

GWINNETT
COUNTY

DECEMBER
2024

Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Proposed 2025 budget totals \$2.65 billion

Gwinnett County Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson's proposed budget for 2025 totals \$2.65 billion. The proposal consists of a \$2.1 billion operating budget, which funds everyday expenses such as employee salaries, benefits, equipment, and repairs, and a \$542 million capital improvements budget, which includes funding from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program.

New initiatives funded by the operating budget include redevelopment and small area plan studies, enhancements to E911 communications, and resident workforce development. The capital budget will pay for parks, roads, and libraries.

Find the proposed 2025 budget resolution online at [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com), where residents can also share comments through December 31. Commissioners will consider the budget on January 7.



AROUND GWINNETT

Jumpstart your career with Gwinnett County Government

Join us at our annual Career From Here hiring event on Friday, January 10 from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Gas South Convention Center in Duluth. Candidates can interview with County representatives, review their resume with the Department of Human Resources, and meet current employees to learn how they can thrive in various fields. Visit [GwinnettCounty.com/CareerFromHere](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/CareerFromHere) for more information and to apply.

The Gas South Convention Center is located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth. Gwinnett County offers competitive benefits, paid training, educational incentives for certain positions, tuition reimbursement, career advancement, and much more.

Unlock new home opportunities

Considering buying your first home? Gwinnett's Homestretch Down Payment Assistance Program could be perfect for you! Gwinnett County residents may qualify to receive up to \$10,000 in down payment assistance as a five-year deferred payment loan with 0% interest. To qualify, the home must be located within Gwinnett County and should not exceed \$349,000 for an existing home or \$410,000 for new construction. Please visit [GwinnettCounty.com/HomestretchDPA](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/HomestretchDPA) for a list of eligibility requirements.

New aquatic center fees coming in 2025

Effective January 1, 2025, aquatic admission fees will increase to support the maintenance of our top-notch swim facilities.

This adjustment ensures we can continue to provide a safe, clean, and enjoyable environment for all guests. Fees for entry, passes, swim lessons, programs, and rentals will be adjusted. Rates for senior aerobics, adaptive programming, and discounts will remain the same. View the updated fees at [GwinnettCounty.com/AquaticFees](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/AquaticFees).



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Manage your stormwater naturally

Green infrastructure mimics nature to manage stormwater and offers numerous environmental benefits. It helps improve water quality, reduce flooding, enhance climate resilience, and more.

These systems can range from large-scale projects to home installations like rain gardens that enhance your property and control flooding. Please visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnetth2o.com) to learn how to create your own rain garden.

Learn more about septic systems and detention ponds

Join us on Thursday, January 9 to learn about septic system care and maintenance at Lilburn City Hall. From 6:00pm to 7:30pm, learn how the system works, how to protect it, and how proper maintenance protects our water resources. The following week, Thursday, January 16, attend our workshop on detention pond care at the Collins Hill Branch Library in Lawrenceville from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. To register, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnetth2o.com), call 678.376.7193, or email DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com with your name, address, and phone number.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Emissions are required for 2001 – 2022 model cars

For 2025, all gasoline-powered and light-duty trucks (weighing 8,500 pounds or less) with model years 2001 through 2022 must undergo emissions testing for registration and renewal. For testing locations, senior exemptions, and more, visit CleanAirForce.com. Once your vehicle has been tested, renew online at GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Renew.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Keep the cheer, skip the Christmas tree fires

For many families, holiday preparations start with decorating, but it's easy to overlook potential fire hazards. Almost one-third of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems. Keep your family safe this holiday season with these safety tips:

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched
- Position the tree at least three feet away from any heat source
- Replace any worn or broken light strings and loose bulb connections
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree

A burning tree can rapidly fill a room with fire and deadly gases. Remember to take special safety precautions when keeping a live tree in your home. Please visit GwinnettSafety411.com for more holiday tree safety tips.



SPLOST

Visit the new Western Gwinnett Pathway

Gwinnett officials will unveil a new segment of the Western Gwinnett Pathway, spanning 5 miles between Rogers Bridge Road and Suwanee Dam Road. As a part of the 2018 Gwinnett Countywide Trails Master Plan, the pathway – with the vision to connect the Loop Trail – will extend 17 miles, connecting Shorty Howell Park, the Gwinnett Place Mall area, the Gas South District, and the cities of Duluth and Suwanee. Approximately \$7 million of the total \$14 million project was funded by the County's SPLOST program.

RESOURCES

Test your home for radon

Is your home safe from dangerous levels of radon? This invisible, odorless, and tasteless radioactive gas is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, causing more than 21,000 deaths each year. Learn if radon is present in your home with a test kit from UGA Extension Gwinnett. The affordable and easy-to-use kit should be hung in the lowest lived-in part of your home, such as the basement or first floor, for three to seven days. Instructions and next steps will be included with your kit. Learn more and order your test kit at UGARadon.org.



SERVING GWINNETT

Recycle your live Christmas tree

Want to make this holiday season sustainable? Drop off your live Christmas tree at designated fire stations between December 26 and January 22. As part of the annual Bring One for the Chipper event, we will chip the trees into mulch for use at County parks on Saturday, January 25. The designated Gwinnett fire stations will accept trees 24/7. For a list of drop-off sites or to register as a volunteer for the chipping event at Bethesda Park, visit GwinnettCB.org.

Volunteer for MLK Day of Service

Lend a helping hand with the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on Monday, January 20. From vital wetland cleanups with Gwinnett Water Resources to preparing food for homebound seniors, the County has various opportunities for you to make a positive impact on your community. To learn more and sign up, visit VolunteerGwinnett.net.

Offices closed for January holidays

All Gwinnett County Government offices, apart from operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year's Day holiday and will resume regular hours on Thursday, January 2. Offices will also be closed on Monday, January 20 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, January 21.

Trash and recycling collection will be delayed by one day during the New Year's Day holiday but will not be impacted during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. For more information, visit GCSolidWaste.com. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during each holiday.

GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

ESCANEE PARA LEER EN ESPAÑOL
한국어 버전은 QR 코드를 스캔해 주세요



Gwinnett County Connection questions/comments:

Info@GwinnettCounty.com | 770.822.7180

Water bill questions: 678.376.6700