

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 6, 2025

City of Atlanta Reparations Study Commission to Host Community Forum and Author Conversation at City Hall

Thursday, September 25, 2025 • 5:00–8:00 p.m. • Atlanta City Hall

ATLANTA, GA — The City of Atlanta Reparations Study Commission (CARSC) will host a **Community Forum and Author Conversation on Reparations** on **Thursday, September 25, 2025**, from **5:00–8:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers of **Atlanta City Hall**. The forum will begin with a 30-minute **public comment period**, continue with presentations and discussion, and conclude with a **reception**.

Facilitated by Journalist & Cultural Preservationist, **Ann Hill Bond**, the program will feature a live conversation with **Dr. V. P. Franklin** and **Dr. Sundiata Keita Cha-Jua**, co-editors of ***Reparations and Reparatory Justice***, and will highlight the voices of Atlanta residents, community leaders, and partner organizations advancing reparatory justice.

“After working on Reparations for thirty years, I am ecstatic in seeing our work bearing fruits! The Commission will draw an imaginary yellow crime scene tape around the city of Atlanta and investigate the crimes and subsequent harms the city has perpetrated on people of African descent from enslavement to the present and make bold, visionary, systemic recommendations for redress,” said **Jumoke Ifetayo**, Interim Vice-Chair of CARSC and former Male Co-Chair of the Atlanta Chapter of N’COBRA (National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America).

“Along with Atlanta, there are at least 40 local, state, and municipalities that have some kind of reparatory justice initiative. Although the history of the movement for reparations for Black Americans began in the 19th century, some say this is not the time to press forward with these initiatives. I think this is the best time given the backward facing leadership of our country. **Reparations is our ‘north star’ in the face of White Supremacy; it is the hope in the fight for equity and justice,**” said **Dr. Sheila Flemming**, historian and Interim Chair of CARSC.

Atlanta City Councilmember **Michael Bond** added: “You had little African American towns or neighborhoods that got absorbed—either into parks or other businesses or other residences over the city’s 150-year history. The Commission will document these occurrences on what is fair recompense for those families.”

The forum is part of a **citywide week of Remembrance, Restoration, and Reparations**, which includes the **1906 Atlanta Race Massacre commemoration**, the **Association for the Study of African American Life and History National Annual Conference (ASALH)**, a screening of *Acts of Reparation* at **Ebenezer Baptist Church** and more.

Why CARSC Exists:

Established by the Atlanta City Council in the fall of 2023, the purpose of CARSC is to examine Atlanta's role in slavery, its legacies and systemic discrimination; identify those harmed; recommend targeted reparative measures; and advance a concrete plan for redress and reparations.

How to Participate:

- **Public Comment (2 mins per person)** Sign up in person by 4:45 p.m. (priority for City of Atlanta residents and Atlanta-based organizations).
- **Solidarity Videos:** Submit a 2-minute video by **Mon., Sept. 22, 2025** to reparationsj@gmail.com.
- **Organization Recognition:** Attend with your group to be acknowledged on the program.

Media & Community Contact:

CARSC Education & Program Committee

 info@atlantareparations.org |  (678) 437-7882
