

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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January 2024



Hello!

2024 is finally here! I hope you had a wonderful time reflecting on your 2023 accomplishments and setting new goals for this year.

Remember, feel free to reach out to me at [Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com) to schedule a call or virtual meeting if you'd like to chat. I value your feedback on how I've been representing you or if there's anything more I could do.

## What's New in District 2

### Apply to serve the County on a board or authority

We invite you to get involved in our community! Gwinnett County has several positions available on various boards, allowing you to provide valuable input on special interest areas. Currently, we are seeking individuals for the following boards:

- [Short-Term Rental Citizen Task Force](#)
- [Gwinnett County Human Services Advisory Board](#)

If you or someone you know is interested in making a difference, please apply. The deadline for applications is **Sunday, January 29**. Read more about the boards and qualifications to serve on the County website, then apply using the form at [GwinnettCounty.com/ApplyToServe](https://GwinnettCounty.com/ApplyToServe).



### Recycle your live Christmas Tree

Now that the holidays have passed, recycle your live Christmas tree as part of Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful's annual Bring One for the Chipper tree recycling event. Christmas trees can be dropped off until January 24 at various fire stations throughout the county. Before dropping off your tree, remove all lights, tinsel, decorations, and tree stands.

District 2 drop-off locations:

- Fire Station 2, 12 Harmony Grove Road, Lilburn
- Fire Station 3, 4394 Five Forks-Trickum Road, Lilburn
- Fire Station 22, 2180 Stone Drive, Lilburn

For more details and to volunteer, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/BringOneForTheChipper](https://GwinnettCounty.com/BringOneForTheChipper).

### Listen to Conversations with Ku

Check out Conversations with Ku, my monthly podcast, where I dive into decisions made by the Gwinnett Board of Commissioners. You can find the podcast on [GwinnettCounty.com](https://GwinnettCounty.com) and on your favorite streaming platform.

This month we will be featuring my new co-host, Nathan DeVoe, special guest District 1 Commissioner Kirkland Carden, and a special interview to discuss our new Transit Development plan with Transit

I would love to hear from you or answer questions about District 2. Feel free to email me at [Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com) and your question may be read on the podcast. Also, if there is someone you'd like me to interview, or a topic you'd like me to cover, please let me know.



## CONVERSATIONS WITH KU



### Register to vote by February 12

To vote in the March 12 Presidential Preference Primary, ensure you're registered. The deadline to register to vote is Monday, February 12. Georgia residents wishing to register must be U.S. citizens, legal residents of their voting county, and at least 18 years of age by Election Day. Check your registration status, download a voter registration application, view sample ballots, and locate your polling location at [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](http://MVP.SOS.GA.gov).

### Registrarse para votar antes del 12 de Febrero

Para votar en las Primarias de Preferencia Presidencial del 12 de Marzo, asegúrate de estar inscrito. La fecha límite para inscribirse para votar es el Lunes 12 de Febrero. Los residentes de Georgia que deseen inscribirse deben ser ciudadanos estadounidenses, residentes legales de su condado electoral y tener al menos 18 años de edad antes del día de las elecciones. Verifica el estado de tu inscripción electoral, descarga una aplicación de inscripción de votantes, revisa boletas de muestra y ubica tu lugar de votación en [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](http://MVP.SOS.GA.gov).

## Happening Around Gwinnett

### Board of Commissioners adopts 2024 budget

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners approved a \$2.53 billion budget to fund County operations and projects for the year. The approved budget consists of a \$1.97 billion operating budget and a \$561 million capital improvements budget, which includes funds from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program. Initiatives in the budget include expanding microtransit zones, Economic Development Division expansion, a biosolids dryer at the F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center, adding 12 firefighters to staff a new ambulance and alternative response vehicle, adding 12 new E-911 communications officers, and increased pay for elections poll officials.



As part of the budget development process, department directors and elected officials presented business plans for 2024 to six Gwinnett residents recruited by Chairwoman Hendrickson, who reviewed the departmental requests and made recommendations. To learn more, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/2024Budget](http://GwinnettCounty.com/2024Budget).



### Attend Gwinnett County's annual hiring event

Start your career with Gwinnett County Government at the Career From Here hiring event on Friday, January 19 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Candidates will have the opportunity to interview with County representatives, review their resume with Gwinnett Human Resources, and meet current employees to learn how they can thrive in a variety of fields.

Visit [GwinnettCounty.com/Careers](http://GwinnettCounty.com/Careers) to learn about opportunities with the County and apply. The event will take place at the Gas

South Convention Center, located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth. Gwinnett County offers competitive benefits, paid training, educational incentives for certain positions, tuition reimbursement, career advancement, and much more.

### Become a Fire chaplain

Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services seeks volunteer chaplains for its chaplaincy program. Interested candidates must be certified members of clergy whose qualifications include current ministry service for a minimum of two years. All interested candidates should fill out an online application no later than February 2. For more information, call Captain Ryan McGiboney at 678.518.4862 or send

an email to [Ryan.McGiboney@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Ryan.McGiboney@GwinnettCounty.com).



### **Gwinnett adds 10 new glass recycling sites**

Gwinnett County and Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful, in partnership with Ripple Glass, have added 10 new glass recycling locations across the county, totaling 13 sites. The County's glass recycling program allows residents to drop off glass for safe and sustainable recycling.

The newest locations for District 2 are Lucky Shoals Park in Norcross, Mountain Park Aquatic Center in Stone Mountain, and Bethesda Park in Lawrenceville. The previous location of One

Stop Norcross adds up to four glass recycling sites in District 2. The newest locations are in addition to the previous three containers at One Stop Norcross, Pinckneyville Park in Norcross, and E.E. Robinson Park in Sugar Hill.

For more information about the County's glass recycling program, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/GlassRecycling](http://GwinnettCounty.com/GlassRecycling).

## **Special Events and Happenings**

Visit [GwinnettCountyEvents.com](http://GwinnettCountyEvents.com) or follow the County's social media channels to learn more about upcoming events.

### **Entrepreneur Center Tour**

**Tuesday, January 23 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm**

Free! If you are considering membership or even if you are just interested in learning more about what the Center will offer, a great first step is a visit. The Staff-guided Tour will walk you through in small groups, escorted by a Center staff member. [Register online](#). Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center, 405 North Perry Street, Lawrenceville.

### **Pop Up Teen Scene**

**Friday, January 26 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm**

Free! Join us for a night of interactive games and light refreshments! Ages 12 to 17. [Register online](#). Lucky Shoals Park, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.

### **Vibrant Visions**

**Wednesday, January 31 from 10:00am to 12:00pm**

Free! Spend some time visually creating your 2024 goals onto a vision board using different arts media. All you need to bring is your board of choice and we will provide the rest! Light refreshments provided. [Register online](#). Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center, 4758 South Old Peachtree Road, Norcross.

Ben Ku, District 2 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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