

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 1 with  
Commissioner Carden

December 2022



Greetings!

Happy holidays!

We're just a few days away from December, and during this busy holiday season, I hope you'll take the time to reflect on what you're grateful for and share gratitude with your family, friends, and neighbors. Keep reading below for the latest news from your county government and some chances to get involved.

## Happening Around Gwinnett



### Proposed 2023 budget focuses on service, sustainability, and preparedness

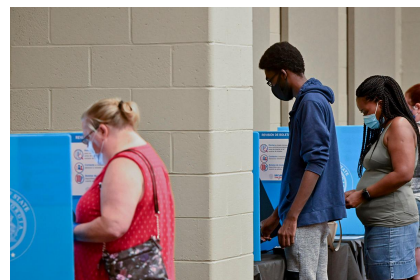
Chairwoman Nicole Hendrickson [presented her proposed budget](#) on November 15 to guide County government spending for the 2023 fiscal year. The [proposed budget](#) totals \$2.26 billion. It consists of a \$1.77 billion operating budget and a \$488 million capital improvements budget, which includes funds from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program. Voters last week opted to extend the County's one-cent SPLOST program for another

six years beginning in April. Read more about the [proposed 2023 budget](#).

The Board of Commissioners will accept public comments at a public hearing Monday, December 5 at 7:00pm at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center and [online through December 31](#) before adopting a final budget Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

### Get ready for the December 6 runoff election

We have a run-off election for our United States Senator coming up on Tuesday, December 6. From Saturday, November 26 through Friday, December 2, registered voters may vote advance in-person, from 7:00am to 7:00pm at one of Gwinnett's [11 advance voting locations](#). Unlike Election Day, you may vote early at any advance voting location in the county, not at an assigned polling location. All voters who were registered by November 7 can cast their ballot regardless of whether or not they voted in the General Election. Learn more about the runoff election at [GwinnettElections.com](#).



### Prepárate para el desempate de las elecciones del 6 de Diciembre

Tenemos una elección de desempate para nuestro Senador de los Estados Unidos el Martes 6 de Diciembre. Desde el Sábado 26 de Noviembre hasta el Viernes 2 de Diciembre, los votantes inscritos pueden votar por adelantado en persona, de 7:00am a 7:00pm en [uno de los once lugares de votación adelantada de Gwinnett](#). A diferencia del día de las elecciones, puede votar anticipadamente en cualquier lugar de votación adelantada del condado, no en un lugar de votación asignado. Todos los votantes inscritos antes del 7 de Noviembre pueden emitir su voto independientemente de si votaron o no en las Elecciones Generales. Obtenga más información sobre la elección de desempate en [GwinnettElections.com](#).

**Construction underway on County's first themed library**



County leaders joined the Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees, Lawrenceville officials, and the Hooper-Renwick Legacy Preservation Committee recently to break ground on the Hooper-Renwick Themed Library. The new library branch will preserve the site that once served as Gwinnett's only public school for African Americans.

The projected \$7.6 million project, funded by the 2017 SPLOST program and nearly \$1.7 million from the city, will incorporate the existing 11,400-square-foot school building into the 25,000-square-foot library. The new library will preserve architectural design elements and honor the legacy of the

former Hooper-Renwick School through exhibits about the school's history.

### **Gwinnett Police, Fire and Emergency Services to host joint hiring event**

Gwinnett [Police](#) and [Fire and Emergency Services](#) are hosting the joint hiring event **Saturday, December 10** from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the Gwinnett County Fire Academy, located at 3608 Braselton Highway in Dacula.

Recruiters from both departments will be on hand to answer questions about various career paths. Successful police candidates may receive conditional job offers. Fire candidates will have an opportunity to complete an orientation, application, background check, PPE (sneakers and long pants required), and an oral interview, typically a two-to-three-hour process altogether. For more information, visit [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](http://GwinnettCountyJobs.com).



## **What's New in District 1**



### **New glass recycling drop-off location now open at E.E. Robinson Park**

Gwinnett is expanding its glass recycling program with the opening of a third drop-off glass recycling location at E.E. Robinson Park in Sugar Hill. This is the third location offered through the County's glass recycling program, which has already diverted 102 tons of mixed glass from landfills at existing sites at OneStop Norcross and Pinckneyville Park in Peachtree Corners.

Residents can drop off their clean, empty glass containers at E.E. Robinson Park, located at 885 Level Creek Road in Sugar Hill. The clearly marked drop-off container is accessible from sunrise until 11:00pm unless posted otherwise. Glass dropped off at any of the County's glass recycling locations will be taken to Strategic Materials, Inc., a large glass recycler in the Atlanta area. Acceptable glass items include clear and colored food and beverage bottles and jars.

### **Voters approve continuation of SPLOST program**

Voters approved the renewal of the one-cent Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, or SPLOST, during the November 8 General Election. SPLOST collections are used to fund capital projects like roads, bridges, parks, fire stations, police precincts, libraries, and more.

Gwinnett voters have approved a series of SPLOST programs that since 1985 have raised more than \$3.9 billion, allowing the County to save more than \$1.9 billion in financing costs compared to issuing bonds. The new program is expected to raise \$1.35 billion over the next six years, 25 percent of which will go to cities. Learn more about the renewed SPLOST program at [GwinnettSPLOST.com](http://GwinnettSPLOST.com).



### **Project RESET 2.0 wraps up after distributing more than \$80 million to renters in need**

The portal for Gwinnett County's successful emergency rental and utility assistance program, Project RESET 2.0, is now closed as the County has reached its full commitment. To date, Gwinnett has processed more than \$80 million in financial assistance funded by the federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program, ensuring that more than 17,000 people



in Gwinnett County did not have to face an eviction or utility disconnection.

Gwinnett residents in need of assistance after the applicant portal closes are encouraged to seek assistance from [local agencies providing assistance within our community](#). If you are experiencing an urgent need and would like to be connected to nearby services, please contact Gwinnett's OneStop 4 Help team via phone at 770.822.8850 or by completing an [Assistance Request Form](#).

### **Warming stations activate as temperatures drop**

Gwinnett County is opening five warming stations for residents to receive temporary, overnight relief from the cold when temperatures drop 35 degrees and below. When activated, the warming stations will be available from 6:00pm to 7:00am.

Residents who visit the sites will be able to warm up, eat a meal, and get some rest. For more information on warming stations, visit [GwinnettOneStop.com](#). To volunteer, email [OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com) or call 770.822.8850.



## **Special Events and Happenings**

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

### **Cuentos Bilingues**

**Saturday, December 3 from 10:30am to 11:30am**

Come join us for an epically fun-filled bilingual story-time! Your child will get to experience stories in both English and Spanish. Ages 8 and up. \$2 per child. [Register online](#). OneStop Norcross, 5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross.

### **Candy Canes and Cocoa**

**Friday, December 9 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm**

Explore a lighted Candy Cane trail around the pond complete with fun, games, crafts, and s'mores! Warm up with delicious hot cocoa and end the night with family photo to go. All ages welcome. \$7 per person. [Register online](#). Shorty Howell Park Activity Building, 2750 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth.

### **Saving Seed Made Easy**

**Monday, December 18 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm**

Free virtual class! Why save seeds? Many reasons! Saving your seeds and sharing them promotes the use of regionally adapted seed, builds genetic diversity, and strengthens food security through education and a culture of sharing. For ages 18 and up. [Register online](#).

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