

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with
Commissioner Fosque



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August 2020



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

In July, 41 diverse Gwinnett County emerging leaders and I who represent a wide array of business, education, government, nonprofit, healthcare sectors in our county graduated as “The Most Resilient Class” ever from an 11-month Leadership Gwinnett Program. We are truly ready to make a positive impact in our local communities.

With the passing of the Honorable John Lewis, civil rights leader and champion of fighting for equal rights for all, I requested and read a proclamation: “declaring that his birth date of February 21 will henceforth be known in Gwinnett County as John Lewis Day in honor of the memory of the Honorable Congressman John Lewis, an exceptional public servant and civil rights icon.”



Lewis once said, “You are a light. You are the light. Never let anyone – any person or any force – dampen, dim or diminish your light. Study the path of others to make your way easier and more abundant,” and this was a clear cut message that we reciprocated in actions during my most recent District 4 **#MoreThanImpact Summit**. The focus of this event was on young adults and their concerns regarding policing reforms, healthcare disparities, and addressing systemic social, racial, and judicial inequities. Many thanks to our panelists, moderators, and planning team in addition to our in-person and virtual audiences for their participation. Watch a recording of the program [here](#).

The pandemic has forced us to get creative with hosting special events. My fellow commissioners and I welcomed 22 new recruits and celebrated 20 promotions during a partially virtual [Firefighter Promotion and Recruit Class Graduation](#) earlier this month. You can view the graduation ceremony [online](#).

We also held virtual groundbreaking ceremonies for two new libraries that are being relocated in Norcross and Duluth. Stay tuned for the premiere of the Norcross groundbreaking ceremony, 6:00pm on **Monday, August 17**, and the Duluth groundbreaking ceremony, 6:00pm on **Friday, August 21** on the [County's Facebook page](#).

I'm also excited to announce that I will be launching a podcast after Labor Day, so stay tuned for more details.

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

- Appointed Don Gravitt, Alex Velker, John Butler, and Brandon Harris to the Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation and Development Council Inc.
- Appointed Peg Murray to the Gwinnett Animal Control Hearing Board
- Accepted a \$10,000 grant from the Petco Foundation to assist Gwinnett County Animal Welfare with providing low or no-cost vaccinations, sterilizations, and well as nutrition assistance
- Accepted \$36,999.54 in grant funds from the Georgia Trauma Commission - EMS Trauma Related Equipment Grant for the reimbursement of any trauma related equipment, which will be used to reimburse the purchase of binder lifts and non-contact infrared thermometers
- Approved a contract with Everlast Construction Group LLC to construct the Gwinnett County Entrepreneur Center
- Ratified an employment agreement with Maria B. Woods, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Financial Officer
- Ratified an employment agreement with Buffy J. Alexzulian, Director of Financial Services

- Ratified an employment agreement with Vicki L. Casella, Director of Human Resources
- Ratified an employment agreement with Dorothy A. Parks, Director of Information Technology Services and Chief Information Officer
- Ratified an employment agreement with Michael B. West, Director of Police Services/Chief of Police

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



Follow simple safety measures to #KeepGwinnettSafe
COVID-19 is still affecting our daily lives, but we can all do our part to slow the spread. Please remember to 1) Wear a mask when you are out in public; 2) Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly with soap and water, or use hand sanitizer; 3) Stay 6 feet away from people outside your household; and 4) Abide by the Governor's executive orders and guidance from public health professionals.

As residents and businesses do their part to protect each other and our community, Gwinnett County Government is monitoring developments in the pandemic and how it affects our residents, employees, and our delivery of important County services. Most County facilities remain open, and many facilities that experienced temporary closures have reopened with guidelines in place to protect staff and patrons. Learn about the response from specific departments [here](#).

Board considering millage rate rollback

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners will adopt the 2020 millage rate **Tuesday, August 18 at 2:00pm** in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium, located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. Commissioners are considering a rate of 6.95 mills for the County's General Fund. This rollback rate means that the General Fund portion of the tax bill will not increase. Required notices for the millage rate adoption will be published in the county's legal organ Sunday, August 9.



Commissioners also will consider millage rates for Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Development and Code Enforcement, and Recreation funds. Learn more about the proposed millage rates [here](#).



Census self-response deadline approaching

Let's not miss out on our opportunity for a complete count in the 2020 Census for Gwinnett County! The Census Bureau recently released an updated timeline announcing that self-responses will end after September 30. Remember, census data determines our representation in government, receipt of federal funding, and future planning for community resources like schools, hospitals, and roads.

Currently, just over two-thirds of Gwinnett's households have completed the questionnaire. Are you part of that final third? Be sure to visit [My2020Census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) to complete the survey! It's simple and takes less than 10 minutes, and you can rest assured that your data will be kept safe and private. Visit [2020Census.gov](https://2020census.gov) to learn more about why you should and how to participate.

Voting in November? Check your registration now

The deadline to register for the November 3 General Election and Special Election is Monday, October 5. If you're planning to vote in November, now is a good time to check your voter registration status on the [Secretary of State's My Voter Page](#).

If you're not registered, you can register to vote online at www.mvp.sos.ga.gov if you have a Georgia-issued personal identification card or a Georgia-issued driver's license. For more information about voting in Gwinnett County, visit the [Register to Vote webpage](#).



What's New in District 4

Give pets a home during Clear the Shelter!

For the third year, Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement will join shelters and rescues across the nation to find homes for shelter pets as



part of the Clear the Shelters adoption drive.

Before you head to the shelter, check out all of our available pets at GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com. Completing the online [adoption/foster application](#) will help to speed the process when you arrive for your meet & greet with potential new pets. Remember to follow the [Gwinnett Animal Shelter on Facebook](#) to see our newest residents and learn about adoption specials.

Gwinnett County Public Library offers resources as the school year begins

Gwinnett County Public Library, in partnership with Gwinnett County Public Schools, has acquired access to Tutor.com to assist students who are learning remotely. The Tutor.com Learning Suite combines online tutoring, homework help, and test preparation with powerful diagnostic tools and self-study resources to provide a well-balanced and flexible educational environment designed to meet the individual needs of all learners. Get one-on-one tutoring in any math, science, social studies, and English subject. Tutor.com covers 40 subjects including AP courses.



Live tutoring support is available daily from noon to 8:00pm. In addition, students can upload documents 24/7 for tutor feedback; the documents will be reviewed and returned later. Ready to get started? Click [here](#) and log in with your Gwinnett County Public Library card number and PIN.

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?



Gwinnett County offers career opportunities in a variety of fields. Interested in changing your career path or finding new opportunities? Visit GwinnettCountyJobs.com to see our current openings and apply.

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

Marlene.Fosque@GwinnettCounty.com