

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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July 2023

Hello!

Happy Park and Recreation Month! I hope you're taking the time to explore our great [parks](#), [trails](#), and [aquatic centers](#)!

Since my last newsletter, the Board of Commissioners took action on several important items:

- Renewed a management agreement with Georgia Gwinnett College for operation and staffing of the Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center; 20 percent of funding comes from grants awarded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Reappointed Helen Ellis and Brandon Harris and appointed Brandon Seay to the Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation and Development Council Inc.
- Approved an annual contract with View Point Health to provide mental health services through the Police Mental Health Collaboration program
- Approved the Sheriff to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with United Way of Greater Atlanta to provide homeless individuals released from the Gwinnett County jail with shelter, substance abuse treatment, job skills training, crime prevention education, and case management assistance as an overall collaborative effort to reduce recidivism
- Accepted \$2 million in grant funds awarded by the Federal Transit Administration under the 2023 Community Project Funding Program for the Route 25 Bus Shelter Construction Project
- Entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the city of Lilburn for the Pleasant Hill Road at Burns Road intersection improvement project



Remember, if you'd like to chat with me on any topic, you can reach out to my office at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com to schedule a call or virtual meeting. My office is happy to address your concerns.

What's New in District 2



Take a survey to shape the future of transit in Gwinnett

We want to hear from you about Gwinnett's Transit Development Plan! Please take a [short, five-minute survey](#) to share your thoughts on how we can improve transit for tomorrow. The survey will be available until Sunday, July 23.

The [plan](#) will help us develop transportation options that meet the needs of our county now and in the future.

OneStop Centerville expansion underway

Gwinnett officials recently broke ground on the expansion of OneStop Centerville. The expansion includes a 33,500-square-foot, two-story facility and 11,000-square-foot playground that will enhance access to services and resources for the southern Gwinnett community.

The new facility will house office space for County partners including GNR Health, View Point Health, and Ninth District

Opportunity Head Start. It will serve as a community hub for programs that support public health, early learning, mental health and family services. The project will be built using \$25 million of federal American Rescue Plan Act funding.



**CONVERSATIONS
WITH KU**



Listen to Conversations with Ku

My co-host Tristan Fernandes and I host a monthly podcast aimed at giving residents an inside look at decisions made by the Gwinnett Board of Commissioners. You can find the podcast on [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com) and on your favorite streaming platform.

I would love to hear from you or answer questions about District 2. Feel free to email me at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com and your question may be read on the podcast.

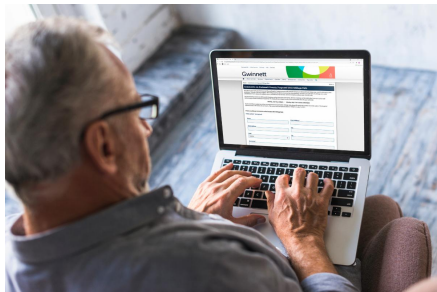
Celebrate National Park and Recreation Month this July!

July is National Park and Recreation Month. This year's theme, Where Community Grows, celebrates the vital role park and recreation professionals play in providing essential services, promoting healthy lifestyles, and nurturing communities.



There are plenty of activities and events for everyone to enjoy and explore, like a STEM-centric Family Night Out, Vibrantly Connected Kids Art Contest, and an exhibit on Gwinnett Parks and Recreation's history. For more information, visit [GwinnettParks.com](https://www.gwinnettparks.com).

Happening Around Gwinnett



Board hosts public hearing on proposed 2023 millage rate

The third and final public hearing to share in-person comments the general fund millage rate will occur on **Tuesday, July 18 at 11:00am** at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center. The proposed millage rate is 6.95 mills, the same as last year. County staff will be available for questions one hour before each public hearing. The Board of Commissioners will consider the millage rates during our meeting on the same day at 2:00pm.

Most property owners who benefit from the [Value Offset Exemption](#) won't see an increase in the county government portion of their property taxes. The [Homestead Tax Relief Grant](#), approved by the governor and Georgia General Assembly, will provide additional tax savings for those with a homestead exemption.

Please submit your comments in person at the public hearing or by using the [online comment form](#). Learn more about [your property taxes](#).

Safely dispose of your household waste July 22

Mark your calendars for the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day happening on Saturday, July 22 from 8:00am to 11:00am at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds. Join us to safely drop off your household hazardous waste for reuse, recycling, or disposal without having to leave your vehicle.

For more event details, including accepted items, visit [Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful](#).





Commissioners to hold public hearings on proposed 2023 millage rate

Gwinnett is growing, and your valuable feedback is needed to help shape the development of stronger communities. Join the Gwinnett Planning and Development's workshops as they prepare for the [2045 Unified Plan](#).

The next workshop will be held Thursday, July 20 at the [Dacula Park Activity Building](#). From 5:00pm to 7:00pm, attendees will have the opportunity to share their thoughts on the areas where

they live, work, visit, or relax within the county.

Gwinnett Police collecting school supplies through July 28

Gwinnett Police are making sure students are ready for the 2023-2024 school year.

Residents are encouraged to drop off donations Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm from Thursday, June 1 through Friday, July 28. Donation boxes are located at the Gwinnett County Police Headquarters, Gwinnett County Police Training Center, and all Gwinnett County police precinct lobbies. Learn more and find a [precinct near you](#).



Special Events and Happenings

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

Picnic by the Pool

Saturday, July 22 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Can you think of a better way to celebrate National Picnic Month than relaxing poolside with a picnic lunch or supper? Pack a cooler, grab your friends and family, and head on over to Mountain Park Aquatic Center's outdoor leisure pool for some good clean fun. Enjoy splashing around the water park, listening to music, playing lawn games and participating in Team Trivia in the Lazy River. Lemonade, iced tea, and healthy snacks will be provided. All ages welcome. Fee: \$10. [See details and register online](#). Mountain Park Aquatic Center, 1063 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain.

Touch-a-Bus Route 25

Tuesday, July 25 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm

A new transit route is coming near you! Join us for an upcoming event at J.B. Williams Park to take a closer look at Route 25. The new route will depart from the Gwinnett Transit Center at Gwinnett Place Mall. It will go down Pleasant Hill past Plaza Las Americas, travel from Lawrenceville Highway to Killian Hill Road, and pass through the Mountain Park area to Stone Mountain, ending near the Amazon Distribution Warehouse. Visit [RideGwinnett.com](#) for more information. J.B. Williams Park, 4935 Five Forks Trickum Road, Lilburn.

AARP Driver Safety

Wednesday, August 9 from 9:00am to 4:00pm

The award-winning AARP Smart Driver course will refresh your driving skills, increase your confidence on the road, update the latest traffic laws, and teach proven safe-driving strategies. Plus, you could qualify for a multiyear discount on your auto insurance! [Preregistration is required](#); \$20 for AARP members or \$25 for non members paid to the instructor on the first day. \$1 processing fee applies. Bring a sack lunch for a brief lunch break. Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

Walk the Talk: Breastfeeding Awareness

Saturday, August 12 from 8:00am to 9:00am

Free! Hit the trail, get moving and get informed! Take a walk with knowledgeable health professionals at an enjoyable, easy pace. Walks last about an hour and are open to all ages. Experts will discuss breastfeeding awareness while helping you build and maintain physical activity. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle. Call 770.822.3197 for more information. [Register online](#). Bethesda Park, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

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Gwinnett County

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