's nor the county's duty to provide economic crutch to such a large corporation such as QTS, where they are owned by Blackstone a \$7bil revenue company in 2022! QTS is also providing a disservice back to the county by providing low economic returns with what is provided on vast acreage located within the economic core of our region.

If we are to mature as a governing entity, you must deny economic incentives to those such as QTS who are not in need of assistance, so 1) taxes are paid and will better fund infrastructure to our local municipalities and 2) we may prioritize our economic incentives to boosting smaller homegrown mom and pop shops, entrepreneurs, talents, & aspirational visions of what our great region should be moving forward.

QTS needs to pay their taxes in full, without incentive, and it is up to you to see this through.

Thank you, Eric Phillips ---Please consider before printing ---Please consider before printing ---

From: Sent: To: Subject: Nathan Clubb <nathanclubb@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:41 AM Coleman, Doris Quality Technology Services bond inducement public comment

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Good morning,

I urge the Board to vote no on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement resolution at the April 25 meeting. The project is already underway and near the BeltLine corridor where development occurs without the need for inducement. Providing \$45 million in tax subsidies will only serve to reduce funds available for our public schools, the provision of city services, and reduction of funds for Fulton County at a time the Fulton County Commission has stated additional revenues are needed for public services such as hospitals in underserved communities.

Please vote no. This data center is being built regardless.

Best, Nathan

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Michael Brill <michaelcbrill@gmail.com> Monday, April 24, 2023 10:39 AM publiccomment@dafc.us VOTE NO ON QTS Tax Break

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We don't need this project but we need the money going into their executives pockets to go to our schools. VOTE NO.

Michael C. Brill, Esq. Attorney At Law (678) 777-9661

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To: Subject: Doris M Coleman FW: Vote no on QTS

From: 'Chris Ferguson' via Public Comment <<u>publiccomment@dafc.us</u>> Date: April 24, 2023 at 9:53:00 AM EDT To: <u>publiccomment@dafc.us</u> Subject: Vote no on QTS Reply-To: Chris Ferguson <<u>ctfatlanta@icloud.com</u>>

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Hello,

I've been a resident and homeowner in Fulton County since 2001. I love my county but am tired of the tax giveaways.

QTS is a thriving company that chose to expand in a thriving part of the city of atlanta. They should not get an tax breaks or rebates for this project.

Thanks for your consideration!

Best, Chris Ferguson 1121 Shelby PI Se Atlanta, GA 30316

Sent from my iPhone

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To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to <u>publiccomment+unsubscribe@dafc.us</u>.

To: Subject: Doris M Coleman FW: VOTE NO: Letter of Inducement for QTS, LLC

From: Otto Depenbrok <<u>otto.depenbrok@gmail.com</u>> Date: April 24, 2023 at 9:38:47 AM EDT To: <u>publiccomment@dafc.us</u> Subject: VOTE NO: Letter of Inducement for QTS, LLC

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Dear DAFC,

I am a resident of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County, my children attend Atlanta Public Schools.

I am asking you to vote NO on this new business item:

H.2. Letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC \$1,300,000,000 Address: West Marietta Street, Atlanta, Georgia

This is strictly a gift of money to a company at the expense of the public.

- Work on the property has already begun, there is no need to induce investment.
- The property is Beltline adjacent, and the Beltline is rightly touted nationally as a success story for business and public benefits. There is zero need to induce investment along the Beltline as companies, real estate developers, and homeowners already pay premiums to be connected to it.
- The entire area around the Beltline is exploding, including residential gains.
 - o Gifting money chokes the budget of APS as their enrollment keeps increasing.
 - Gifting money chokes the budget of city and county services as the population keeps increasing.

Please recognize that Atlanta is already a highly desired location for business, particularly and specifically because of the Beltline and the entirety of the area within and surrounding it. There is no need to induce businesses in this area, especially not for a company already here and engaged in growth. If QTS, LLC chooses not to move forward without public gifts, multiple suitors will line up to purchase the property at a premium.

Vote NO (do not approve) on the bond inducement resolution.

Thanks, Otto Depenbrok

To: Subject: Doris M Coleman FW: Vote NO to QTS

From: Griffin Wasdin <griffinwasdin@gmail.com> Date: April 24, 2023 at 9:15:13 AM EDT To: publiccomment@dafc.us Subject: Vote NO to QTS

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Good morning,

I am a lifelong Atlantan asking DAFC to vote NO to the QTS (Quality Technology Services) tax abatement. As a licensed civil engineer, I am keenly aware how unnecessary tax subsidies undermine our local governments' abilities to provide the infrastructure and services we need. Since this project is already underway, providing it with a tax savings of \$45,035,738 qualifies as an unnecessary handout to the company -- one that comes at a cost to Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County.

-Griffin Wasdin, PE 678-294-3594

To: Subject: Doris M Coleman FW: Public comment for Regular Monthly Meeting 4/25/23

From: "Darin Givens (ThreadATL)" <<u>darin@threadatl.org</u>> Date: April 24, 2023 at 8:36:56 AM EDT To: <u>publiccomment@dafc.us</u> Subject: Public comment for Regular Monthly Meeting 4/25/23

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This is a public comment for the Regular Monthly Meeting of DAFC on Tuesday, April 25, 2023:

I'm asking you to vote "no" on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement. Since this project is already underway, providing it with a tax savings of \$45,035,738 qualifies as an unnecessary handout to the company -- one that comes at a cost to Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County. Also, this is a prime investment property in that it's next to the popular Atlanta Beltline. No inducement is needed for a place where developers are already willing to invest.

Darin Givens Co-founder, ThreadATL <u>threadatl.org</u> <u>darin@threadatl.org</u>

From: Sent: To: Subject: Robyn Turner <robyn.turner.atl@gmail.com> Sunday, April 23, 2023 8:47 AM publiccomment@dafc.us Public comment: tax giveaway to QTS

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As a resident of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County, I'm alarmed and outraged that the Development Authority of Fulton County is even considering giving away \$45M in tax handouts (corporate welfare) to the Blackstone-owned QTS data center on W. Marietta. One has to ask why the DAFC continues to exist. No developer needs incentives to build on the equivalent of beachfront property. If this tax giveaway actually happens I will do everything in my power to see that the DAFC is finally disbanded. Its past conduct has been highly suspect and this would confirm it hasn't cleaned up its act. I'm prepared to rally my contacts throughout the city and create a single-issue activist organization for this purpose.

To be clear, QTS deserves exactly \$0 in tax breaks and should be penalized for corporate greed and predatory behavior. 1) The facility is already under construction so, clearly, no incentive was ever needed. 2) This project shouldn't be happening at all because it's an example of horrible land use near the Beltline. 3) The project should be halted and removed to make way for an appropriate development. 4) It is my understanding that QTS outbid other developers who submitted more legitimate proposals, and said at the time it would not seek local tax breaks. That's appalling.

I'll be out of town and unable to attend the meeting. My neighbors and I will be watching very closely.

Robyn Turner Westview resident 678-429-1894

To: Subject: Doris M Coleman FW: Public comment for Regular Monthly Meeting 4/25/23

From: "Darin Givens (ThreadATL)" <<u>darin@threadatl.org</u>> Date: April 24, 2023 at 8:36:56 AM EDT To: <u>publiccomment@dafc.us</u> Subject: Public comment for Regular Monthly Meeting 4/25/23

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I'm asking you to vote "no" on the Quality Technology Services bond inducement. Since this project is already underway, providing it with a tax savings of \$45,035,738 qualifies as an unnecessary handout to the company -- one that comes at a cost to Atlanta Public Schools, the City of Atlanta, and Fulton County. Also, this is a prime investment property in that it's next to the popular Atlanta Beltline. No inducement is needed for a place where developers are already willing to invest.

Darin Givens Co-founder, ThreadATL threadatl.org darin@threadatl.org
To: Subject: Doris M Coleman FW: QTS Datacenter Taxpayer Funded Giveaway

From: Moses Formwalt <<u>moses.formwalt@gmail.com</u>> Date: April 24, 2023 at 8:14:03 AM EDT To: "Coleman, Doris" <<u>Doris.Coleman@fultoncountyga.gov</u>> Subject: QTS Datacenter Taxpayer Funded Giveaway

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Dear Ms. Coleman,

I am opposed to the taxpayer giveaway to QTS data centers. Where I come from \$45 million is a lot of money. As you are probably aware data centers generate a handful of jobs, so Atlanta Public Schools city and county will be paying the price for this giveaway.

Also, this is next to the Beltline, so this land should be used for housing, retail or offices.

Also, how did Kwanza Hall get on DAFC? He has a history of ethics violations, no-show jobs that he is placed in by his political benefactors and very little record of achievement in the private sector. Surely there is a better candidate for that position.

Let QTS pay their own way!

Sincerely,

Moses Formwalt

From:	Eric Harrison <8harrison@gmail.com>
Sent:	Sunday, April 23, 2023 9:00 PM
То:	publiccomment@dafc.us
Subject:	Public Comment related to the. Letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services LLC
Attachments:	QTS Opposition Letter - Final.pdf

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Please find an attached PDF of my public comment in opposition to item H.2 on Tuesday's agenda the letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC.

I am traveling for work that day but will also make an effort to be available to provide oral notice of my opposition for the record.

V/R Eric Harrison 678.773.3710

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To the Development Authority of Fulton County

My name is Eric Harrison, and I was the Chair of NPU K when we voted to support the zoning change to support the QTS development. At that time, June 2021, we were told that QTS was not seeking a tax abatement on this property. In my opinion, we were being deliberately misled by QTS now that they are seeking an abatement of \$45 million.

The purpose of a tax abatement is to attract new business growth to an area. In this case, QTS is neither new nor growing a job base in NPU K. The free market already brought them here. They have been working on this site since at least February of 2019 when I attended my first NPU meeting as a new resident. They are also not bringing job growth. As I understand it, a conservative estimate is that there will be at least 25 fewer jobs. Overall, QTS is bringing job destruction. Hardly something that should be rewarded with an abatement.

There is nothing conservative about giving away taxpayer dollars to an entity that has already established its intent, through free market actions, that it wishes to locate in NPU K. Instead, such a poor stewardship of the people's money would only be government interference and an inappropriate reward. This isn't enticing Porsche North America or Mercedes Benz to relocate from outside of Georgia to Fulton County. This is simply giving away money that could be used to attract such large employers to relocate to what QTS has already shown with their actions is an ideal place to do business without such incentives.

Further, a tax abatement will only serve to stress an already stressed school system in an area that has under-resourced schools. While APS is well known for being top-heavy in per-student spending, APS spending practices are not the purpose of this letter. Removing the funding from even entering the school system though, will only serve to further rob our children of future opportunities. QTS isn't hiring from Bankhead, Washington Park, Hunter Hills, or Mozley Park. Our current talent pool has not yet been educated to meet this opportunity as it has arisen. By starving the students of the area from being equipped with the funding for resources that might enable necessary technical education we will likewise be stymying future growth in our community as well. While students may not be ready now, we want to ensure they will be prepared for the job market for the next tech-focused business that comes to NPU K.

In conclusion, a tax abatement for QTS is contrary to good conservative economic development principles. QTS has decided to move to NPU K without the need for an incentive package because of our location. An abatement at this time would only serve to distort the free market that brought them here and leave our students less able to compete in the future for jobs at entities like QTS. I implore you to not interfere in the market or to interfere with Atlanta's ability to train the next generation of tech workers.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Harrison

2021 NPU K Chair

To: Subject: Doris M Coleman FW: Project QTS - Opposition Email received at 5:47 pm 4/23/2023

From: Laura LaHiff <<u>laura@lahiff.org</u>> Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2023 5:47 PM To: Coleman, Doris <<u>Doris.Coleman@fultoncountyga.gov</u>> Subject: No Tax Incentives for QTS

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Good morning,

I read the following words & since I don't believe I can craft any other words which might better serve to convey my disapproval for this outrageously inappropriate tax incentive for QTS, I am attaching the original text.

QTS needs to pay their proper taxes. Fulton County needs to start using our resources responsibly. And built some affordable housing already!!

Laura LaHiff Laura@lahiff.org Fulton County resident since 1988 х

As a resident of Fulton County of over a am emailing to implore you to deny the incentive to QTS Data Centers within ci Atlanta including on West Marietta.

QTS should not be provided a single do incentives, as it is located directly adjace Atlanta BeltLine and walking distance to Mill, one of the strongest economic sub within the southeast United States.

If QTS needs additional funding assista should sell their abundance of land for land use such as housing and offices. If city's nor the county's duty to provide e

From:	Sarah-Elizabeth Langford <selangford@dafc.us></selangford@dafc.us>
Sent:	Sunday, April 23, 2023 4:51 PM
То:	Coleman, Doris; Daniels, Lauren W.; Patel, Hanish S.; Zayac, Sandra Z.
Subject:	Fwd: QTS Data Center tax abatement

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Fyi

Forwarded message ------From: Lora Hawk <lora.hawk@gmail.com Date: Sun, Apr 23, 2023 at 4:08 PM Subject: QTS Data Center tax abatement To: kwanzahall@gmail.com <kwanzahall@gmail.com Kwanzahall@gmail.com

Hi Mr. Hall,

Congratulations on your appointment to the Development Authority of Fulton County! I hope this email finds you well.

I wanted to reach out to you in your capacity as a new board member. On Tuesday, QTS Data Center will have a tax abatement on the DAFC agenda in the amount of \$45 million for a project that is already under construction in NPU K.

I would like to ask you to consider opposing this tax abatement due to the following reasons:

1. The project is already under construction-whether they receive the abatement or not, the Data Center is already being built.

2. The Data Center represents only 50 jobs in the area and this doesn't mean those jobs will come from NPU K or even the county.

3. This Data Center has been in discussion with NPU K and Howell Station since 2018. They have repeatedly told the NPU they were "not seeking an abatement at that time", and Howell Station and NPU K have made it painfully clear that seeking tax abatements in the future would not be welcome.

While I understand tax abatements can be helpful tools to attract business to the county, this QTS Data Center has already been decided, purchased, and is currently being built. To reward the company at this time, this abatement would be a reward for disingenuously dealing with the NPU and the neighborhood.

Most importantly to me, the \$45M is essential to better education and infrastructure funding in the county and the City of Atlanta. F.L. Stanton Elementary and THE Booker T. Washington High School flank my home. Undergirding their efforts to educate the children in my neighborhood is an investment in the future of our city.

You'll be hearing from Dr. Hope, NPU K's current Chair, and Arthur Toal, from Howell Station as well as my husband, Eric Harrison, who was a past NPU K Chair, in the public comments. I just wanted to reach out to you personally.

Thank you for your service to the board, and I hope you'll oppose the tax abatement QTS Data Center is requesting.

Best regards,

Lora Hawk

2023 APAB Correspondence Secretary 404-405-1748 <u>Schedule time with me</u>

From: Sent: To: Subject: Steve Willams <thepluvial@gmail.com> Sunday, April 23, 2023 10:49 AM publiccomment@dafc.us Tax Inducement for QTS

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Report Suspicious

Hi

I am opposed to the Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC for \$1,300,000,000

Why are you giving sooo much money to a project that will provide so few jobs and use a lot of water?

QTS Realty Trust, Inc. is a provider of carrier-neutral data centers and provides colocation services within North America and Northern Amsterdam and is based in Overland Park, Kansas.

Revenue: 480 million USD (2019)

Number of employees: 612 (2019)

Regards

Steve Williams 404-234-1358

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Public Comment" group. To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to <u>publiccomment+unsubscribe@dafc.us</u>.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Robyn Turner <robyn.turner.atl@gmail.com> Sunday, April 23, 2023 8:47 AM publiccomment@dafc.us Public comment: tax giveaway to QTS

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As a resident of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County, I'm alarmed and outraged that the Development Authority of Fulton County is even considering giving away \$45M in tax handouts (corporate welfare) to the Blackstone-owned QTS data center on W. Marietta. One has to ask why the DAFC continues to exist. No developer needs incentives to build on the equivalent of beachfront property. If this tax giveaway actually happens I will do everything in my power to see that the DAFC is finally disbanded. Its past conduct has been highly suspect and this would confirm it hasn't cleaned up its act. I'm prepared to rally my contacts throughout the city and create a single-issue activist organization for this purpose.

To be clear, QTS deserves exactly \$0 in tax breaks and should be penalized for corporate greed and predatory behavior. 1) The facility is already under construction so, clearly, no incentive was ever needed. 2) This project shouldn't be happening at all because it's an example of horrible land use near the Beltline. 3) The project should be halted and removed to make way for an appropriate development. 4) It is my understanding that QTS outbid other developers who submitted more legitimate proposals, and said at the time it would not seek local tax breaks. That's appalling.

I'll be out of town and unable to attend the meeting. My neighbors and I will be watching very closely.

Robyn Turner Westview resident 678-429-1894

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From: Sent: To: Subject: Chris Denice <christopher.denice@gmail.com> Sunday, April 23, 2023 5:24 AM Coleman, Doris Tax break request for QTS

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Hello sir,

I am writing to you as a concerned taxpayer in Fulton County. It's come to my attention that QTS is requesting a tax exemption of a property they're already in process of constructing. This data center may be permissible for the land but in no form should earn a tax break using Beltline improvement funds! This is a prime example of land being developed that should pay every cent they should owe per existing rules - they realized as much when they started construction. Deferring their taxes owed will further bankrupt our schools, roads, and other services - please push back and do not approve!

Resident of Midtown Atlanta

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: To: Subject: Kris Young <kyoung2112@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 9:38 PM Coleman, Doris No tax break for QTS Data Centers

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Dear Ms Coleman and the Fulton County board of commissioners,

It's my understanding that the Fulton Development Authority is considering providing a tax break to QTS Data Centers for their development on W. Marietta adjacent to the Beltline. I strongly oppose providing a tax break to them. Their development is already built, and it's my understanding that their benefit to the community is minimal (just a few jobs). Please don't give away our future (tax revenue) on projects like this.

Thank you, Kristopher Young 635 Grant St SE Atlanta, GA 30312 Kyoung2112@gmail.com

From: Sent: To: Subject: Edmund Morrell <e.m.morrell@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 5:05 PM Coleman, Doris No QTS

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Subsidizing this project is a huge mistake and waste of taxpayer money. Please be reasonable and say no to giving this project money it does not need.

Edmund M. Morrell e.m.morrell@gmail.com (404) 754-8993

From: Sent: To: Subject: Micah Herskind <micah.herskind@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 4:54 PM Coleman, Doris Unnecessary subsidy for QTS data center

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Hello,

As a resident of Fulton County and the City of Atlanta, I am writing to voice my opposition to a handout of \$45 million in tax breaks to the QTS data centers. There is a concerning and ongoing pattern of public money being unnecessarily doled out to corporations for development projects, at significant cost to the taxpayer. We need to stop giving handouts to big corporations who do not need the money to complete their projects, particularly when there are so many infrastructural and other needs in our city that could be addressed by real investment in our communities.

As I understand it, this project is already under construction - meaning there is absolutely no need to hand out \$45 million as an incentive! It will happen either way, and it's egregious for a company to commit to a project and then turn around and demand more public dollars that could be used more effectively elsewhere.

Sincerely, Micah Herskind

From: Sent: To: Subject: Brody Baer <waltonraiders286@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 4:51 PM Coleman, Doris QTS Data Centers

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As a resident of Fulton County for my entire life, I am emailing to implore you to deny the tax incentive to QTS Data Centers within city limits of Atlanta including on West Marietta.

QTS should not be provided a single dollar of tax incentives, as it is located directly adjacent the Atlanta BeltLine and walking distance to Howell Mill, one of the strongest economic submarkets within the southeast United States.

If QTS needs additional funding assistance, they should sell their abundance of land for better land use such as housing and offices. It is not the city's nor the county's duty to provide economic crutch to such a large corporation such as QTS, where they are owned by Blackstone a \$7bil revenue company in 2022! QTS is also providing a disservice back to the county by providing low economic returns with what is provided on vast acreage located within the economic core of our region.

If we are to mature as a governing entity, you must deny economic incentives to those such as QTS who are not in need of assistance, so 1) taxes are paid and will better fund infrastructure to our local municipalities and 2) we may prioritize our economic incentives to boosting smaller homegrown mom and pop shops, entrepreneurs, talents, & aspirational visions of what our great region should be moving forward. QTS needs to pay their taxes in full, without incentive, and it is up to you to see this through.

Thank you, Brody

From: Sent: To: Subject: Warren Printz <warrenprintz@yahoo.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 4:44 PM Coleman, Doris Tax incentives for QTS data center

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I'm a resident of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County. I read that the Fulton County Development Authority plans to give a \$45M tax break to QTS data centers. The project is already under construction, so it's not even an incentive to bring jobs as it's already happening. It's also in a horrible area to provide incentives, as the West Marietta corridor is booming with new development without any incentives needed. It's also a waste of valuable beltline adjacent property to build a facility in that location, let alone having the taxpayers subsidize the building after the fact.

Please don't spend our tax dollars in that way. Surely there are much more worthy projects for the Development Authority to consider.

Regards,

Warren Printz

From: Sent: To: Subject: Eli Derrington <eg.derrington@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 1:02 PM Coleman, Doris Deny the QTS tax incentive

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Report Suspicious

Hi,

As a resident of Fulton County, I ask you to deny the proposed tax incentive to QTS Data Centers.

QTS is owned by Blackstone, the world's largest asset manager. This is not a company that needs tax incentives. Additionally, there should not be any incentives given for projects of this type that are adjacent to the Beltline. The DAFC should promote active developments with a mix of uses by the Beltline (especially developments that include affordable housing) instead. The data center will have very few jobs and create a large dead space, void of any activity. It will detract from the exciting promise of a fully completed Beltline.

Furthermore, this development is already under construction! There is no need for an incentive to be granted when QTS has shown they will proceed regardless.

Save the incentives for developments that will be beneficial to the neighborhoods they are sited in. Grant incentives to developments that include affordable housing. Please not to give a tax break to a data center sited in one of the hottest sub markets in our county.

Vote to deny the tax incentive to QTS Data Centers.

Thank you, Eli Derrington

Eli Derrington

From: Sent: Subject: Jason Lathbury <jasonlathbury1@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 1:02 PM QTS Data Centers

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To The Fulton County Development Authority Board,

Please do not authorize the use of tax abatements for QTS, and, generally, please limit the use of tax abatements overall.

The City of Atlanta is better off collecting that revenue to actively use in funding the city's operations and functions. This is especially true near the BeltLine, where such revenue is essential in funding the project's expansion.

As a Downtown resident, I have first-hand experience with the way data centers interact with the build environment, and can tell you that it is not good. Without extensive effort to include other uses, the centers will kill large chunks of blocks.

As such, we should be limiting their inclusion in our metro's core, and certainly not giving them financial benefits to occupy valuable land better used for housing and commercial activity.

Thank you, Jason Lathbury Atlanta City Resident

From: Sent: To: Subject: Doug Konkel <dougkonkel@bellsouth.net> Saturday, April 22, 2023 11:56 AM Coleman, Doris QTS Data Centers

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Hello,

I won't go into great detail because this is too simple: QTS should not be given \$45m in tax breaks for a project they've already begun on a piece of very desirable property that will create a very small number of jobs. Please do the correct, smart and fiscally responsible thing of denying this boondoggle. Thank you very much.

Doug Konkel Alpharetta

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: To: Subject: Adam Tolsma <adamtolsma@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 11:00 AM Coleman, Doris Qts tax break

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Please don't give a tax break to a 7 billion dollars company (Blackstone) that is already actively building the data center. If they needed a tax break they should have bought land elsewhere. A tax break to this corporation would be classic example of 'good old boy' networking with citizen/taxpayers holding the bag long after the government employees have departed the scene.

Thank you, Adam Tolsma

From: Sent: To: Subject: Trenton Hobby <thetrenthobby@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 10:59 AM Coleman, Doris Letter of Opposition to Tax Giveaway for QTS Data Center

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Dear Doris Coleman,

I hope this email finds you well. I'm writing to you as a resident of the City of Atlanta concerning the proposed tax break for the QTS Data Centers on W. Marietta. Specifically, I am urging the Development Authority of Fulton County to not grant this tax incentive package. A tax incentive package of any size for the QTS Data Centers is a flagrant waste of taxpayer dollars considering that these data centers are already under construction by virtue of the greatness of our city and the taxpayer funded amenities available here such as the Beltline. This \$45 million giveaway will rob the students of Atlanta Public Schools of opportunities and residents and taxpayers of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County of desperately needed investments in housing, transit, and infrastructure.

Thank you so much for your service, Trenton Hobby

From: Sent: To: Subject: Eric Phillips <ep2007@gmail.com> Saturday, April 22, 2023 9:57 AM Coleman, Doris QTS Data Center Incentive

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Good morning,

As a resident of Fulton County of over a decade, I am emailing to implore you to deny the tax incentive to QTS Data Centers within city limits of Atlanta including on West Marietta.

QTS should not be provided a single dollar of tax incentives, as it is located directly adjacent the Atlanta BeltLine and walking distance to Howell Mill, one of the strongest economic submarkets within the southeast United States.

If QTS needs additional funding assistance, they should sell their abundance of land for better land use such as housing and offices. It is not the city's nor the county's duty to provide economic crutch to such a large corporation such as QTS, where they are owned by Blackstone a \$7bil revenue company in 2022! QTS is also providing a disservice back to the county by providing low economic returns with what is provided on vast acreage located within the economic core of our region.

If we are to mature as a governing entity, you must deny economic incentives to those such as QTS who are not in need of assistance, so 1) taxes are paid and will better fund infrastructure to our local municipalities and 2) we may prioritize our economic incentives to boosting smaller homegrown mom and pop shops, entrepreneurs, talents, & aspirational visions of what our great region should be moving forward.

QTS needs to pay their taxes in full, without incentive, and it is up to you to see this through.

Thank you, Eric Phillips --Please consider before printing

From: Sent: To: Subject: bingram@yahoo.com Saturday, April 22, 2023 9:32 AM Coleman, Doris Tax Break

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This message came from outside Fulton County Government. Use caution with links/attachments.

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Why does QTS get a tax break and not me?

Brent Ingram Atlanta Resident On Tue, Apr 25, 2023 at 10:51 AM Thomas Tidwell <<u>tgtidwell@dafc.us</u>> wrote: S-E

Below is something i received from city councilmember Byron Amos. Can you share this with the Board when you send the other stuff out

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Amos, Byron D** <<u>bdamos@atlantaga.gov</u>> Date: Tue, Apr 25, 2023 at 9:03 AM Subject: Re: *Supplemental* Supporting Materials for DAFC Regular Meeting - April 25, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. To: Thomas Tidwell <<u>tgtidwell@dafc.us</u>>

Thank you for reaching out. It has been a while since we last spoke. At this time I can't support this request. I am requesting that you support the community by voting no.

1

Thanks

With Hope,

Councilman Byron D. Amos

Atlanta City Council District 3

55 Trinity Avenue, S.W. Suite 2900

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Office – 404.330.6046

Cell - 404.587.6811

bdamos@atlantaga.gov

Sent from my Mobile 5G Device

From: Thomas Tidwell <<u>tgtidwell@dafc.us</u>> Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2023 12:30:40 PM To: Amos, Byron D <bdamos@AtlantaGa.Gov> Cc: Thomas Tidwell <<u>tgtidwell@dafc.us</u>> Subject: Fwd: *Supplemental* Supporting Materials for DAFC Regular Meeting - April 25, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

Hello Byron,

I am on the Board for the Development Authority of Fulton County. Attached are application documents for a project in your district, near the Westside Quarry.

Basically, the developer is asking for a \$45 million tax abatement for a data center that will employ 5-10 people. The application states the developer "welcomes the support for the project from the City of Atlanta . . . and Atlanta Beltline."

I am wondering if you or anyone with the City supports the this project, which does not seem like the highest and best use of land so close to the quarry, and more importantly, whether you or anyone at the City supports the \$45 million tax abatement.

------- Forwarded message -------From: Sarah-Elizabeth Langford <selangford@dafc.us> Date: Tue, Apr 18, 2023 at 5:17 PM Subject: Fwd: *Supplemental* Supporting Materials for DAFC Regular Meeting - April 25, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. To: Michel Turpeau <<u>mturpeau@dafc.us</u>>, Brandon Beach (bbeach@northfultoncid.com) <<u>bbeach@northfultoncid.com</u>>, Brandon Beach <<u>abattle@northfultoncid.com</u>>, Kyle Lamont <<u>kylenlamont@gmail.com</u>>, Pinky Cole <<u>pinky.cole@sluttyveganatl.com</u>>, Mike Bodker (mbodker@dafc.us) <<u>mbodker@dafc.us</u>>, Kwanza Hall <<u>kwanzahall@gmail.com</u>>, Looney, Mike <<u>looneym@fultonschools.org</u>>, Mike Looney <<u>sandersfm@fultonschools.org</u>>, Erica Long <<u>erica.long@atlanta.k12.ga.us</u>>, Thomas Tidwell <<u>tgtidwell@dafc.us</u>> Cc: Zayac, Sandra Z. <<u>sandra.zayac@agg.com</u>>, Lim, Eunice C. <<u>Eunice.Lim@agg.com</u>>, Patel, Hanish S. <<u>Hanish.Patel@agg.com</u>>, Moyer, Ansly P. <<u>Ansly.Moyer@agg.com</u>>, Coleman, Doris <<u>Doris.Coleman@fultoncountyga.gov</u>>, Kirkland, Sabrina <<u>Sabrina.Kirkland@fultoncountyga.gov</u>>, Daniella Gutierrez <<u>dgutierrez@dafc.us</u>>, Daniels, Lauren W. <<u>lauren.daniels@agg.com</u>>, Sarah-Elizabeth Langford <<u>selangford@dafc.us</u>>,

Dear Board,

Sarah-Elizabeth Langford <slangford40@sbcglobal.net>

As a follow-up to my previous email, we are also excited to add another economic development opportunity to the April 25th regular board meeting agenda. Please see below and attached for the supporting

documentation for this additional agenda item. Some additional items, including the final agenda and minutes, will be provided in a separate email before the meeting.

Tax Incentive Project.

a. <u>Letter of Inducement for Quality Technology Services, LLC — QTS North</u>. Supporting documentation, including application, project summary, fact sheet and tax analysis, are attached.

i. QTS North is requesting a letter of inducement for bonds in the amount of approximately \$1.3 billion and tax incentive for the development of two colocation data centers to be located on West Marietta Street, Atlanta, Georgia (on Atlanta's Westside, in the Knight/Howell Station Historic District).

- 1. The site was previously in a serious state of disrepair, including several abandoned warehouses and other structures that presented safety and security risks to the community.
- 2. The Applicant is making significant improvements (expending approx. \$30 million) to redress the disrepair and enhance the site as to integrate it with the Atlanta BeltLine.

ii. Prospective tenants would include the top companies in their respective areas of operation that operate on a national (if not international) scale and any incentives provided by DAFC would flow through to the ultimate tenants. As a result, this investment would not only contribute significant tax revenue, as outlined in more detail in the tax analysis, but would also further enhance the reputation of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County to better compete with other jurisdictions for FinTech opportunities.

iii. In addition to the data centers, the Project will also include community benefits from its inclusion of multi-family and townhome housing, a retail kiosk, a church, and community center (none of which will be seeking, nor receiving, property tax incentives from DAFC).

iv. Jobs:

- 1. Approximately 15-20 new permanent jobs (and retaining 58 permanent jobs)
- 2. Approximately 500-600 temporary construction jobs

v. Tax Impact:

- 1. Annual tax collected now by the taxing jurisdictions: \$255,494
- 2. Anticipated annual tax collected over the incentive period: \$111,794,692

I will plan on reaching out to you to discuss these exciting projects and happy to answer any questions you may have.

Also if any board members are available to tour this site this week or weekend QTS is happy to provide that. I will coordinate that.