



**ELECT**

**EARNESTINE D. PITTMAN**

**WARD C at- Large**

**VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE**

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If there is **ANYONE BUT PITTMAN**, who has informed you about the **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**, that offers help for **RENTAL** and **UTILITY ASSISTANCE** for **EAST POINT RESIDENTS**, then stop reading; otherwise keep **READING**.

Our Mayor and Council has known since April 2021 that East Point was going to receive additional funding for **RENTAL** and **UTILITY ASSISTANCE**. So, why did the City wait until September 17, 2021, to post any information for residents who qualify for **Rental Assistance/Utility Assistance**? More than five months later, the City posts on its website information for residents instead of using the **UTILITY NEWSLETTER** that goes to **ALL** residents. **EAST POINT** should receive between **\$11 MILLION AND \$13 MILLION** from the **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**.

Our Mayor, then uses **CODE RED** to make robo calls to the residents leaving her Office number as the Contact number. This is a new low for our Mayor. Not only is **SHE NOT** an authorized user of **CODE RED**, but her Office has absolutely no business interfering with the Implementation of any Plan to get Assistance payments to landlords and paying Utility bills to the City. Any information from the City with Contact information should come from the City Manager via the Public Information Officer.

According to "Sec. 2-102.- Mayor (a), The mayor shall serve as the chief spokesperson for the city and chief advocate of formally approved and adopted city policy." Our Mayor and Council has not approved any **PLAN** submitted by the City Manager concerning the Implementation of the American Rescue Plan. Our Mayor is using this important and needed information and **CODE RED** as a means to gain entry into the homes of residents as a **CAMPAIGN** tool to gain **VOTES**.

What is the City's Plan? Who is going to implement the **PLAN**? Who are the Representatives? Who gave our Mayor access to the **CODE RED** robo system? Residents' Cellphone numbers given directly for the use by **CODE RED AUTHORIZED** users, cannot be used unless there is a true Emergency. Federal laws forbid robo calls on cellphones. Since residents willingly supplied their numbers for robo **EMERGENCY CALLS ONLY**, any other use is without the residents' consent, and hence a federal law violation.

**Information that has been known for five months without any action by our Mayor and Council cannot be considered a CODE RED EMERGENCY even by authorized users of CODE RED phone's list. Our Mayor has no business using her Office to mislead residents. It is past time for our Council to hold our Mayor and Council Members accountable for their actions that violate our City Charter, Ordinances and their Oaths of Office.**

**According to Open Records Requests information dated September 17, 2021, “ Per the Finance Department, the City of East Point has not expended any funds associated with the American Rescue Plan.” Five months later, and still NO PLAN. WHO IS LOOKING OUT FOR THE RESIDENTS?**

**Other information in the same Open Records Request dated September 17, 2021, states: “Copy of the most composite up-to-date final Stimulus Covid-19 Report to the County or other appropriate Federal Agency for how the East Point's funds were spent; including the names of the entities who were contracted by East Point to implement the expenditures. The total number of pages is 1,617 pages. Please let us know if you would like to proceed as the estimated cost for copying will be \$161.70. We will need to go through this document to make redactions prior to release which may take at least 8 hours. “**

**This information should be made available to All East Point residents. I suggest that our Mayor and Council move to instruct the City Clerk’s Office to make a PDF copy of the Report and have it posted on the City’s website within three days. I don’t mind being a VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE, however I do mind spending money for documents that our Mayor and Council should make available on the City’s website. Let them know what you think!**