



GWINNETT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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GwinnettCounty.com

Nicole L. Hendrickson, Chairwoman

Kirkland Dion Carden, District 1

Ben Ku, District 2

Jasper Watkins III, District 3

Marlene M. Fosque, District 4

Official

Legislative Delegation Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 8, 2022 – 12:00 pm

Gas South Convention Center, Cypress Room

6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, Georgia

Present: Nicole L. Hendrickson, Kirkland D. Carden, Ben Ku, Marlene M. Fosque

Absent: Jasper Watkins III

1. Board of Commissioners

Chairwoman Nicole Hendrickson presented information to the Gwinnett Legislative Delegation on Gwinnett County Government services, programs, and 2023 budget initiatives. Joel Wiggins of The Southern Group provided information on the County's 2023 legislative priorities. No official action taken.

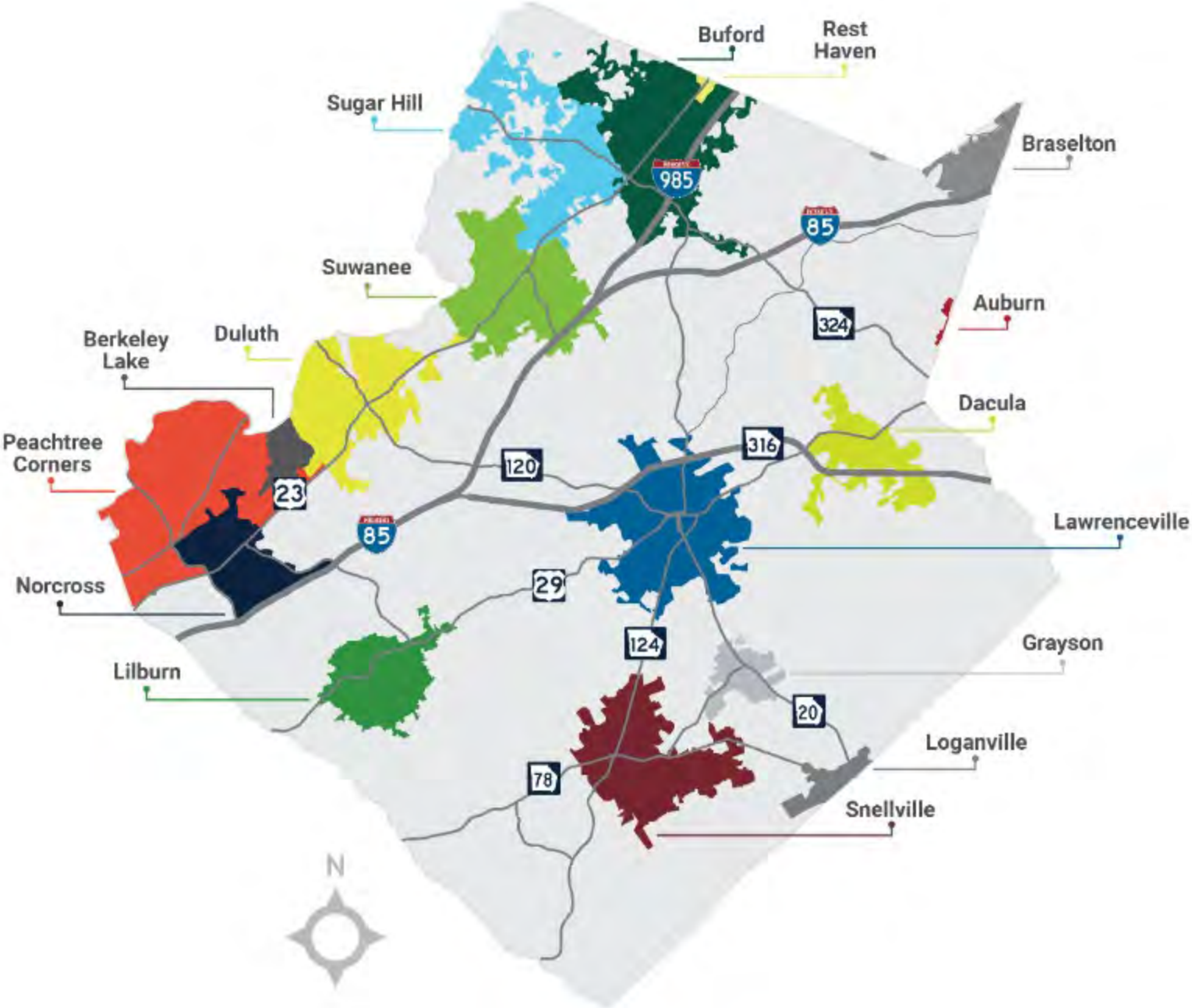


Gwinnett Delegation

Chairwoman
Nicole Hendrickson



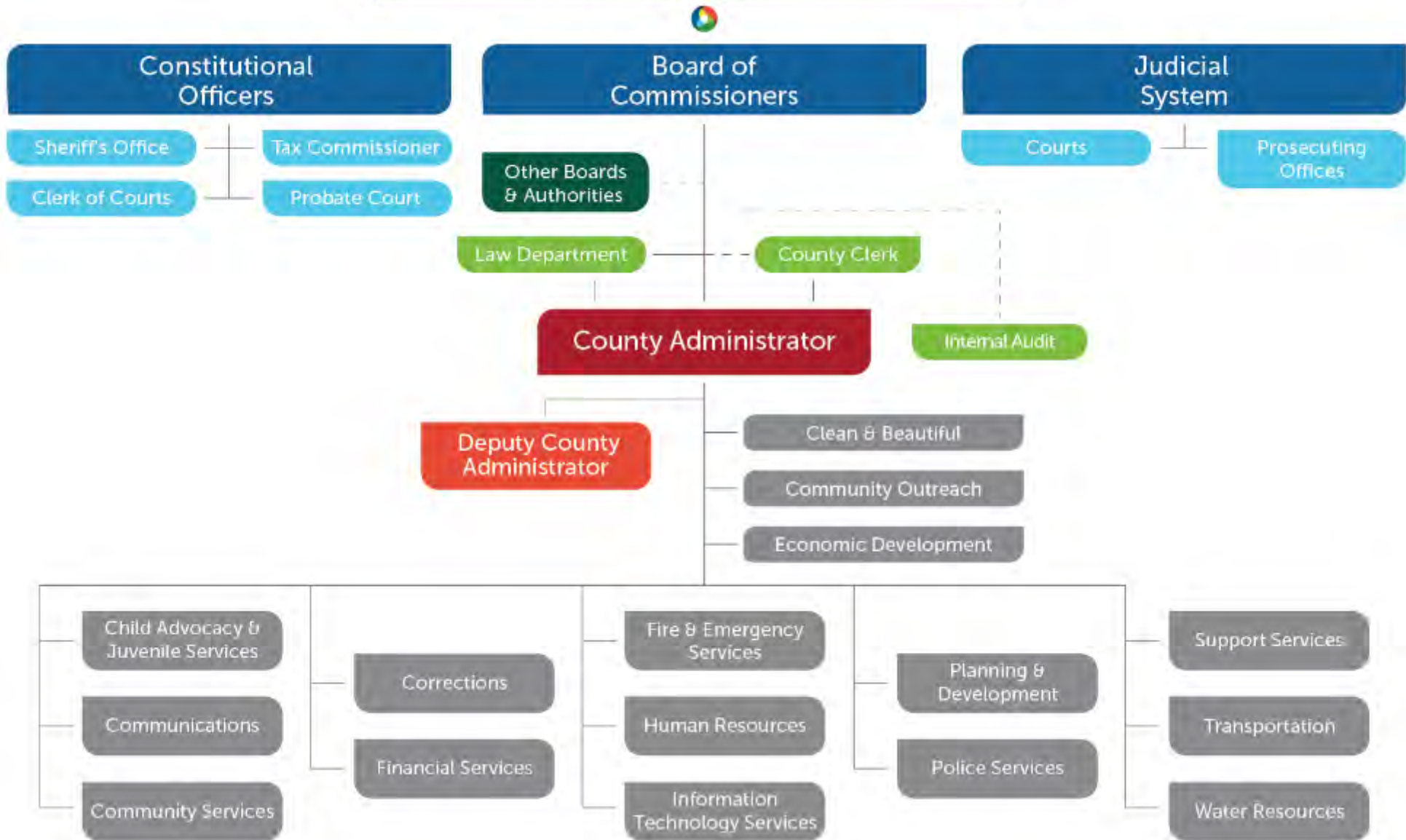
Gwinnett's 16 Cities



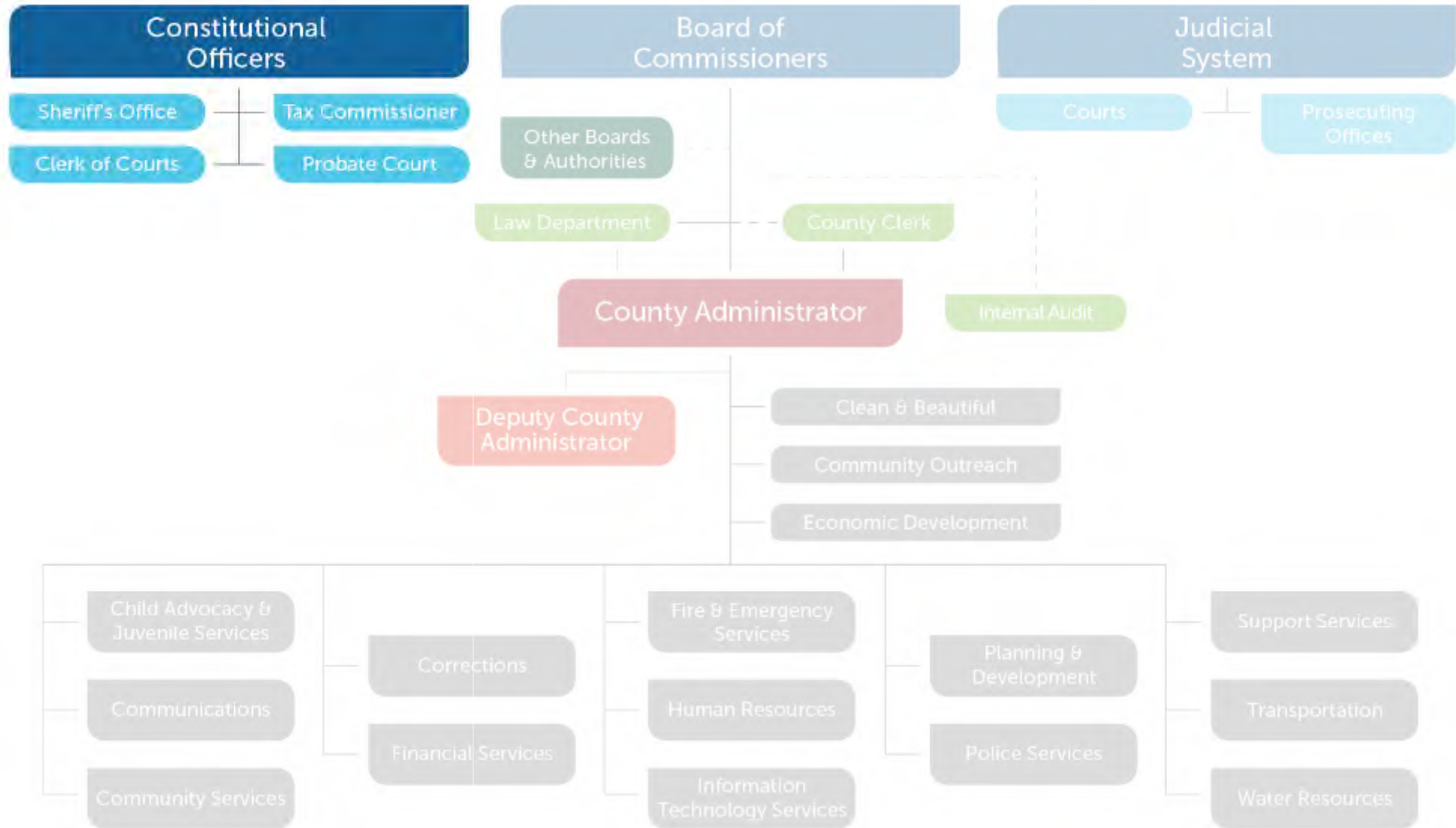
Gwinnett County Government Overview



Gwinnett County Residents



Gwinnett County Residents



Constitutional Officers



Keybo Taylor
Sheriff



Denise R. Mitchell
Tax Commissioner

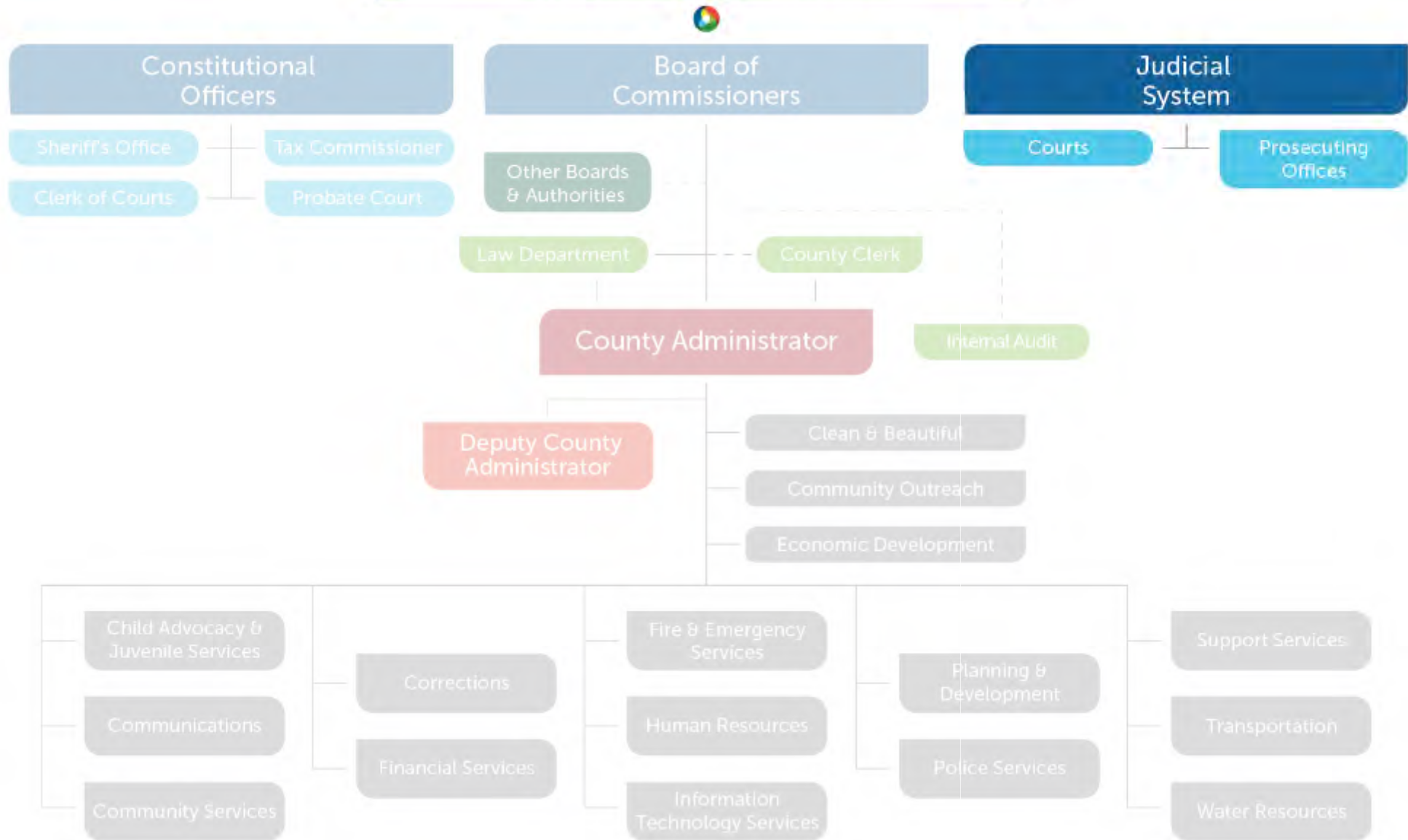


Tiana Garner
Clerk of Court



Christopher Ballar
Probate Court Judge

Gwinnett County Residents



Elected Judicial District Officials

- District Attorney
- Solicitor
- Superior Court Judges (11)
- State Court Judges (7*)
- Chief Magistrate

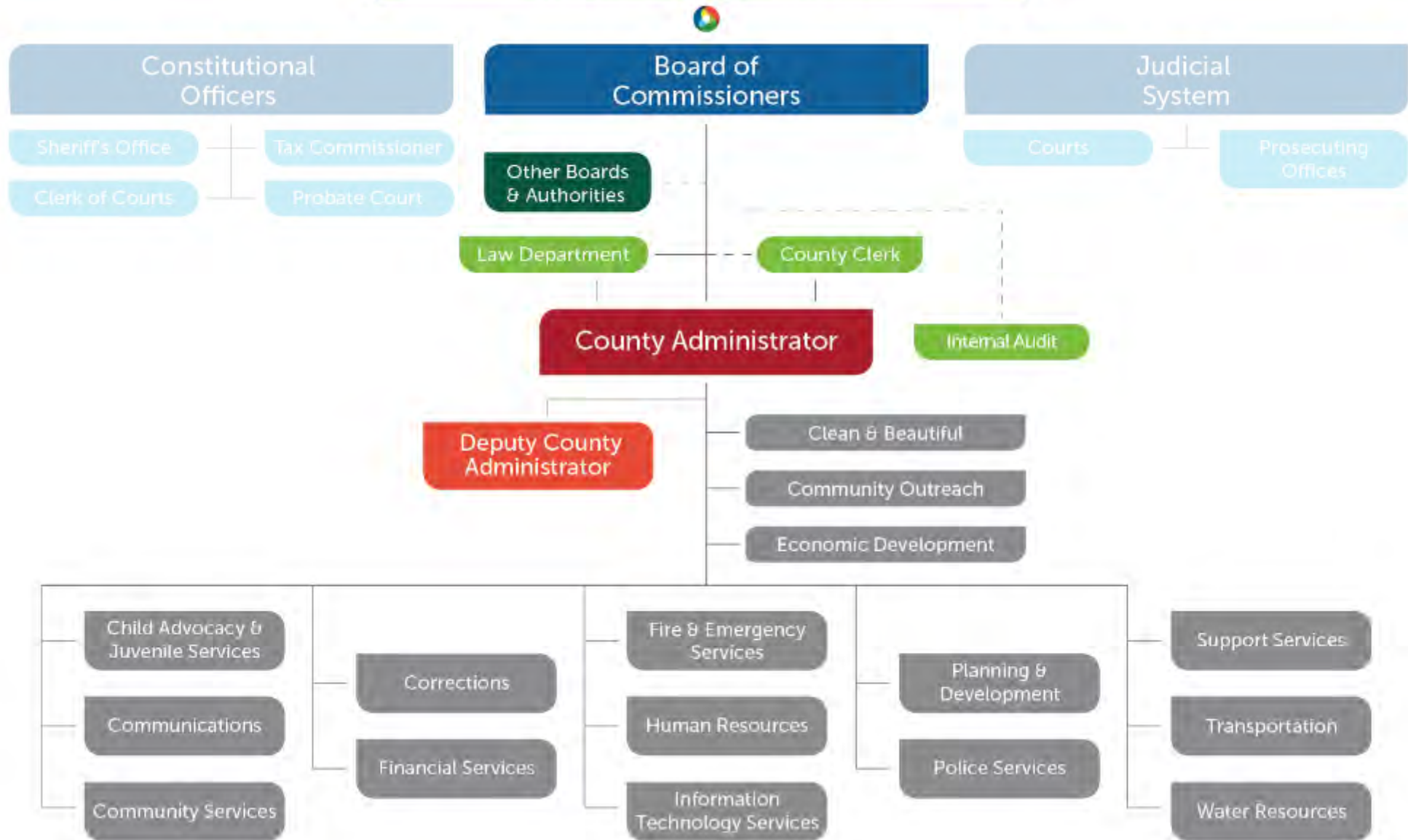
*As of January 1, 2023

Appointed Judges

- Magistrate Court (21)
- Juvenile Court (3)
- Recorder's Court (3)



Gwinnett County Residents



Board of Commissioners



**Nicole L.
Hendrickson**
Chairwoman



**Kirkland D.
Carden**
District 1



Ben Ku
District 2

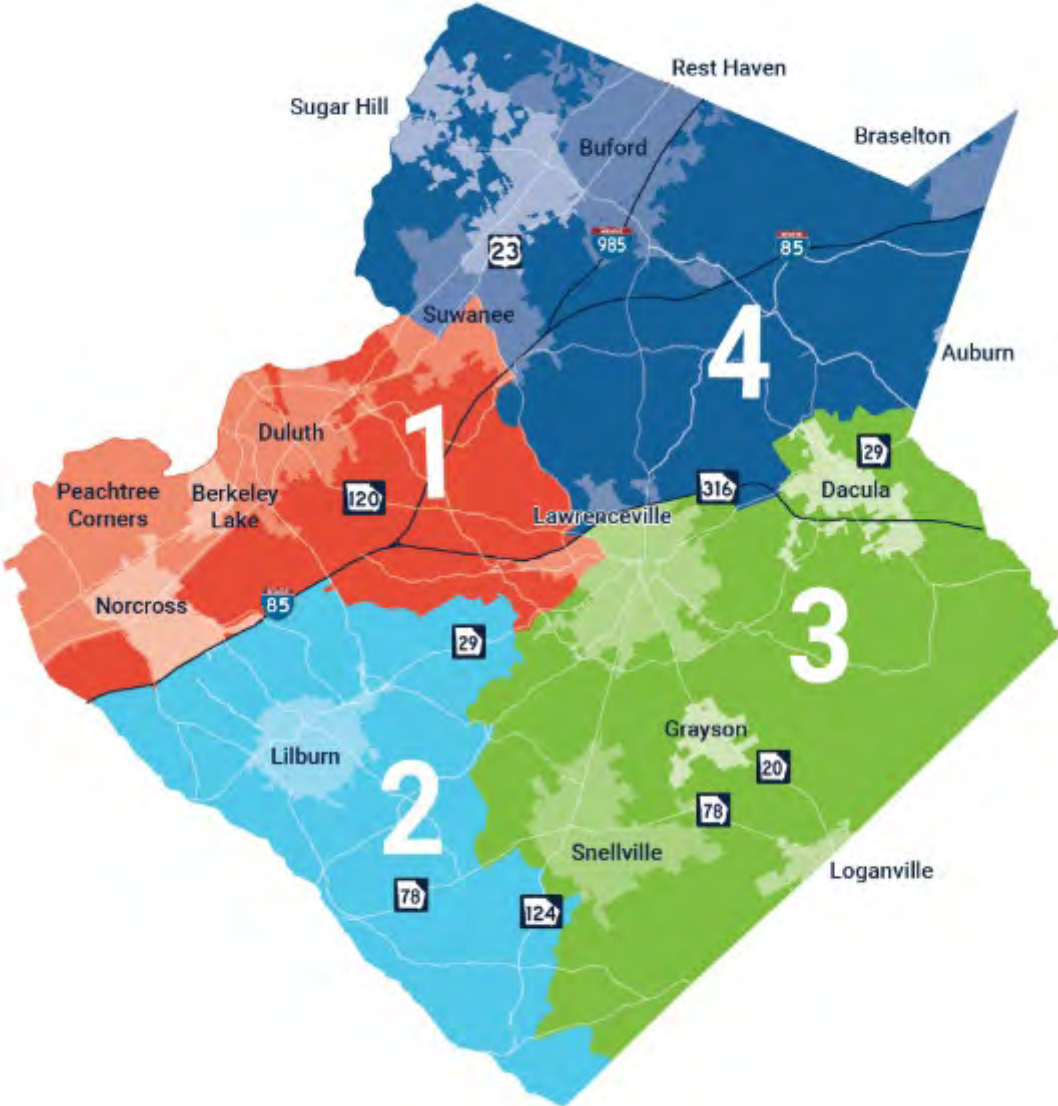


**Jasper
Watkins III**
District 3



**Marlene M.
Fosque**
District 4

Board of Commissioners Districts Effective 2023



Gwinnett County Services

- Largest municipal service provider in Georgia
- Services include:
 - Courts
 - Parks
 - Senior Centers
 - Libraries
 - Roadways
 - Transit
 - Animal Control
 - Water & Sewer
 - Solid Waste & Recycling
 - Corrections
 - Police
 - Fire & EMS

Project RESET 2.0

- Rental and utility assistance program
- Using federal funds
- More than \$83 million distributed



Equity Action Plan

- Understanding our “Why”
- Establishing focused leadership
- Taking thoughtful and deliberate action by:
 - Reaching in
 - Reaching out, and
 - Reaching over





Gwinnett Place Mall

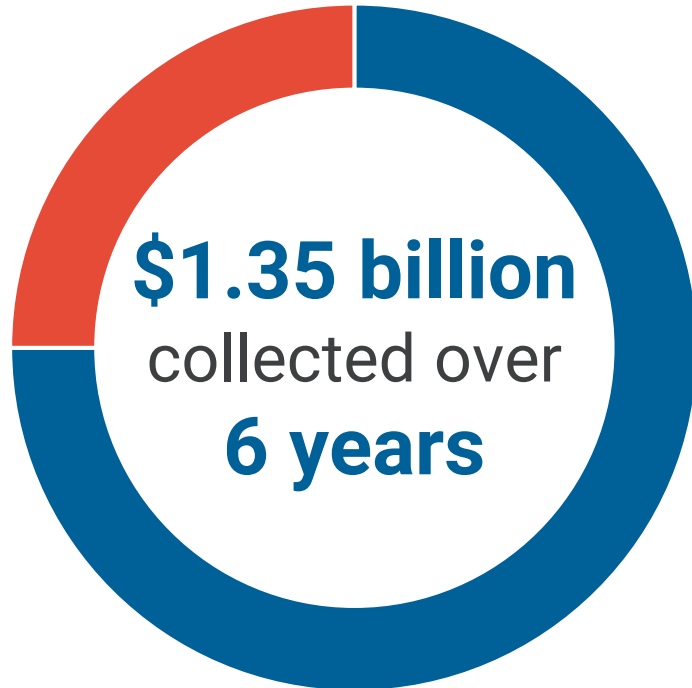
- Equitable Redevelopment Plan
 - GwinnettPlaceMallEquity.com
- Gwinnett Place Mall Site Revitalization Strategy
 - GwinnettPlaceCID.com

Housing Study

- Completed the Comprehensive Housing Study in March 2022
- Completed Residential Zoning District Review
- Established Housing and Community Development Division
- Accepted into Georgia Initiative for Community Housing
- Developing a Housing Action Plan



SPLOST | 2023



■ County ■ 16 Cities



2023 Budget Initiatives

- Establish 7th State Court Judge
- Transit route expansion
- Language Learning assistance program
- Environmental Sustainability Officer
- Equity Officer
- Disparity Study



Thank you!



Gwinnett County BOC 2023 Legislative Priorities

December 8th, 2022

Study Committee Recap

- ▶ Study Committees Recommending Legislation:
 - ▶ House Study Committee on Regulation, Affordability, and Access to Housing
 - ▶ House Study Committee on State and Local Law Enforcement Salaries
 - ▶ Senate Study Committee on Development Authorities
 - ▶ House Governmental Affairs Study Committee on Service Delivery

House Study Committee on Regulation, Affordability, and Access to Housing

- ▶ House study committee created by HR 1149 to further explore the issue of build-to-rent housing brought forward in HB 1093 and SB 494.
- ▶ The Committee met on 9/27 and 9/28 and on 10/12 and 10/13.
- ▶ The discussion centered around the housing stock shortage across Georgia and its impact on housing, especially affordable housing.
- ▶ Speakers from think tanks, economic development agencies, the Atlanta Regional Commission, the Realtors Association, Homebuilders Association, Georgia Public Policy Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, the Georgia Municipal Association and the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia.
- ▶ The Committee will meet again in December to finalize recommendations.

House Study Committee on State and Local Law Enforcement Salaries

- ▶ Study committee focusing on appropriate salary increases or supplements for all state and local law enforcement agencies.
- ▶ The Sheriff supplement issue brought forward in HB 830 last year will be examined along with other possible benefits for law enforcement.
- ▶ The Committee met on September 22nd and October 6th and heard from all state agencies with a law enforcement component and the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and the Georgia Sheriff's Association.
- ▶ Some ideas mentioned that would impact County governments:
 - ▶ Waive property taxes for law enforcement
 - ▶ Dedicated LOST penny for public safety
 - ▶ Portable retirement options (similar to teachers)
 - ▶ Prevent state agencies from hiring local law enforcement prior to 5 years of service
 - ▶ Waive state income tax
- ▶ The Committee will meet again on December 13th.

Senate Study Committee on Development Authorities

- ▶ Senate study committee developed based on conversations surrounding HB 25, HB 66, and HB 923 relating to local governments and school systems gaining standing in bond validation hearings.
- ▶ The Committee met on July 22nd, August 25th, November 17th, and November 30th to discuss the makeup of development authorities, the process of providing state and local incentives and the impact on local taxes.
- ▶ Both the Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA) and the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) spoke about local governments having standing in bond validation hearings at the August 25th meeting.
- ▶ GEDA is opposed to opening up any form of bond validation to local governments on the premise that it would jeopardize economic development projects.
- ▶ ACCG offered a narrow suggestion which would only apply to retail and multi-use projects.
- ▶ While the discussion on local governments having more involvement in the incentive process was discussed throughout, no changes have been recommended.

House Governmental Affairs Special Committee on Service Delivery

- ▶ The House Governmental Affairs Committee created a special committee to look at a variety of local government issues that were brought before the Committee during the 2022 legislative session, including:
 - ▶ New Cities
 - ▶ Consolidation of Counties
 - ▶ Commission Districts/Population
 - ▶ Health Care
 - ▶ Coroner Salaries
- ▶ The Special Committee met July 20th, July 21st, and September 12th to discuss these issues.
- ▶ There has been no recommendations from the committee at this time.

Anticipated Legislation

- ▶ Legislation from Last Session That Failed to Pass:
 - ▶ Build-to-Rent Housing: HB 1093 and SB494 sought to pre-empt local governments from regulating build-to-rent subdivisions and will be refiled.
 - ▶ Tax Commissioner Contracts with Cities: HB 1280 failed to get an agree in the House due to unpopular retirement language, however the underlying language will be refiled.
 - ▶ Regulatory Fee Reform: HB 302 sought to require local governments to provide a listing of costs to issue a permit in order to ensure that regulatory fees did not exceed the cost of generation. This legislation failed to get an agree in the House but will most likely be refiled.
 - ▶ Workers Comp. for First Responders: HB 855 and SB 484 were introduced last year to provide workers comp for first responders with PTSD. Neither bill passed out of committee. ACCG, GMA, and MetLife have been working in the interim to draft legislation that would create an insurance program for first-responder PTSD coverage and anticipate it being filed in 2023.

Build-to-Rent/Design Standards Pre-emption

- ▶ HB 1093 and SB 494 were introduced in 2022 and would pre-empt local government's ability to restrict build-to-rent communities.
- ▶ When the legislation did not progress, HR 1149 was filed to create the House Study Committee on Regulation, Affordability, and Access to Housing.
- ▶ The study committee met 4 times over the interim to discuss the affordable housing crisis and attempt to craft a policy solution.
- ▶ Testimony was given over the four meetings from the building industry, real estate industry, economic development community, ACCG, and GMA.
- ▶ Recommendations have yet to be released, but much of the testimony focused local government legislation being responsible for aggravating the housing market.



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