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August 2024



Greetings!

One of my District 4 initiatives is voter outreach, and to help with that, I'll be speaking at pop-up community meetings over the next few months to keep voters informed on what is happening in our County.

The focus will be about the upcoming transit referendum on the November 5 General Election ballot.

Voters will decide whether to fund transit projects through a dedicated Transit Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, known as a Transit SPLOST. If approved, this would implement a one percent sales tax for 30 years to support up to 75 transit projects in Gwinnett.

I'd love to come speak to your group – whether it's your HOA, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, or any other group you can gather! My goal is to get a minimum of 10 people in the room.

If you can't get a group of that size, then reach out and I will be sure to add you to an invite list for pop-up meetings as they are created. You can contact my office at [Matthew.Holtkamp@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Matthew.Holtkamp@GwinnettCounty.com) or 770.822.7004.

I will share some information about the transit referendum at these pop-up community meetings, but for more facts and in-depth answers, please visit [GwinnettCounty.com/YourRide](https://GwinnettCounty.com/YourRide).



## Happening Around Gwinnett



### 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.

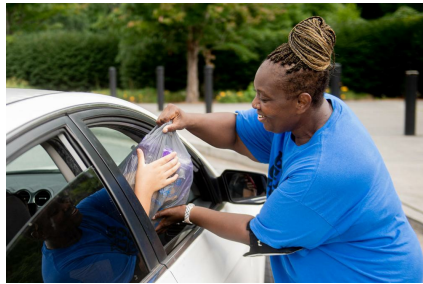
The BioReady® program rates communities in three tiers: Bronze, Silver and Gold. These ratings assess a municipality's readiness to host biotechnology facilities based on zoning practices and infrastructure capacity, helping real estate developers and biotechnology companies

find the most favorable destinations to locate.

### 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.



### Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant applications open until August 30

Gwinnett will accept applications for its [Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant](#) until August 30. The grant program provides financial assistance to nonprofits negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This may occur in the form of operational support or capital support. Applications can be accessed in the [grant application portal](#), and applicants must [register with GovGrants](#) to submit an application.

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners allocated \$5 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding for Nonprofit Capacity Building. In alignment with the County's [Human Services Strategic Plan](#), funding will be awarded to organizations providing services in food security, housing, health and wellness, youth, literacy, and learning, and cross-cutting barriers to access like transportation or culturally and linguistically responsive services.

### Everyone is a winner at the 2024 Dream Pageant

Greater Atlanta Pathways and Gwinnett Parks and Recreation is hosting the 2024 Dream Pageant on **August 24 from 6:00pm to 9:00 pm** at the **Gwinnett Historic Courthouse**, located at **185 Crogan Street in Lawrenceville**. The pageant is for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to showcase their personality and stage presence. Contestants ages 16 and up will compete for the dreamy title of King and Queen.



Interested applicants can apply by emailing [GwinnettHistoricRentals@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:GwinnettHistoricRentals@GwinnettCounty.com). The fee for contestants is \$21 for Gwinnett residents and \$41 for non-Gwinnett residents. Pageant Rehearsal will be held on Friday, August 23 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. On Saturday, August 24, contestants must arrive by 4:00pm for pageant prep.

Guests can [register online](#). Admission is \$11 for Gwinnett residents and \$21 for non-Gwinnett residents. Entry includes a light reception for contestants and guests.

## What's New in District 4



### Apply to be a poll official

Get involved in the electoral process and give back to your community! The Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Elections Office is seeking citizens of all backgrounds, especially bilingual Spanish speakers, to become poll officials for upcoming elections. It's a great opportunity to see how elections work, gain valuable work experience, and earn up to \$440 per election. Interested citizens are encouraged to apply at [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](#).

### Aplica para ser trabajador electoral

¡Participa en el proceso electoral y retribuye a tu comunidad! La Oficina de Inscripción de Votantes y Elecciones de Gwinnett está buscando ciudadanos de todos los orígenes, especialmente hispanohablantes bilingües, para que se conviertan en trabajadores electorales para las próximas elecciones. Es una gran oportunidad para ver cómo funcionan las elecciones, obtener una valiosa experiencia laboral y ganar hasta \$440 por elección. Se anima a los ciudadanos interesados a aplicar en [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](#).

### Come out to 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 performing different challenges including a speed competition! The event will also include food trucks, giveaways, and touch-a-truck experiences featuring SWAT vehicles, fire trucks, and much more!

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



## Discover how to prepare your fall landscape

### WaterWise Landscaping workshop

Attend the workshop on **Thursday, September 12 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm** at **The Water Tower in Buford** to learn how to maintain your landscape without excessive outdoor water use.

### Composting for Water Quality workshop

Discover composting and how to prevent stormwater pollution at this workshop on **Tuesday, September 17 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm** at the **Dacula Park Activity Building**.

To register for either workshop, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](http://Gwinnetth2o.com), call 678.376.6914, or email [DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com) with your name, address, and phone number.

## Special Events and Happenings

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

### Back to School S.T.E.A.M.

**Saturday, August 17 from 10:00am to 1:00pm | Free**

Kick off the school year with a day of fun in science, technology, engineering, art, and math! All Ages [Register online](#). Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford.

### When I Grow Up

**Tuesday, August 20 from 9:30am to 10:15am | Free**

Discover the many important jobs that people do everyday through storytime and play. Explore different professions and the clothing associated with them. Ideal for ages 1 year and 6 months to 2 years and 11 months. [Register online](#). Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford.

### Tiny Trailblazers: Scarecrows

**Tuesday, September 10 from 10:30am to 11:30am**

Fall is in the air! Join us for an autumn-themed activity, craft, and snack. Trailblazers must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Ages 2 to 5. [Register online](#). Fee is \$6.00 for Gwinnett residents and \$8.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. Bogan Park Community Recreation Center, 2723 North Bogan Road NE, Buford.

### Gold Wing Club

**Wednesday, September 11 from 11:00am to 3:00pm | Free**

Join the Gold Wing Senior Club, which meets every second Wednesday of the month! Ages 50 and up [Register online](#). Bogan Park Community Recreation Center, 2723 North Bogan Road NE, Buford.



Matthew Holtkamp, District 4 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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