

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with
Commissioner Fosque



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July 2020



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

This July is unlike any other in Gwinnett County's history. Unfortunately, we are experiencing a skyrocketing health pandemic and dismal numbers of more than 12,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 1,400 hospitalizations, and 189 deaths. Can we independently and collectively reduce this public health illness crisis? Absolutely! Individually, we must mask up or wear a face covering and wash our hands often or use sanitizer. Collectively, let us apply social distancing measures everywhere we go in public places. It sounds so simple, yet many people in our community are not following the CDC's recommendations in lieu of federal, state, or local mandates.

We also need to take a hard look at who we are and what we want to be as a community. I often reminisce about a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: *"Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it."* We often say 'Gwinnett County is a great place to live, work, and play,' and it unequivocally is. I wonder, though, could we ever add **love** to this tagline? Perhaps, but not as long as we continue to allow symbols of yesteryear that are saturated with hatred, fear, and intimidation to be openly displayed in our public spaces. If we truly believe in the preamble to the Declaration of Independence: *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness*, then, isn't it time to begin the process to remove abhorrent historical markers, monuments, flags, and statues?



I was excited to meet the gardeners who are cultivating the United Ebony Society of Gwinnett's plot at the Harvest Gwinnett Lawrenceville Community Garden.



One of the younger gardeners enjoyed a book from the G.R.E.A.T. Little Minds little free library located on the community garden site.

Meanwhile, our Board of Commissioners as a whole recently took action on many important initiatives:

- Appointed Tracy Moultrie to the Division of Family and Children Services Board
- Accepted the donation of 1,500 PPE kits from Kaiser Permanente for frontline responders in Fire and Emergency Services, Police, and Corrections
- Approved an agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission to develop the Chattahoochee River Greenway Plan
- Approved the Advance in Person Voting Schedule for the August 11, 2020, General Primary/Nonpartisan Election Runoff

- Accepted a \$1.86 million grant awarded by the Atlanta Regional Commission for the provision of services to seniors in Gwinnett County
- Accepted \$306,915 in grant funds from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act through the Atlanta Regional Commission to expand the County's meal-delivery service to older adults at risk of food insecurity

Please continue to enjoy your summer safely while social distancing!

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

Vote advance in the August 11 runoff election

Eligible voters may vote advance in person every day, including weekends, from **July 20 to August 7** at the Voter Registrations and Elections Beauty P. Baldwin Building located at 455 Grayson Highway, Suite 200 in Lawrenceville from 7:00am to 7:00pm.



Satellite voting at four additional sites will begin Saturday, August 1 and continue through Friday, August 7 from 7:00am to 7:00pm every day, including weekends. The additional satellite voting locations are:

- **Bogan Park Community Recreation Center**, 2723 North Bogan Road, Buford
- **George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center**, 55 Buford Highway, Suwanee
- **Lenora Park Gym**, 4515 Lenora Church Road, Snellville
- **Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center**, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross

Please note the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds will not be an advance voting site for the runoff election.

[Learn more](#) about ways you can cast your ballot in the runoff election.



Satellite Blvd to
Jimmy Carter Blvd
BRT STUDY

Help shape the future of transit; participate in the BRT study!

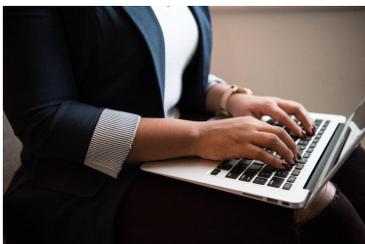
To accommodate current and anticipated growth, Gwinnett County is embarking on an integrated land use and transportation plan for its first proposed Bus Rapid Transit corridor. The study will determine station locations, identify

community desires for surrounding development/redevelopment, and provide recommendations to make this vision a reality. These recommendations will be determined through technical analysis as well as by input from the community, which is why we need you to get involved! Learn more about the Satellite Boulevard to Jimmy Carter Boulevard BRT Study at www.GwinnettBRT.com.

Fill out the census to skip the knock on your door

More than 65 percent of Gwinnett's households have responded to the census. Have you? The Census Bureau is preparing to send enumerators out into the community to seek responses from households that have not yet returned their census survey. The census is easy to complete and takes less than 10 minutes, so help them skip the trip by filling out your questionnaire today! Visit 2020census.gov to learn more about the census and complete it online.

United States®
Census
2020



Apply for a small business grant or loan by July 24

The [Gwinnett County Small Business Assistance Program](#) is accepting applications for \$20 million in federal CARES Act grants and loans from for-profit businesses hurt by the pandemic. The deadline to apply is **Friday, July 24 at 5:00pm**. The funds are intended to help businesses reopen their doors with such needs as deep cleaning facilities, modifying facilities to accommodate ongoing social distancing, restocking inventory, marketing to their clients, and/or paying staff in advance of reopening and achieving revenue.

Learn more about the grants and loans and find out how to apply [here](#).

What's New in District 4

Participate in the #More Than Impact Summit

On **August 1 from 10:00am to 1:30pm**, please join me for the #More Than Impact Summit at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center.

During this event, my fellow community leaders and I will have a conversation with our future leaders to understand their views on the issues facing our community today. A limited number of guests will be permitted to attend the summit in person so that we can practice social distancing, but others can join remotely. Be on the lookout for the invitation to register for this event.



Safely get rid of hard-to-dispose-of items July 18 at the fairgrounds

The Department of Water Resources has partnered with Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful to host a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day **Saturday, July 18**. The event will run from **8:00am to noon** at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds. Recycling or proper disposal of household hazardous waste helps protect the environment from pollution. During this free event, residents can drop off many of these hard-to-dispose-of items, including pesticides, spray paint, batteries, cleaners, and more. Due to COVID-19, special considerations will be in place to ensure the safety of residents and staff. These considerations could result in slightly longer wait times during the event. Please visit the [Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful event page](#) for more information about what to expect, a full list of accepted materials, and guidance on container sizes.

Fire and Emergency Services continues virtual classes throughout the summer

Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services is continuing to offer digital classes to educate residents on a variety of summer topics. Over the next few weeks, you can learn about Bike Safety, First Aid, Poison Prevention, and more. See the full schedule [here](#). The classes will be offered every day, Monday through Friday, in two-hour blocks of instruction from **10:00am to noon** and again from **2:00pm to 4:00pm**. Each class will be a live event hosted by a Gwinnett County Fire Educator through WebEx.



To register for any of these events, please email fireprograms@gwinnettcountry.com or call 678.518.4845. When emailing to register for a course, please provide your name, contact phone number, and the date and time of the event for which you would like to register.

Special Events and Happenings

Events and activities are suspended due to the County's COVID-19 response.

Visit GwinnettCounty.com or follow the County's social media channels to learn about future events.

Did You Know?

The Department of Community Services' Summer Meals Program provides grab-and-go breakfasts and lunches for kids 18 and younger, but did you know that meals are also available for adults 19 years of age and older with physical or mental disabilities who are enrolled in a school-based program? The nutritious meals meet USDA guidelines and can be picked up at 33 sites around the county. Learn more about the program and see the full list of sites at GwinnettSummerMeals.com.



**Marlene Fosque, District 4 Commissioner
Gwinnett County**

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