

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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October 2022



Hello!

There's so much going on in Gwinnett! Keep reading below for news from District 2 and around the county.

Early voting is underway and I do hope you exercise your civic duty if you're eligible. I myself just voted early just down the street at Lucky Shoals Park and was in and out in less than 15 minutes. Voting early is also a great way to get off candidates' lists so you will get fewer calls and texts asking you to vote.

Remember, if you'd like to chat with me on any topic, you can reach out to my office at [Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com) to schedule a call or virtual meeting. I want to make sure my office is doing everything we can to address your concerns.

## What's New in District 2

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

Get involved! Each commissioner has dozens of appointments that they can make to a Gwinnett County board or authority to help advise us about special interest areas. Several positions will be available at the end of the year on the following boards:

- Community Outreach Board
- Animal Advisory Council
- Airport Authority
- Planning Commission
- Library Board
- Transit Advisory Board
- Water and Sewage Authority
- Historic and Restoration Preservation Board
- Merit Board
- **Recreation Authority**

If you are currently serving on one of these boards, I ask that you please re-apply, and anyone who is interested in serving should apply as well. I will re-evaluate each position for either re-appointment or replacement on a case by case basis. My open application process that I started in 2019 has been recognized by an award from the National Association of Counties and has led to some amazing appointees. For example, Nahum Nicholas, my Animal Advisory Council appointee worked to create our Community Cat Program which was also awarded and recognized by the National Association of Counties!

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).

### Get ready for the November election

Remember these important dates leading up to the November 8 General Election:

- **Advance in-person voting:** October 17 – November 4
- **Absentee by mail ballot request deadline:** October 28

Voters intending to vote by mail must apply for a mail-in ballot at [SecureMyAbsenteeBallot.SOS.GA.gov](https://SecureMyAbsenteeBallot.SOS.GA.gov) or by using the forms at [GwinnettElections.com](https://GwinnettElections.com). Mail-in ballots must be delivered by hand or by mail to the Elections Office or dropped into a secure ballot drop box. Visit [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](https://MVP.SOS.GA.gov) to check your voter registration status.



For more information, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/ElectionSchedule](https://GwinnettCounty.com/ElectionSchedule).

## Prepárate para las Elecciones Generales de Noviembre

Recuerde estas fechas importantes previas a las elecciones del 8 de Noviembre:

- **Votación en persona adelantada:** 17 de Octubre – 4 de Noviembre
- **Fecha límite de solicitud de boleta de voto en ausente por correo** 28 de Octubre

Los votantes que tienen la intención de votar por correo deben solicitar una boleta por correo en el sitio web [SecureMyAbsenteeBallot.SOS.GA.gov](https://SecureMyAbsenteeBallot.SOS.GA.gov) o visite [GwinnettElections.com](https://GwinnettElections.com) para usar los formularios. Las boletas por correo deben entregarse en mano o por correo en la Oficina de Elecciones o depositelas en un buzón seguro de boletas. Verifique el estado de su inscripción electoral en [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](https://MVP.SOS.GA.gov).

Para más información, visite [GwinnettCounty.com/ElectionSchedule](https://GwinnettCounty.com/ElectionSchedule).



## Get the facts about the SPLOST question on your November ballot

When Gwinnett County voters head to the polls during November's General Election, they will decide on the renewal of the one-cent Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, or SPLOST. 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. If given the green light by voters, the new program could raise \$1.35 billion over the next six years, 25 percent of which would go to cities. Get your questions about the 2023 referendum answered at [GwinnettSPLOST.com](https://GwinnettSPLOST.com).

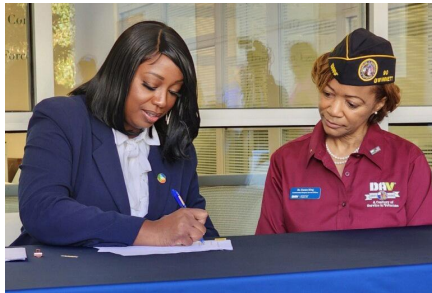
## Gwinnett Police partners with DEA for National Drug Take Back Initiative

Our Police Department is partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration for National Drug Take Back, an initiative that allows residents to properly dispose of unused or expired prescription medications. Gwinnett Police precincts will be accepting prescription items on **Saturday, October 29** from 10:00am to 2:00pm.



Residents can drop off tablets, capsules, patches, and other forms of prescription drugs at [any precinct location](#). Liquids, syringes, and sharps will not be accepted. The event is a part of an effort to help prevent drug abuse and overdose in the community.

## Happening Around Gwinnett



## Gwinnett opens new Veteran and Family Services office

On October 10, we cut the ribbon on a new office of Veteran and Family Services. Veterans and their families can walk into the office to connect with a Community Navigator and find resources available to them from Gwinnett County, community organizations (like Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 90), and state and federal agencies. The office is at the Gwinnett Senior Services Center, located at 567 Swanson Drive in Lawrenceville.

## Attend a Comprehensive Transportation Plan open house

Gwinnett's Comprehensive Transportation Plan, known as Destination 2050, is underway! Residents, business owners, and community partners are invited to a community open house to learn about updates to the all-encompassing transportation plan

and share their ideas for transportation across the county.

- **Wednesday, October 26** from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Suwanee Library Branch
- **Saturday, November 5** from 10:00am to noon at the Briscoe Park Community Center



The Comprehensive Transportation Plan is updated every five years. The latest update, Destination 2050, relies on input from the community to ensure that the county makes informed decisions about transportation. Destination 2050 will also serve as a guide for future investments in roadways, sidewalks, bicycling facilities, intersections, and more. Visit [GwinnettCounty.com/Destination2050](https://GwinnettCounty.com/Destination2050) to learn more.



### **Volunteer to support our warming stations**

Join our team! Gwinnett Health and Human Services is seeking energetic individuals for seasonal part-time positions as staff assistants for Gwinnett's overnight warming stations. The position pays \$18 per hour. Apply online at [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](https://GwinnettCountyJobs.com).

Want to volunteer instead? When called on, volunteers will be needed to assist staff with helping organize check-in materials, greet participants, monitor program areas, help with set-up/break down, and other related station tasks. Register at [VolunteerGwinnett.net](https://VolunteerGwinnett.net).

### **Honor our veterans at the 2022 Veterans Day Ceremony**

Gwinnett County will honor those who served our country in military service at our 2022 Veterans Day Ceremony on **Friday, November 11 at 11:00am**. I hope you'll join us to celebrate and uplift our county's veterans.



The ceremony will be held at the Fallen Heroes Memorial on the grounds of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. If you are unable to attend in person, the ceremony will also stream live on Facebook [@GwinnettGov](https://GwinnettGov).

## **Special Events and Happenings**

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

### **Dia de los Muertos**

**Saturday, October 29 from 8:00am to 6:00pm**

Celebrate our loved ones no longer here with traditions involving music, food, crafts, and walking parade around the park. Interested vendors or exhibitors, please call 678.277.0222. [Register online](#). Best Friend Park, 6224 Jimmy Carter Boulevard, Norcross.

### **Fall Sneaker Ball**

**Saturday, November 12 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm**

Grab your sneaks and dress to impress for a memorable evening with music, dancing, games, light refreshments, and a keepsake photo! For ages 12 to 18. \$10 per person. Lucky Shoals Park, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.

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Gwinnett County

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