

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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August 2024



Hello Silvia,

I hope you are enjoying your August so far!

This month brings plenty of chances to get involved in your community!

While reading this newsletter, you'll find many opportunities to stay engaged like going to a job fair, adopting a pet, and participating in a survey that can help address transportation needs in your area.

Last month, I attended the National Association of Counties annual conference to accept the Digital Counties Survey award. I'm also excited to share that I have been appointed to the following committees:

- **Subcommittee Vice Chair** of the Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee
- **Member** of the County Technology Advisory Committee
- **Chair** of the FutureTech Subcommittee
- **Member** of the Information Technology Standing Committee

These appointments will allow me to bring ideas and best practices from across the nation back to Gwinnett to keep us on the cutting edge of technology and innovation.

Be sure to finish out your August by attending my **State of the District** address on **Thursday, August 29**, where I will discuss several district changes and updates. You can find more details about it below.

Remember, feel free to reach out to me at [Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto: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



### Commissioner Ku to host State of District 2 on August 29

District 2 Commissioner Ben Ku is holding a town hall on **Thursday, August 29 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm** at the **Mountain Park Activity Building**, located at **1063 Rockbridge Road in Stone Mountain**.

Commissioner Ku will share updates on District 2 and Countywide projects, including new community services projects, housing initiatives, the transit referendum, and improved innovation and engagement.

There will also be an opportunity for a Q&A session with County representatives, with an ASL translator present.

### 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.gwinnettku.com) and on your favorite streaming platform.

In the latest episode, I spoke with Tax Commissioner, Denise Mitchell about her role, what's new in her office, and other tax-related questions. In an earlier episode, my co-host, Hunter Coleman, and I discussed the latest news updates and new items approved by the Board of Commissioners.

I'd 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](mailto: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



### Apply to serve on the Gwinnett County Stormwater Authority

We invite you to get involved in your community! Serve as the District 2 appointee on the Gwinnett County Stormwater Authority.

The Stormwater Authority was established in 2007 by local legislation and consists of seven members who either have scientific training or have demonstrated experience with stormwater issues. Members serve four year terms.

For more information about the authority, please visit the [Gwinnett County website](https://www.gwinnettku.com). If you're interested, please [submit an application](#) by **Wednesday, September 4**.

### Attend the South Gwinnett Job Fair

Explore career opportunities with local employers at the South Gwinnett Job Fair on **Saturday, August 17 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm** at the **Lilburn Activity Building** located at **788 Hillcrest Road in Lilburn**.

Bring your resume and network with employers! Job-seekers 16 and older will have the chance to interview and engage in recruitment.



## Happening Around Gwinnett



### Atlanta Regional Commission seeks input on Participation Plan update

Residents are encouraged to provide input on a major update to the Atlanta Regional Commission's regional public participation plan. This update is the first since 2019 and is designed to ensure that ARC's transportation planning meets the region's needs and reflects metro Atlanta's diverse population.

Residents can provide input by taking an [online survey](#), visiting the [ARC website](#), or attending [in-person events](#) in August and September to review the draft plan and offer comments.

### Gwinnett becomes first metro Atlanta gold-tier BioReady® community

At a recent Board of Commissioners meeting, Gwinnett County received a plaque for achieving gold status as a BioReady® community from Georgia Bio, the state's leading life sciences membership organization.

The BioReady® program rates communities in three tiers: Bronze, Silver and Gold. These ratings assess a municipality's readiness to host biotechnology facilities based on zoning practices and infrastructure capacity, helping real estate developers and biotechnology companies find the most favorable destinations to locate.



### Free pet adoptions at Clear the Shelters Event

Gear up for some tail-wagging fun during the dog days of summer at the annual Clear the Shelters event on **Saturday, August 24 from 11:00am to 4:00pm** at the **Bill Atkinson Animal Welfare Center** in Lawrenceville.



As part of a national campaign to place shelter pets in loving homes, Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement is hosting a day of free pet adoptions with hands-on activities, music, local vendors, and more! All adoptable animals are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. To learn more about pet adoptions, visit [GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com](http://GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com).

### Join the fun at the Public Safety Fall Festival

Gwinnett Police and Fire and Emergency Services is hosting the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Public Safety Fall Festival on **Saturday, September 7 from 10:00am to 2:00pm** at **Coolray Field**, located at **2500 Buford Drive in Lawrenceville**.

For the first time, this year's festival will feature the exciting Peach State Rodeo, where highly trained police motorcyclists from across the country perform different challenges, including a speed competition! Enjoy food trucks, giveaways, and interactive touch-a-truck experiences with SWAT vehicles, fire trucks, and more.



For more information, contact Corporal Tebin Clack at [Tebin.Clack@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Tebin.Clack@GwinnettCounty.com).

## Special Events and Happenings

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

### Back to School Fishing Derby

**Saturday, August 17 from 9:30am to 11:30am**

Reel in some fun and try to catch the pond's 30-pound catfish! Parent or guardian participation and a signed waiver are required for children. Bait and prizes are provided; just bring your own fishing poles. Open to children age 15 and under with family participation encouraged. All ages are welcome. [Register online](#). Fee: \$2.00 for Gwinnett residents and \$4.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. OneStop Centerville, 3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville.

### Raising Resilience - Newborn Nutrition

**Wednesday, August 21 from 10:30am to 11:30am | Free**

Discover the benefits of breastfeeding for you and your baby. Whether you're a first-time mom or looking to refresh your knowledge, join us for a supportive and educational experience. Centerville Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville.

### Cookies & Canvases

**Tuesday, August 27 from 1:00pm to 3:30pm**

Unleash your creativity! Enjoy an instructor-led paint party with sweet treats and create a masterpiece to take home. This class will be taught by Kathy Timmons. Ages 50 and up. [Register online](#). Fee: \$18.00 for Gwinnett residents and \$35.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

### Seed & Plant Swap

**Friday, September 13 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm | Free**

Get ready for fall planting at our Seed & Plant Swap! In partnership with UGA Extension, we invite gardeners to bring seeds, plants, and bulbs to share. All ages. [Register online](#). Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

Ben Ku, District 2 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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