

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with  
Commissioner Fosque



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May 2021



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

My signature tagline ***“We Are Much Better, Working Together,”*** has and always will be about inclusivity. So often, we may not realize our own self-worth. It can be hard to recognize what we bring not only to the table but also what we bring when we enter a room. No matter what else is happening, it’s important to know that each of us brings value, fantastic cultural differences, and creativity. Perhaps we represent a voice never heard or acknowledged previously. *We all* belong...and we belong right where we are in this moment in time, working with others and showing random acts of kindness as often as possible.

Our Board of Commissioners as a whole recently took action on many important initiatives:

- Announced new diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives including the Gwinnett Place Mall Redevelopment Action Plan and the opportunity for qualified consultants to submit proposals for the development of an Equity Action Plan for the County
- Reappointed Rory Johnson to the Housing Authority
- Authorized an intergovernmental agreement with the city of Buford to cost share on the implementation of the Thrasher Road Stormwater Drainage Improvement project
- Granted an easement for electrical service to the Georgia Power Company for The Water Tower Global Innovation Hub
- Authorized an intergovernmental agreement with the city of Lawrenceville to contribute funds from the 2017 SPLOST program to the intersection improvement project at State Route 124/Scenic Highway and Jackson Street and New Hope Road
- Appointed Venus Singh to the Environmental Sustainability Commission
- Passed the revised noise ordinance

**Leadership Tidbit:** *“Inclusivity means not just ‘we’re allowed to be there,’ but we are valued. I’ve always said: smart teams will do amazing things, but truly diverse teams will do impossible things.” – Claudia Brind-Woody.* We are blessed to have multiple diverse and inclusive teams throughout Gwinnett that are doing the impossible daily and helping one another as all lives change for the better.

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

### Need assistance with rent and utility payments? Apply for Project Reset 2.0

Applications are now open for Project RESET 2.0, which will use more than \$28.1 million in stimulus funds from the federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program to support struggling renters in our community. The program offers up to 15 months of total assistance, which may include rental and/or utility arrears (up to 12 months) and future rental and/or utility assistance if needed. Payments will be made directly to landlords and utility providers for past-due balances. Tenants and landlords interested in participating in this program can





## Commissioners approve new vision, mission, & values

The Board of Commissioners has approved vision, mission, and values statements for the County that showcase our pride in our work and celebrate our vibrant, diverse community. The vision statement says, "Gwinnett is the preferred community where everyone thrives!" The mission statement reads, "Gwinnett proudly supports our vibrantly connected community by delivering superior services."

The core values statement includes: "Integrity: We believe in being honest, building trust, and having strong moral principles. Accountability: We believe in stewardship, transparency, and sustainability. Equity: We believe in fairness and respect for all. Inclusivity: We believe in engaging, embracing, and unifying our communities. Innovation: We believe in continual adaptation of technology, process, and experience."

We would like every resident to thrive. It may sound aspirational, but we believe every Gwinnett resident can do just that – thrive. I'm so excited about our new vision, mission, and values that will help guide the County now and in our future.

## COVID-19 Vaccines: Science-Tested, Mom-Approved

While the COVID-19 vaccine rollout continues to evolve every day, one fact remains the same: these vaccines are our best shot at safely getting back to the life we love, with the people we love. I'm happy to announce that I'm now fully vaccinated after receiving both of my shots at the mass vaccination site at Gwinnett Place Mall.



Gwinnett County Government, with the support of our Gwinnett Moms, is here to support you on your vaccine journey and make sure you're equipped with the most up-to-date information – including facts about just how safe and effective these vaccines really are. Backed by decades of science, tested extensively, and proven remarkably effective again and again, the truth is that these vaccines are safe, they're working, and it's time for everyone who is eligible to make a plan to get one today. So what are you waiting for? Learn more at [ListenToGwinnettMoms.com](https://ListenToGwinnettMoms.com) and join the conversation on social by tagging @GwinnettGov and using #ListenToGwinnettMoms.



## Celebrate AAPI Heritage Month in Gwinnett

May is Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, which gives us the perfect opportunity to celebrate our vibrant and diverse AAPI community. Gwinnett is home to Georgia's largest Asian American population, and our AAPI community makes countless contributions to our culture, social, and economic well-being. Gwinnett County will celebrate AAPI Heritage month with virtual reflections from County leaders and community representatives. Stay tuned @GwinnettGov on Facebook for the virtual celebration. Learn more about celebrations from the County

and library [here](#).

## What's New in District 4

### Commissioner Fosque takes new leadership roles with ACCG

I'm proud to announce that I've accepted a few new leadership roles with ACCG, an organization that serves as the consensus building, training, and legislative organization for all 159 county governments in Georgia. I was recently appointed by incoming ACCG President Steve Taylor to serve as the Vice Chair of the Health and Human Services Policy Committee. As a vice chair of an ACCG policy committee, I will also be a member of ACCG's Policy Council. Through these roles, I look forward to continuing to build relationships with other county leadership and helping shape policy around the state.

### Gwinnett provides free summer meals to kids at 25 locations around the county

Gwinnett County is helping ease hardships during the COVID-19 pandemic by continuing to feed Gwinnett's children during the summer. After Gwinnett County Public Schools wraps up its meal service, the Gwinnett Summer Meals program will provide

free grab-and-go breakfasts and lunches for children 18 years of age and younger at County parks, libraries, and other locations **beginning June 1**. 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. Meals can be picked up Monday through Friday from 11:00am to 1:00pm while supplies last. Learn more and see a full list of locations [here](#).



### County celebrates Memorial Day with virtual ceremony

Gwinnett County will once again host a virtual version of our annual Memorial Day ceremony to honor those who have lost their lives in service to our country. Tune in Monday, May 31 at 1:00pm on TV Gwinnett, the County's government access cable channel, [TVGwinnettLive.com](http://TVGwinnettLive.com), or [Facebook @GwinnettGov](https://www.facebook.com/GwinnettGov) to watch the premiere of the ceremony.

### Outdoor burn ban in effect through September 30

To protect air quality, the state Environmental Protection Division has imposed a metro-wide burn ban through September 30. Most outdoor or open burning are prohibited, including burning trees, limbs, and yard waste, as well as the use of air curtain destructors. For more information, visit [GwinnettFireMarshal.com](http://GwinnettFireMarshal.com) or call 678.518.4980. For additional information concerning the summer open burning ban, please visit the Environmental Protection Division [webpage](#).



### Learn more about COVID-19 vaccines from Dr. Audrey Arona and District 2 from Commissioner Ku

In the latest episodes of my podcast, Better Together with Commissioner Fosque, I sat down with some experts! First, I discussed COVID-19 vaccines and more with Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Health Departments Director Dr. Audrey Arona ([listen](#), [watch](#)); then, I talked to my fellow Commissioner Ben Ku about one of his areas of expertise, District 2 ([listen](#), [watch](#)).

See the full list of episodes on the [County's website](#), or listen on Spotify or your favorite podcast app.

## Special Events and Happenings

**Most events and activities are suspended due to the County's COVID-19 response.**

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

## Did You Know?

You can now watch Board of Commissioners' meetings on Facebook Live. Make sure to follow [@GwinnettGov](https://www.facebook.com/GwinnettGov) on Facebook to view the Board in action. Join us first and third Tuesdays at 2:00pm for work and business sessions. You can also tune in starting at 7:00pm on fourth Tuesdays for our public hearings.

Those without access to Facebook can still watch the Board of Commissioners meetings live on TV Gwinnett or stream them online at [TVGwinnettLive.com](http://TVGwinnettLive.com). [Click here](#) for a full list of upcoming board meetings.



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Gwinnett County

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