



NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with
Commissioner
Matthew Holtkamp



Follow us on social media!

January 2024



Greetings!

Welcome to 2024! It's shaping up to be an exciting year already!

Last Tuesday, the Board of Commissioners approved a condensed transit plan. I appreciate the pared down list of transit projects that includes the shuttle to the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International airport and the expansion of microtransit, a shared-ride service.

Now, I'm setting aside time to discuss the condensed transit plan. Please stay tuned in the coming months for several town hall style events to share your voice in support or opposition for a referendum on the ballot. The plan proposes a shift in the County's current mobility funding model to a one percent dedicated sales tax. A Transit SPLOST aims to distribute financial responsibility more equitably among all residents, businesses, and visitors, alleviating the burden on Gwinnett's property owners. To review the plan, visit GwinnettCounty.com/TDP.

I look forward to robust conversations around a potential referendum with these projects. Your feedback will be critical as to whether this gets put on the ballot in November. You can email me with your questions and concerns anytime.

Happening Around Gwinnett



Board of Commissioners adopts 2024 budget

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners approved a \$2.53 billion budget to fund County operations and projects for the year. The approved budget consists of a \$1.97 billion operating budget and a \$561 million capital improvements budget, which includes funds from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program. Some key initiatives in the budget entail expanding microtransit zones, growing the Economic Development Division, installing a biosolids dryer at the F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center, hiring 12 firefighters to staff

a new ambulance and alternative response vehicle, recruiting 12 new E-911 communications officers, and enhancing pay for elections poll officials. For more information, visit GwinnettCounty.com/2024Budget.

Gwinnett receives Innovation Award for its Transit Development Plan

Gwinnett County received the 2023 Georgia Transit Association Innovation Award for its Transit Development Plan. The award recognizes exceptional innovation in customer or community service and technology. This plan was fueled by community engagement, reaching residents, businesses, and community stakeholders who shared their feedback over 18 months.



After encountering challenges with several transit referendum

attempts spanning five decades, this new plan embraces a fresh, innovative approach that provides the right services in the right places. Supported by comprehensive data, the plan also addresses gaps by providing additional transit options like microtransit, airport ride, bus rapid transit, and increased transfer facilities.



Become a Fire Chaplain

Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services is seeking volunteer chaplains for its chaplaincy program. Interested candidates must be certified members of clergy whose qualifications include current ministry service for a minimum of two years. All interested candidates should fill out an [online application](#) no later than February 2. For more information, call Captain Ryan McGiboney at 678.518.4862 or send an email to

Ryan.McGiboney@GwinnettCounty.com.

What's New in District 4

Braselton Highway to begin construction

Construction is underway to widen State Route 124/ Braselton Highway, expanding the road to four lanes with turn lanes, sidewalks, curb and gutter, and drainage improvements from Pine Road to Spout Springs Road. These improvements will enhance local transportation infrastructure, promote safety, and address traffic congestion.

The \$10.6 million project is funded largely by various SPLOST programs, with \$3 million coming from a Georgia Department of Transportation Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant. To learn more about SPLOST, visit GwinnettSPLOST.com.



Gwinnett adds 10 new glass recycling sites

Gwinnett County and Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful, in partnership with Ripple Glass, have added 10 new glass recycling locations across the county, including one at Bogan Park. The County's glass recycling program allows residents to drop off glass for safe and sustainable recycling.

With these new additions, Gwinnett provides a total of 13 glass recycling locations. The newest locations complement the existing three containers at One Stop Norcross, Pinckneyville Park in Norcross, and E.E. Robinson Park in Sugar Hill.

Find a purple glass recycling container near you by visiting GwinnettCounty.com/GlassRecycling.

Register to vote in the upcoming elections

As the election season kicks in, it's important to register to vote now. To be eligible, Georgia residents need to be U.S. citizens, legal residents of their voting county, and at least 18 years of age by Election Day. The deadline to register to vote in the March 12 Presidential Preference Primary is Monday, February 12. Check your registration status, download a voter registration application, view sample ballots, and locate your polling location at MVP.SOS.GA.gov.



Inscríbete a votar para las próximas elecciones

A medida que comienza la temporada electoral, es importante inscribirse para votar ahora. Para ser elegible, los residentes de Georgia deben ser ciudadanos estadounidenses, residentes legales de su condado electoral y tener al menos 18 años de edad antes del día de las elecciones. La fecha límite para inscribirse para votar en las Primarias de Preferencia Presidencial del 12 de Marzo es el Lunes 12 de Febrero. Verifica el estado de tu inscripción electoral, descarga una aplicación de inscripción de votantes, revisa boletas de muestra y ubica tu lugar de votación en MVP.SOS.GA.gov.

Special Events and Happenings

Visit GwinnettCountyEvents.com or follow the County's social media channels to learn about more upcoming events.

Artist Reception: Colors

Thursday, January 25 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Free! A study in color by Alphonso Edwards II. Guests are invited to celebrate with the artist at the evening's artist reception. The exhibit will be open for viewing January 16 to March 29. All Ages. [Register](#)

[online](#). Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Museum After Dark

Friday, January 26 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Free! Ever wonder what happens when the Environmental and Heritage Center Museum closes its doors each evening? Join us for a special night of fun as we discover all that a museum has to offer after dark. Carnival games, crafts, scavenger hunt, face painting, and the famous EHC Sensorium. Children must be accompanied by an adults. All ages. [Register online](#). Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford.

Georgia Aquarium Day Trip

Tuesday, January 30 from 8:00am - 5:00pm

Enjoy a self-guided tour of the Georgia Aquarium! Bus pick-up starts at 8:00am from George Pierce Park, 55 Buford Highway, Suwanee and 8:45am from Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville. For ages 50 and up. Resident fee \$59, non-resident fee \$79. For more information, [register online](#).



Matthew Holtkamp, District 4 Commissioner
Gwinnett County

Matthew.Holtkamp@GwinnettCounty.com