# NEWS&EVENTS

### in District 3 with Commissioner Watkins

December 2024



Gwinnett

Hello Silvia,

Happy Holidays District 3 Constituents,

As we approach the close of another year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress we've made together and to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your continued support and partnership.

This year has been one of resilience, collaboration, and positive change in our community. We've worked together on numerous projects that enhanced our local infrastructure and created opportunities for everyone to thrive. Though we've made great strides in renovating parks, improving roads, and enhancing community

outreach programs that ensure no one is left behind, we know there's more to do. Therefore, my biggest ask is for you to continue being involved and volunteering with the County and District 3, and to invite your friends and family to become involved.

I am deeply proud of what we've accomplished together, and I want to thank each of you for your involvement. Whether you attended town halls, participated in community cleanups and food drives, or simply supported a local initiative, your dedication to our shared future is what makes our community so special.

As we celebrate the holiday season, I hope you find time to enjoy peace, joy, and warmth with your loved ones. May this time of year bring you rest and reflection, and may the year ahead bring new opportunities for all of us to continue building a better and stronger Gwinnett County and District 3.

Thank you once again for the honor of serving as your commissioner. I look forward to what we will achieve together in the new year.

Enjoy this Holiday Season!

**Commissioner Watkins** 

#### **Happening Around Gwinnett**



#### Chairwoman presents 2025 proposed budget

Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson presented her<u>proposed</u> <u>budget</u> to guide county government spending for the 2025 fiscal year. The proposed budget totals **\$2.65 billion** and consists of a \$2.1 billion operating budget and a \$542 million capital improvements budget, which includes funds from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program.

Residents are invited to the public hearing on**Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30pm** in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium in Lawrenceville. Residents can also <u>offer input</u> on the proposed budget on the County's website through December 31.

Commissioners will consider the 2025 budget at their first meeting of the new year on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

#### 65 local nonprofits to receive ARPA grant funding

Gwinnett County Government has selected **65** nonprofits that service critical needs to receive a combined total of \$4.95 million in Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant funding. These funds — provided to Gwinnett by the United States Department of the Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act — will be used to help nonprofits increase their effectiveness and enhance their impact on the community.

Gwinnett will manage and distribute \$4.95 million in grant awards, providing the selected nonprofits with either capital support or operational support. Capital support focuses on projects that improve capacity by fulfilling a capital need such as equipment, software solutions, and vehicles. Operational support focuses on the provision of technical assistance and learning modules to improve the nonprofits' ability to provide necessary services and achieve their goals. Further details



about the awards and all related updates can be found on the American Rescue Plan Act webpage.



#### Stay warm during cold winter nights

Gwinnett County is opening five warming stations for residents to receive temporary, overnight relief from long-term exposure to frigid temperatures. These stations will be open from 6:00pm to 7:00am on nights when temperatures fall to 35 degrees or below. Residents will have access to a warm place to rest and a meal.

Visit <u>GwinnettCounty.com/WarmingStations</u> for locations and latest activation status. To volunteer at any warming station, please email <u>OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com</u> or call 770.822.8850

**Share your input on the Gwinnett County Tree Ordinance** Share your thoughts about tree protection in your area! Gwinnett is updating its tree ordinance, and we need your input. Help shape the future of our county's tree canopy by taking a quick survey at <u>GwinnettCounty.com/TreeOrdinance</u>.



#### What's New in District 3



#### Police seeks community input

Gwinnett Police is committed to serving our community with excellence. To ensure residents' needs are being met, we're seeking public input through a community survey. Randomly selected households will soon receive surveys in the mail asking about various aspects of Police performance and helping to identify areas for improvement.

If your household receives a random survey, an adult resident who is 18 years or older should complete the survey. All responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact Gwinnett Police at 770.513.5044.

## Tax Assessors Office to conduct onsite property field visits

Gwinnett Board of Assessors' appraisal staff conduct routine field visits to maintain accurate appraisal data as part of the County's annual review process. Representatives from Gwinnett, LMC, or Tyler Technologies verify existing or new construction, measure exteriors, or take photographs.

Although no contact or involvement is needed, appraisers will carry identification and announce their presence at each property before beginning a review. If no one is available, information will be left to



advise residents of the visit. For questions or concerns, email <u>Taxpayer.Services@GwinnettCounty.com</u> or call 770.822.7200.

#### Winter break camp registration is now open



Need some play dates for the kids during winter break? Sign them up for winter break camp! Gwinnett offers a variety of action-packed programs planned for kids ages 5 to 12 to have fun, explore new activities, and make friends.

Adventure Days Out camp takes place from **Thursday**, **December 26 through Tuesday**, **December 31** and **Thursday**, **January 2 through Friday**, **January 3** from 7:30am to 6:00pm. Cost is \$30 per day. Camp will take places across Gwinnett, including Rhodes Jordan Park in Lawrenceville. To learn more and register, visit <u>GwinnettParks.com</u>

#### **Special Events and Happenings**

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

#### **Holiday Whobilation**

#### Saturday, December 7 from 10:00am to 2:00pm

Free! Don't have a Merry whatever, even the Grinch will love this festive celebration. The event features a Who Village Craft Market, s'mores, kids zone, and more! Open to all ages. Vendors wanted, call 678.277.0860 for more information. No registration required. Lenora Park, 4515 Lenora Church Road, Snellville.

#### **Cocoa Classic**

#### Saturday, December 14 from 5:30pm to 8:00pm

Enjoy an evening of holiday trivia, games, a craft station, and holiday treats. Open to all ages. Resident fee: \$7. Non-resident fee: \$19. Children 2 and under are free. <u>Register here</u>. Rhodes Jordan Community Recreation Center, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

#### A Window Into Our Past

#### **Open through December 31**

Free! Experience an exhibit featuring Gwinnett County artifacts, memorabilia, and archived pages from the Gwinnett Daily Post. Open to all ages. Dacula Park Activity Building, 2735 Old Auburn Avenue, Dacula.

#### **County News**

#### Visit our website and social media for latest news

To stay up-to-date on the County government, visit our website,<u>GwinnettCounty.com</u> or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X (Formerly Twitter</u>), and <u>Instagram</u> @GwinnettGov.

#### **Gwinnett County Contacts**

For questions regarding fire safety, code enforcement, and crime prevention, property owners and managers should contact:

#### **Fire Safety**

Daniel Beaver 678.518.4907 Daniel.Beaver@GwinnettCounty.com

#### **Code Enforcement**

Randy Franklin 770.513.5020 Randy.Franklin@GwinnettCounty.com

Crime Prevention Christian Matos 770.513.5000 Christian.Matos@GwinnettCounty.com

> Jasper Watkins III, District 3 Commissioner Gwinnett County

Jasper.Watkins@GwinnettCounty.com

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