

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Proposed 2026 budget totals \$2.6 billion

Gwinnett County Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson's proposed budget for 2026 totals \$2.6 billion. The proposal consists of a \$2.19 billion operating budget, which funds everyday expenses such as employee salaries, benefits, equipment, and repairs, and a \$409 million capital improvements budget, which includes funding from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program.

New initiatives include investments in community resource centers, including the completion of the Gwinnett Community Resource Center at Grayson Highway, and enhancements to E911 communications. The County also will focus on fundamental service delivery like maintaining roadways and providing safe, clean drinking water.

Find the proposed 2026 budget resolution online at **GwinnettCounty.com/2026ProposedBudget** and share comments through December 31. Commissioners will consider the budget on January 6.



AROUND GWINNETT

Gwinnett expands food distribution efforts

Gwinnett County is allocating \$250,000 to help families access essential food and hygiene products. The County is using existing annual contracts to purchase shelf-stable food, hygiene products, and household goods identified by local food cooperative partners as items most in demand. The items being purchased include soups, cereals, peanut butter, pancake mix, fruit cups, granola bars, and electrolyte drinks, along with paper towels, disinfecting wipes, laundry detergent, dish soap, and other basic household needs. For more information about appointments for assistance and additional resources, visit GwinnettCounty.com/FoodResources.

County adds new ambulances to support rising demands

The Board of Commissioners awarded a contract to Life Line Emergency Vehicles for the purchase of three new ambulances. Partially funded by the 2017 SPLOST program, the three units will be used in high-volume service areas during peak 12-hour periods of the day. This will improve flexibility and overall service delivery with medical responses across Gwinnett County.

County to reinstate animal adoption fees

Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement will reinstate standard adoption fees beginning January 1, 2026. Adoption fees will range up to \$100, depending on the animal type, age, and needs. To learn more, visit GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com.

Recycle your live Christmas trees

Make this holiday season sustainable! Drop off your live Christmas tree at a designated fire station between December 26 and January 21 so it can be chipped into mulch for our County parks as part of our annual Bring One for the Chipper event. Please make sure your tree is free of lights, tinsel, decorations, and tree stands before dropping it off. Visit **GwinnettCB.org** to find a list of drop-off sites and to register as a volunteer for the chipping event on January 24.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Get free water resources support

Gwinnett County partners with local organizations to offer assistance with plumbing, septic system repairs, and water-saving fixtures — including toilet, faucet, and showerhead replacements — to eligible homeowners through the Water Resources Assistance Program. Assistance is provided based on the homeowner's needs and is not limited to a specific amount per homeowner. To qualify, you must:

- Be a Gwinnett County homeowner
- Live at the residence requesting assistance
- · Meet specific household income criteria

Visit GwinnettCounty.com/WRAP, call 678.602.4559, or email WRAP@GwinnettCounty.com to learn more.

Maintain your septic systems and detention ponds

Join us on Thursday, January 8 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at the Gwinnett Community Resource Center at Georgia Belle Court (formerly OneStop Norcross) to learn how septic systems work and how proper maintenance protects our water resources. The following week, on Thursday, January 15, get tips on the best methods for detention pond care and maintenance at the Grayson Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. To register for either workshop, visit Gwinnetth2o.com, call 678.376.7193, or email DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com with your name, address, and phone number.









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TAX COMMISSIONER

New year, new DMV office hours

Beginning January 1, the Gwinnett County Tax Commissioner's DMV office hours will be from 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Residents seeking to register their vehicle or renew their driver's license or state-issued ID can print a new decal or temporary license at a kiosk in select locations around the county. Kiosks located inside the Lawrenceville and North Gwinnett tag offices offer 24/7 access. To find a location near you, visit GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Kiosks.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Reduce radon levels in your home

January is Radon Awareness Month. This invisible, odorless, and tasteless radioactive gas is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, causing more than 21,000 deaths each year. There's no known safe level of radon, but lowering the amount in your home can reduce your risk of health problems. Reduce radon levels in your home with these helpful tips:

- Get a radon test kit from UGARadon.org and act if levels are 2 pCi/L or higher
- Hire a professional to install a radon mitigation system
- · Seal cracks in floors and walls
- Increase ventilation by opening windows and using fans

Learn more at CDC.gov/Radon.





SPLOST

Improvements coming to North Bogan Road and Thompson Mill Road

Construction is underway on a new roundabout at the intersection of North Bogan Road and Thompson Mill Road to improve traffic flow and enhance safety for drivers in the area. Additional improvements include installation of a new water main, sidewalks for pedestrian access, curb and gutter construction, and drainage upgrades to support long-term infrastructure.

Funded by the County's SPLOST program, construction will continue for approximately 14 months, with substantial completion anticipated by fall 2026. During construction, drivers should expect lane shifts, detours, and occasional temporary closures. Nearby homes and businesses will remain accessible.

RESOURCES

Get your rental home inspected

If your rental home is damaged, improperly maintained, unsanitary, or unsafe, you may request an inspection by emailing <code>CodeEnforcement@GwinnettCounty.com</code>, visiting <code>GwinnettZIP.com</code>, or calling 770.513.5004. After a request is submitted, an inspection will be scheduled. Any code violations are noted, and a Gwinnett Code Enforcement officer works with the property owner or manager to resolve them.

Learn more at GwinnettCodeEnforcement.com.

SERVING GWINNETT

Stay warm during the coldest nights

Gwinnett County offers five warming stations for residents to receive temporary, overnight relief from long-term exposure to frigid temperatures. These stations will be open from 6:00pm to 7:00am on nights when temperatures fall to 35 degrees Fahrenheit or below, providing residents with a meal and a warm place to rest. Visit **GwinnettCounty.com/WarmingStations** for locations and the latest activation status. To volunteer, email **OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com** or call 770.822.8850.

Volunteer for MLK Day of Service

Lend a helping hand on Monday, January 19 for the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. From cleaning up our wetlands to preparing food for homebound seniors, the County has various opportunities for you to make a positive impact on your community. Visit **VolunteerGwinnett.net** to sign up to make a difference.

Offices closed for January holidays

All Gwinnett County Government offices, apart from operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed Thursday, January 1 for the New Year's Day holiday and will resume regular hours on Friday, January 2. Offices will also be closed on Monday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, January 20.

Trash and recycling collection will be delayed by one day during the New Year's Day holiday but will not be impacted during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. For more information, please visit **GCSolidWaste.com**. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during each holiday.

GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

ESCANEE PARA LEER EN ESPAÑOL 한국어 버전은 QR 코드를 스캔해 주세요



Gwinnett County Connection questions/comments: Info@GwinnettCounty.com | 770.822.7180 Water bill questions: 678.376.6700