

# NEWS & EVENTS



in District 3 with  
Commissioner Watkins

September 2023



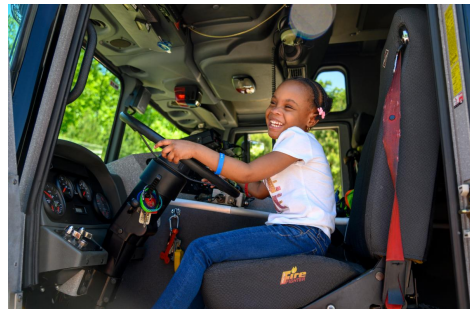
Greetings!

The kids are back in school, and while temperatures are still high, that means fall is around the corner. Fall brings with it festivals, celebrations, and plenty of opportunities to engage with Gwinnett County. Keep reading below to learn about upcoming surveys, events, and more.

## Happening Around Gwinnett

### Join our public safety heroes for a fall festival

Get to know our first responders at the Public Safety Fall Festival. Join Gwinnett police officers and firefighter-paramedics at this year's Public Safety Fall Festival on Saturday, September 16 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Coolray Field. This family-friendly event features giveaways, food trucks, touch-a-truck experiences with SWAT vehicles, fire trucks, and more.



For more information about the 2023 Public Safety Fall Festival, contact MPO Tebin Clack at

[Tebin.Clack@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Tebin.Clack@GwinnettCounty.com). Coolray Field is located at 2500 Buford Drive in Lawrenceville.



### Apply for a small business grant starting September 5

Gwinnett County is helping small businesses impacted by COVID-19 find relief. The Board of Commissioners received \$181 million from the American Rescue Plan Act and allocated \$6 million of the funds to help small business owners.

If your business has experienced income loss or increased costs while continuing business during the pandemic, you might be eligible for this relief. Funds will be awarded based on the number of

employees, gross revenue, total applicant COVID-19 impact, and more. Applications will be available online Tuesday, September 5. To apply and learn more, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/SmallBusinessGrant](https://GwinnettCounty.com/SmallBusinessGrant).

### Feedback wanted! Take a survey to help shape the future of Gwinnett

If you missed the 2045 Unified Plan summer events, there are still opportunities to share your ideas for improving our communities in Gwinnett! Give your opinion on [Housing and Small-Scale Economic Development](#), [Sustainable Infrastructure and Transportation](#), and [Redevelopment and Community Resources](#) in Gwinnett.

You can also share your preferences on your ideal [Daily Community](#), which includes housing types, mobility and transit, and economic development where you live. Stay tuned for more details about engagement opportunities this fall starting in September. To learn more about the 2045 Unified Plan,





## Departments deliver budget plan presentations

Every year, [budget review meetings](#) take place in late summer, near the end of the County's annual budget planning cycle. Representatives from departments and agencies present their business plans and proposed budgets for the next year to Chairwoman Nicole Hendrickson and members of the budget review team, which includes several Gwinnett residents and County staff.

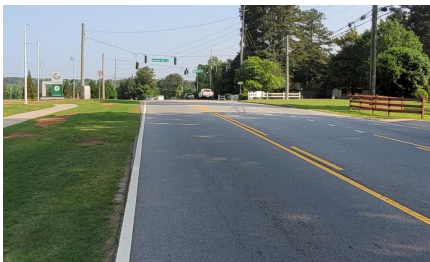
Chairwoman Hendrickson and the budget review team will use the presentations to shape the County's proposed budget for 2024. The Chairwoman's proposed 2024 budget will be made available to the public when it is presented to commissioners in November. A public hearing on the budget will be held this December before the budget is considered in January.

## What's New in District 3

### Microtransit launches in Snellville and Lawrenceville

Ride Gwinnett recently expanded service to include [microtransit](#), an on-demand shared-ride service! Download the Ride Gwinnett app from the [Apple App](#) or [Google Play](#) stores to explore the new service, and get ready to book your ride.

Microtransit will operate in Snellville and Lawrenceville Monday to Saturday from 6:00am to 8:00pm. Rides must begin and end within the designated zone. Fares are \$3 per ride and can be paid using the Ride Gwinnett app or with exact change. Learn more at [RideGwinnett.com](https://RideGwinnett.com).



### Construction to begin on Collins Hill Road

Construction on Collins Hill Road will begin mid-September to reduce traffic congestion near Georgia Gwinnett College and downtown Lawrenceville. The project includes lane additions and the installation of a 12-foot-wide multi-use path. Temporary lane closures may happen during construction.

The project is expected to be completed by mid-2024. Visit [GwinnettTransportation.com](https://GwinnettTransportation.com) to learn more.

### Share your input on risks for natural disasters in your area

Are you concerned about the risks of natural disasters in your area? The Gwinnett Office of Emergency Management invites you to take the [Hazard Mitigation Survey](#) to share your hazard and disaster concerns. Your feedback will be used to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan, which identifies natural hazards, risks, and mitigation strategies to reduce or eliminate future losses resulting from those hazards.

For more information about the Office of Emergency Management's mitigation efforts, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/HazardMitigation](https://GwinnettCounty.com/HazardMitigation) or contact us at [EMA@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:EMA@GwinnettCounty.com).



### Visit 4-H Farm Friends at the fair

Learn about life on the farm inside the Big Red Barn at the annual 4-H Farm Friends exhibit at the Gwinnett County Fair! Get up close and personal with rabbits, goats, and sheep, and even try "milking" Daisy, the wooden sawhorse cow! There's something for everyone, including 30-minute group tours available weekdays from 9:30am to 11:30am.

The exhibit runs from **Thursday, September 14 through Sunday, September 24** at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds in Lawrenceville. To learn more, visit [GwinnettExtension.com](https://GwinnettExtension.com).

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

### **Can You Build It?**

**Saturday, September 9 from 11:00am to 2:00pm**

Show off what you can do with these mini build challenges! Recreate everyday objects with LEGO bricks and beat your best time. Lunch is included. For ages 8 to 12. Fee: \$11 per person. [Register online](#). Dacula Park Activity Building, 2735 Old Auburn Avenue, Dacula.

### **Jazz on the Lawn**

**Friday, September 15 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm**

Guests will enjoy an evening of jazz on the lawn of the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse. A delicious catered dinner and cocktails will be served, followed by romantic dancing under the stars. Ages 21 and up. Fee: \$46. [Register online](#). Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

### **Camp Out and Clean Up!**

**Friday, September 22 at 6:00pm to Saturday, September 23 at 9:00am**

Life is better when you're camping! Join us for an overnight family campout. On Friday night, we'll have dinner and go on a nature hike. Then, stick around Saturday morning for a park cleanup volunteer opportunity. Register before September 20. Fee: \$15 per person. [Register online](#). Tribble Mill Park, 2125 Tribble Mill Parkway, Lawrenceville.

Jasper Watkins III, District 3 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

---

[Jasper.Watkins@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Jasper.Watkins@GwinnettCounty.com)