

South Fulton, Georgia's Mayor khalid *Black. On Purpose.*



America's first [Movement for Black Lives](#) organizer elected to public office, Mayor khalid is leading a generation of young activists from protests to politics. In 2017, khalid kamau became on America's first [#BlackLivesMatter](#) organizer elected to public office and a founding member of South Fulton, Georgia's City Council. A co-founder of M4BL's Atlanta chapter, kamau led protests against police brutality in 2015 and 2020, resulting in [changes to Georgia's citizens' arrest law after the killing of Ahmaud Arbery](#). In 2021, he was elected Mayor, beating a 20-year incumbent with nearly [60 percent of the vote](#); becoming [first Socialist Mayor of a large city elected in 90 years](#).

With a population that is [92 percent African-American](#), the [City of South Fulton](#) (next door to Atlanta) is the Blackest City in America. Mayor khalid ran on a pro-Black, economic development platform that called for halt increases in police spending in favor of funding mental health first responders, public works projects, entrepreneurial programs for youth, and purchasing real estate as a method of increasing community control of land development. This self-proclaimed *Elected Activist* has been featured by [CBS](#), [The Nation](#), [Jacobin](#), [Governing Magazine](#) and other national media.

khalid is on a mission to South Fulton *Black. On Purpose* — which means a city that is not just unapologetic about its demographics, but moving on purpose to be a laboratory for economic, housing and restorative justice policies aimed at improving the lives of African Americans.

In his first term in office, Councilman khalid fought to increase funding for the city's Parks & Cultural Affairs Department, authored legislation to create a \$1 million [Pedestrian Safety Fund](#) to install speed bumps in working-class neighborhoods, a [Blighted Property Fund](#) to demolish blighted & abandoned properties left standing for decades by county government, and create a full, paid [Election Day Holiday](#) — making South Fulton the first city in the South, and one of the first in the nation to do so. He created an annual, companion event called the [Electoral College](#) to teach citizens how local & state government works. He then wrote resolutions, passed unanimously by Council, to declare racism a public health crisis and make [Juneteenth](#) a paid, city holiday. He sponsored legislation to secure \$500,000 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for affordable housing; and co-sponsored and supported legislation to raise the city's minimum wage to \$15/hr.

As Mayor he led the city in purchasing real estate to *Free the Land* from private developers and secured a \$6 million expansion of the Black-owned [VividRich](#) film & television studio. He opened City Hall for [#MayorMondays](#) in which any citizen can meet with the Mayor.

A college-educated, community activist and Southern, Black, Christian [Socialist](#) — Mayor khalid brings a unique blend of professionalism, passion and authenticity to government.

Full Bio available at: khalidCares.com/Bio