



CITY OF PRICHARD

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

JIMMIE GARDNER, MAYOR

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“City of Champions”

Council President George E. McCall, District 4
Councilwoman Annie Williams, District 1
Councilwoman Stephani Norwood, District 2
Councilman Derrick Griffin, District 3
Councilwoman Ossia Edwards, District 5

Subject: A Call for Unity and Collaboration to Restore Our City’s Growth

Dear Members of the City Council,

I write to you today with a deep sense of urgency and responsibility for the future of our city. Once a thriving and prosperous community, we now find ourselves struggling—not due to a lack of opportunity, but because of a lack of collaboration between the administration and the council. As public servants, we are entrusted with the duty to serve the people, not to obstruct progress through division and stagnation.

It is no secret that our city, the sixth largest in Alabama, continues to face economic and developmental challenges. However, these challenges are not solely the result of external hardships or underrepresentation. Rather, they stem from internal dysfunction—a reluctance among some members of this council to work collectively toward a shared vision for revitalization. Time and time again, I have emphasized that our city does not operate as a collection of isolated districts, but as a unified whole. Success for one area benefits us all, and failure to act as a cohesive governing body only prolongs our city’s struggles.

Opportunities for economic growth and development have come before us, yet instead of seizing them, certain members of the council have chosen to obstruct rather than engage in meaningful dialogue. Investors and developers with expertise, financial backing, and innovative ideas have shown interest in our city, only to be met with unnecessary delays and resistance under the guise of due diligence. While proper vetting is essential, it must not become a barrier to progress. Rejecting these opportunities outright or refusing to work with the administration to formulate a comprehensive growth strategy, is a disservice to the citizens we were elected to represent.

If we are to restore our city to its former vitality, the council must move beyond political roadblocks and commit to working alongside the administration in the best interest of our residents. Leadership requires vision, and vision requires action. It is time to put aside personal agendas and focus on what truly matters—the future of our city.

I urge you to step forward, to engage in honest and productive discussions, and to take decisive action that will lead us toward a stronger, more vibrant city. Let us not be remembered as a government that failed its people, but as one that united for the common good.

Sincerely,
Jimmie Gardner
Mayor