

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with  
Commissioner Fosque



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December 2019



## Greetings V.I.C.s (Very Important Citizens):

What better way to begin November than speaking at our Gwinnett County 2020 Census kickoff rally; it was so much fun! Later in the month, I toured Junior Achievement Discovery Center at Discovery High School, which teaches our elementary and middle school students about building a strong financial future while showcasing the strong partnerships with our schools, local government, and businesses. I attended a very informative C.O.P.S presentation in a local neighborhood and also brought

greetings at the grand opening and ribbon cutting of Rivacold, a new Italian refrigerant manufacturer in Buford.

In the last month, I've had several opportunities to celebrate some great people and causes: County employees at the Years of Service celebration for the Department of Community Services; our students and teachers as Principal for a Day at Phoenix High School and again at the American Education Breakfast; and our public safety heroes at the Red, Blue and You event.

I also got a chance to meet and thank many of Gwinnett's amazing volunteers at Volunteer Gwinnett's Volunteer Appreciation Event.



It's also been a time to celebrate some new projects in Gwinnett. I attended the Foundation Technologies Inc. Grand Opening back in November, and most recently, I attended the groundbreaking ceremony for an exciting new project in downtown Lawrenceville, a 380-space parking deck and boutique hotel called The Lawrence.

Policywise, our Board of Commissioners as a whole took actions on many important initiatives, including:

- Accepted a grant from The Hartford in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase materials and equipment to implement a fire safety puppet program to be taught to elementary school children ages 6 to 9
- Awarded contracts for construction of the SPLOST-funded Gwinnett County Public Library Branches in Duluth and Norcross
- Approved the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Gwinnett County, Gwinnett County Water and Sewerage Authority, and the city of Lawrenceville to partner on a Gwinnett County sewer improvement project in conjunction with a city of Lawrenceville stormwater improvement project along Phillips Street and Sims Street
- Accepted a grant from the Atlanta Regional Commission and a donation from FRIENDS of Gwinnett County Seniors that will allow Gwinnett County Senior Services to continue the GET IN GEAR voucher program, a medical transportation assistance service for individuals
- Appointed Farooq Mughal, Sheetal R. Desai, and Cally D'Angelo to the Community Outreach Advisory Board; Jeanne Aulbach to the Animal Advisory Council; Commissioner Jace Brooks and me to the Gwinnett Convention & Visitors Bureau; and Katherine "Kerri" Crean to the

#### Licensing & Revenue Board of Appeals

- Awarded a contract for interior renovation of One Justice Square
- Awarded a contract for Constitution Boulevard at Nash Street intersection improvement project, funded by the 2017 SPLOST program
- Approved the extension of the time frame for completion of the Transit Review Committee Final Report to January 31, 2020

As we move in to the next decade, I am more ecstatic about Gwinnett County – a great place to live, work, play and learn – as we continue to stay vibrantly connected.

Always remember, ***We Are Much Better.... Working Together***

Commissioner Marlene Fosque

District 4, covering Lawrenceville, Buford, Rest Haven, and parts of Sugar Hill and Braselton

## Happening Around Gwinnett



### Share your feedback on the proposed 2020 budget through December 31

Chairman Nash presented a proposed \$1.83 billion budget for fiscal year 2020 to the public and the Board of Commissioners during a briefing on November 19. The budget will be adopted at our January 7, 2020, meeting.

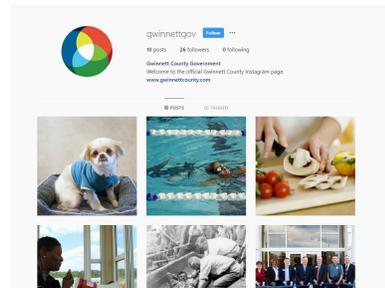
The budget includes a new police Situational Awareness and Crime Response Center; an alternate 911 center; two new medic units; three alternate response vehicles; improvements at Harbins Road and State Road 316; library relocations in Snellville, Norcross, and Duluth; and a Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center.

The proposed budget is available online [here](#). Let us know what you think! You can submit your feedback through an online [comment form](#) through Tuesday, December 31.

### You can now follow Gwinnett County on Instagram!

Our County's social media presence keeps expanding! You can follow us @GwinnettGov on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and now, [Instagram](#).

Enjoy great photos and videos of what's happening around your county.



### Bay Creek Police Precinct opens in southeast Gwinnett

The County's sixth police precinct, the Bay Creek Police Precinct, is now officially open and serving residents in southeast Gwinnett. The precinct, located at 185 Ozora Road in unincorporated Loganville, will have about 65 officers when fully staffed. It will also offer services like access to police reports and a community meeting room where officers can interact with and provide education to the residents they serve. An alternate 911 center onsite will provide reliable communication with officers and other

agencies during critical incidents, including weather-related events, when communications might otherwise be compromised.

### County offices close, trash and recycling pickup delayed for Christmas and New Year's Day

Our Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed December 24 and 25 for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and January 1 for New Year's Day. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center on both holidays.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day are trash and recycling holidays in unincorporated Gwinnett County this year. Collections will be made the day following these holidays, and subsequent collection during the holiday week will take place on the day after the normal collection day. If you live in a city, be



sure to check with them to see if your pickup will be delayed.



### Recycle your tree and provide mulch for County parks!

If you're celebrating the holiday season with a Christmas tree, you can recycle your undecorated tree from December 26 to January 20 at one of [many locations around Gwinnett](#) as part of Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful's Bring One for the Chipper event! Recycling your Christmas tree is easy and saves precious landfill space. The trees will be chipped into mulch at Bethesda Park on January 26, and the mulch will be used around our County parks. It's a win-win! Click

[here](#) to learn more, including how you can volunteer at the chipping event.

## What's New in District 4

### Georgia Academy for Economic Development completion

I'm looking forward to serving all the residents of District 4 using skills I gained from the Georgia Academy for Economic Development 2019 Region 3 Multi-Day Training Program. I recently graduated from the program, where I learned about the complexities of economic and community development on local, regional, and state levels.

The academy helped me to better understand principles of community planning, economic development ecosystems, and the importance of building a skilled workforce with strong leadership. The knowledge I gained will allow me to understand economic life cycles as I represent the residents of District 4 more effectively.



### U.S. Census Bureau gearing up for 2020 count

Census Day is just a few short months away on April 1, 2020. The U.S. Census Bureau will start the process of counting every person living in the United States in January with remote locations in Alaska. By April 1, every home will have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You can respond online, by phone, or by mail. Census takers will then begin visiting campuses, senior centers, and other locations. In May, census takers will visit homes that haven't responded, and in December

2020, the bureau will issue a report to Congress and the president. To learn more about the census, you can visit [2020Census.gov](https://www.census.gov).

### Give a pet a Home for the Howlidays

Make this a holiday season to remember with a free pet during Gwinnett Animal Welfare's Home for the Howlidays adoption event. The shelter is waiving adoption fees through the month of December. The shelter will be closed December 24 and December 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday. It will be open during regular business hours December 31 and closed January 1 for New Year's Day.



All pets adopted at Gwinnett Animal Welfare have been vaccinated, neutered, and microchipped and are ready to enjoy the holidays with the new families. Gwinnett Animal Welfare is located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. For more information, including available pets, adoption specials and events, follow the shelter on [Facebook](#) or visit [GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com](https://www.gwinnettanimalwelfare.com).



### Transit review committee meetings extended through January

The Gwinnett Transit Review will continue its thoughtful and thorough review of Gwinnett's transit needs and the options to address those needs into January. The committee will consider the [Connect Gwinnett: Transit Plan](#), analyze transit needs, various types of transit, and potential economic benefits and impacts. To allow for input from the wider Gwinnett Community, the Transit Review Committee has been holding regular meetings to discuss the

County's future in transit; these meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held around the county, but many are held here in District 4 at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville. Keep an eye on [this page](#) for meeting announcements.

The committee will submit a written report and recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. Learn more about the Transit Review Committee at [GCTransitPlan.com](#).

## Special Events and Happenings

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these great events and more at [GwinnettCountyEvents.com](#).

### **Breakfast with Santa**

December 21, 8:30am to 10:00am. Enjoy a warm, delicious breakfast with Santa in the Superior Court Ballroom, beautifully decorated for the holidays. Kids will make a craft and hear a story read to them by Santa or one of his helpers. Bring your camera to take photos with St. Nick. \$17 per person. [Preregister here](#). Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

### **Supper with Santa**

December 21, 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Come have a delicious dinner with Santa in the superior court ballroom! Make crafts, hear a story, and bring your camera for pictures with the big man himself! All ages welcome. For more information, call 770.822.5450. [Preregister here](#). Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

### **New Year, New You**

January 4, 10:00am to 1:00pm. Free! Whether you're adopting a healthier lifestyle, buying your first home, gaining a new skill, learning another language, or chasing another goal, we can help you stick to your New Year's resolution! Pop in with your family and friends to discover our services, register for classes, and enjoy fun activities, music, snacks, and more. No registration is necessary. OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

### **Septic Tank Maintenance Workshop**

January 9, 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Come to this free workshop to learn how your septic system works, how to prevent problems, and how to determine when a repair is necessary. [Preregister here](#). Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, Conference Room A, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville.

## Did You Know?

Gwinnett water customers are eligible for a \$100 rebate by replacing old toilets with qualifying low-flow, high-efficiency toilets. Gwinnett County participates in the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Toilet Retrofit Program, which helps save 2.4 million gallons of water per day. That's 900 million gallons a year!

For an additional conservation bonus, you can recycle your old toilet for free at the Water Resources Central Facility's drop-off location. Find out more [here](#).

Marlene Fosque, District 4 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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