

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with  
Commissioner Fosque



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April 2020



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

One of Gwinnett County's strongest and most impactful attributes is its resiliency, which means the "capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness." We have exhibited a strength that coincides with our ability to endure as we encounter our ever changing "new normal" due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Whenever there are adversities, there will also be changes. Social distancing is a change. Wearing face masks out in public is a change. Constantly washing your hands, covering your coughs with your hands or sneezing into your arm, for some may be a change. The use of technology and video conferencing over the last couple of months is a huge change for so many individuals and businesses.

Those of you who have lost loved ones, know someone who has been quarantined or have been quarantined themselves, keep persevering and believing that tomorrow will be better than the day before. Our hearts are full of compassion, consideration, and kindness as we see strangers helping strangers by feeding the elderly or picking up food, supplies, and medicine for others.

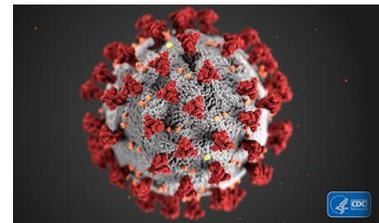
We are a county that cares for our first responders, law enforcement, healthcare workers, elected officials, educators, restaurateurs, employees, and the list goes on and on. It will take local leadership, including every one of us collaborating as we move forward with brand new, innovative ideas and solutions about how to run our businesses, schools, government and yes, even our own residences in this new normal. After all, we know...**we are much better when we work together.**

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

## Happening Around Gwinnett

### Learn more about the statewide Shelter-in-Place order

Governor Brian Kemp recently extended the Executive Order to Ensure a Safe & Healthy Georgia establishing shelter-in-place and travel restrictions for residents and visitors across the state through Thursday, April 30. The executive order went into effect Friday, April 3 and suspended Chairman Nash's March 27 Stay-at-Home Order as well as other local emergency orders.



Governor Kemp also issued executive orders calling up additional Georgia National Guard troops to assist in the state's response to COVID-19; suspending short-term rentals; and ensuring the safety of employees and residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities. [Read more about the orders.](#)

To report observations or complaints related to the statewide shelter-in-place order, contact the [Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office](#) or visit [dps.georgia.gov/covid-19-updates-0](https://dps.georgia.gov/covid-19-updates-0).

### Presidential Preference Primary, state and local primaries postponed until June 9

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger has moved the Presidential Preference Primary and the state and local primary to June 9, 2020. The Presidential Preference



Primary was originally scheduled for March 24 before being postponed to May 19 to correspond with the scheduled state and local primary. Both elections will now take place June 9.

Every vote already cast in the Presidential Preference Primary, whether by mail or in person, will be counted in June for the Presidential Preference Primary along with votes cast in the state and local primary. Absentee ballot applications for the upcoming primary election will continue to be accepted and processed even if the

application said May 19. Once County election officials verify the signature on the application, the voter will be sent an absentee ballot for the primary election now to be held on June 9. Advance in person voting for the June 9 election will begin May 18 at the Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Elections Beauty P. Baldwin Building, located at 455 Grayson Highway in Lawrenceville.

Read the [Secretary of State's announcement](#) for more information about the decision to postpone the elections. We will continue to share additional updates as details become available.

### **Board of Commissioners cancel April public hearing**

As a measure to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners public hearing scheduled for **Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00pm** has been canceled. The Department of Planning and Development will contact applicants for zoning requests scheduled for this public hearing via phone and email to notify them of the cancellation.

### **Annual assessment notices will be sent May 1**

The annual residential and commercial notices of assessment that are typically sent in early April will now be sent May 1. Remember that an Annual Notice of Assessment is not a tax bill. The notice informs you of the value assessed on your residential or commercial real estate as of January 1, 2020. Property owners may appeal their value within 45 days of the date on your notice. To appeal your 2020 value, visit [Gwinnett-Assessor.com](#).

Personal Property Annual Notices will be mailed May 18 and include an assessments of the value of tangible business inventory, furniture, and fixtures, as well as watercraft and aircraft.

## **What's New in District 4**



### **Don't forget to complete the 2020 Census**

With everything going on, it can be easy to forget about things like the 2020 Census. However, it's as important as ever to participate. Census data informs how billions of dollars in federal funding are distributed, and it also helps local leaders plan for things like roads, schools, and hospitals. Make sure we get an accurate count this year! Participate in the 2020 Census online at [My2020Census.gov](#). It takes less than 10 minutes but makes a huge impact on our future.

### **Emergency assistance available to seniors**

Emergency assistance for seniors is available for those who are over 60. If you or someone you know is over 60 and facing hunger, health, or mobility issues, please call 678.377.4150 to speak with Senior Services staff.

### **Help for small businesses available**

Georgia has received a Disaster Declaration by the Small Business Administration, which provides low-interest federal loans to eligible small businesses hurt by the effects of COVID-19. The loans offer working capital to small businesses suffering from temporary loss of revenue. For more details, visit the [Office of Economic Development's Business Resources and Information page](#)

### **Changes to local and commuter transit service**

Gwinnett County Transit has implemented changes to local and commuter transit service. Boarding has been restricted to 11 passengers on local buses. Once a local bus reaches its 11-passenger capacity, it will display "Bus Full. Please wait for the next bus" until there is room on the bus. Additionally, customers will enter and exist buses from the rear doors, except those who require the accessibility ramp or kneeling function. Because farebox equipment is located at the front door, Gwinnett County Transit is temporarily suspending fare collection on local buses.



In addition, Gwinnett County Transit will no longer run commuter express bus routes to downtown Atlanta except for Route 110 until further notice. Fare box collection will also be temporarily suspended on Route 110. For GCT alternative routes, [click here](#). For Xpress routes to Atlanta, visit [xpressga.com](#).

## Special Events and Happenings

Events and activities are suspended in compliance with the Governor's Shelter-in-Place order. Visit [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com) or follow the County's social media channels to learn about future events.

## Did You Know?

Gwinnett County has joined a partnership of community organizations to provide residents with the latest information about finding help, donating food and supplies, volunteering, and giving to local nonprofits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit [GwinnettCares.org](https://www.gwinnettcare.org) to find these resources and more.

Marlene Fosque, District 4 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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