

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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July 2024



Hello Silvia,

Happy July! I hope you were able to enjoy the 4th of July holiday with family and friends. This month brings so many opportunities to get involved in your community! Whether it's attending a community event, attending an informative open house, or providing your input at a public forum, this month brings plenty of chances to stay informed and have fun.

Also, I will be holding a **State of the District** address on **Thursday, August 29** from **6:00pm to 7:00pm at the Mountain Park Activity Building, located at 1063**

Rockbridge Road in Stone Mountain. I will be addressing district changes and updates, including new community services projects, housing initiatives, the transit referendum, and improved innovation and engagement.

Remember, feel free to reach out to me at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com to schedule a call or virtual meeting if you'd like to chat. I value your feedback on how I've been representing you or if there's anything more I could do.

What's New in District 2



Learn how to become a published author

Listen to advice from accomplished authors, discover the writing process, and network with other writers at the Atlanta Writers Club Workshop on **Saturday, July 20 from 1:30pm to 4:00pm at the Lilburn Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library.**

The event will feature a brief networking mixer with refreshments and three guest speakers. Topics will cover getting noticed in magazine publishing, marketing and advertising methods, and how to become an independent, small press or self-published author. [Registration](#) is recommended.

Tune in to Conversations with Ku

Check out Conversations with Ku, my monthly podcast, where I dive into County initiatives, Board decisions, upcoming events, and a variety of other topics. You can find the podcast on [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcounty.com) and on your favorite streaming platform.

In the latest episode, I gave a district update where I discussed the transit referendum, the non-discrimination ordinance, and other recent board actions. In an earlier episode, I spoke with State Representative Jasmine Clark about her experience as a legislator at the Georgia State Capitol.

I would love to hear from you or answer questions about District 2 or Gwinnett County Government. Feel free to email me at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com and your question may be read on the podcast. Also, if there is someone you'd like me to interview, or a topic you'd like me to cover, please let me know.



CONVERSATIONS
WITH KU





Open call for artists to design mural in Lawrenceville

The Lawrenceville Arts Commission invites local artists to submit their designs for their newest mural project near Georgia Gwinnett College! The selected mural wall measures approximately 12 feet at its lowest point and 20 feet at its highest, spanning a length of 295 feet. A portion of the mural will be designed specifically for community participation using a "paint by numbers" style, making it easy and safe for residents to join in.

Artist selection will be based on a submitted proposal and a portfolio of previous work. In addition, final artists will be compensated for their work and must be able to visit the site in person if chosen as finalists.

Interested artists can review the guidelines on the Arts Commission webpage and submit designs at Lville.city/Mural. The deadline to submit designs is **July 26**.

The Alternative Baseball Organization to host charity baseball game

The Alternative Baseball Organization, a 501c3 nonprofit, is hosting the Playing for Community Integration charity baseball exhibition on **Saturday, August 3** at **Providence Christian Academy in Lilburn**.

Alternative Baseball players from across America with disabilities will participate in a baseball game alongside and against local community leaders and public figures in an exciting exhibition to raise awareness for community integration, empowerment, acceptance, and the positive benefits of athletics in the lives of individuals with disabilities.



This event is free, but donations are encouraged. For more information about the Alternative Baseball Organization and how you can volunteer or participate in the game, visit their website.

Happening Around Gwinnett



Drop off household hazardous waste

Bring your household hazardous waste for reuse, recycling, or disposal at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day event on **Saturday, July 20** from **8:00am to 11:00am** at the **Gwinnett County Fairgrounds in Lawrenceville**.

Residents can bring up to five disposable containers of waste products like paint, motor oil, batteries, cleaning chemicals, and more. For a complete list of acceptable waste products, visit GwinnettCB.org.

If you'd like to volunteer at this event, visit VolunteerGwinnett.net.

Make an impact in your community

Share your voice with us! Residents are invited to join the discussion about short-term rentals in a public forum on **Wednesday, July 24** in Conference Room 106 at One Justice Square, located at **446 W Crogan Street in Lawrenceville**.

From 7:00pm to 8:30pm, residents can share their thoughts and suggestions to help shape our community's future. For questions, email STRTF@GwinnettCounty.com.



Attend our upcoming open houses to learn about future development projects

Southwest Gwinnett Safe Access Study Open House

Join us on **Thursday, August 1** at the **Lilburn Activity Building** from **5:00pm to 8:00pm**. Residents are invited to review project recommendations and share their feedback on ideas to improve safety and connectivity in the study area. To learn more, visit GwinnettCounty.com/SafeAccessStudy.

Centerville Small Area Plan Open House

Discover the future growth of Centerville over the next 20 years on **Wednesday, August 14** from **3:00pm to 7:00pm** at **OneStop Centerville**. The Centerville Small Area Plan will apply the Daily Community Framework from the 2045 Unified Plan to Centerville and focuses on how redevelopment can bring new amenities, improve transportation, and provide new housing for current and future Centerville residents. For more information, visit

Transit referendum to be on November ballot

A transit referendum will be on the ballot this upcoming November 5 General Election. If approved by voters, the transit referendum would impose a one percent sales tax for 30 years to fund up to 75 transit projects in Gwinnett.

A Transit SPLOST aims to distribute financial responsibility more equitably among all residents, businesses, and visitors, alleviating the burden on Gwinnett's property owners. Currently, Gwinnett's transit system is funded by property owners through the County general fund, the federal government, discretionary grants, and Ride Gwinnett fares.



The transit plan includes an airport ride to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, enhanced and expanded county coverage by local bus, additional transit transfer facilities, and the expansion of microtransit providing 100 percent countywide coverage. The new transit referendum does not include heavy rail or MARTA.

The dedicated Transit SPLOST would be paid by all consumers who purchase goods in Gwinnett County. To learn more, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/YourRide](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/YourRide).

Special Events and Happenings

Visit [GwinnettCountyEvents.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/Events) or follow the County's social media channels to learn more about upcoming events.

Art Club - Creative Partners

Tuesday, July 23 from 4:30pm to 6:00pm | Free

Learn elements of acrylic painting on canvas, and use your imagination to incorporate real props and toys to create an adventure scene! Participants will learn to mix colors and use drawing, painting, and observation skills to draw and paint an adventure scene from their imagination. All ages. Lilburn Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 1001 Lawrenceville Highway, Lawrenceville.

Native Exploration with a Park Ranger

Thursday, July 25 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm | Free

Join us as park ranger, naturalist, and environmental educator Jerry Hightower presents some cool facts about Cherokee, our local creeks, and various fossils. All ages. Lilburn Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 1001 Lawrenceville Highway, Lawrenceville.

Walk the Talk

Saturday August 10 from 8:00am to 9:00am | Free

Join us for a trail walk, get active, and learn from health professionals. All Ages. [Register online](#). Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

A Good Place for Bugs

Tuesday August 13 from 9:30am to 10:15am | Free

Insects need good homes too! Join us for storytime, STEM activities, and sensory fun! Ages 3-5. [Register online](#). Lilburn Activity Building, 788 Hillcrest Road NW, Lilburn.

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Gwinnett County

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