

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 1 with
Commissioner Carden

February 2024



Greetings!

As we enter February, ushering in Black History Month, I find deep humility in being one of the first two Black men to serve on the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners in our county's history. I proudly acknowledge the trailblazers who paved the way for me, and I invite you to join Gwinnett County in commemorating the countless contributions made by Black Americans to our great county and nation.

Keep reading to learn more about County news and events we have in February.

Happening Around Gwinnett

Board approves Notice of Intent to Call for a Referendum

My fellow commissioners and I took a significant step toward improving mobility by unanimously approving a notice of intent to call for a referendum. As outlined by Georgia law, this action is required before the Board of Commissioners can officially call for a transit referendum to be placed on the November 2024 ballot.

An integral aspect of the plan proposes a shift in the County's current mobility funding model to a one percent dedicated sales tax. A Transit SPLOST aims to distribute financial responsibility more equitably among all residents, businesses, and visitors, alleviating the burden on Gwinnett's property owners. The County will submit the referendum project list, taken from the Atlanta Regional Transit Plan to the Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority for approval during the [ATL Board Meeting](#) on **Thursday, February 1**.



Apply for Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy

Applications for Gwinnett 101's Spring Cohort are open! Get the inside scoop on how Gwinnett County Government provides services to its one million residents by enrolling in the Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy!

This 12-week program gives engaged residents, students, and business owners a behind-the-scenes look at County operations. Participants will meet County and community leaders, tour County facilities, and more! To be considered, please apply at [Gwinnett101.com](https://www.gwinnett101.com) by **Friday, March 1**.

Celebrate Black History Month

Gwinnett County invited you to celebrate Black History Month at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville on Tuesday, February 20, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. This year's theme is "Black Arts and Culture in Gwinnett".

During this year's celebration, we will commemorate the achievements, contributions, and history of Gwinnett's

Black residents, and how the use of music, dance, literature, poetry, and more compose a beautiful and awe-inspiring story about the Black experience in Gwinnett and the United States. Reserve your spot at GwinnettCounty.com/BHMCelebration.



Register to vote in 2024 elections

With election season now underway, it's crucial to register to vote now. Georgia residents wishing to register must be U.S. citizens, legal residents of their voting county, and at least 18 years of age by Election Day. **The deadline to register to vote in the March 12 Presidential Preference Primary is Monday, February 12.** Check your registration status, download a voter registration application, view sample ballots, and locate your polling location at MVP.SOS.GA.gov.

Inscríbete a votar en las elecciones de 2024

Con la temporada electoral en marcha, es crucial inscribirse para votar ahora. Los residentes de Georgia que deseen inscribirse deben ser ciudadanos estadounidenses, residentes legales de su condado electoral y tener al menos 18 años de edad antes del día de las elecciones. **La fecha límite para inscribirse para votar en las Primarias de Preferencia Presidencial del 12 de Marzo es el Lunes 12 de Febrero.** Verifica el estado de tu inscripción electoral, descarga una aplicación de inscripción de votantes, revisa boletas de muestra y ubica tu lugar de votación en MVP.SOS.GA.gov.

Share your voice at the Clean Community Forum

Are you ready to make an impact on your community? Join Gwinnett Code Enforcement, Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful, Gwinnett Solid Waste Management, and Gwinnett Transportation on **Thursday, February 8 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm** at [Lucky Shoals Park](https://LuckyShoalsPark.com) in Norcross.

Residents can share feedback about their neighborhood and learn how to keep Gwinnett a safe, livable, and healthy community! For more information, email Stephanie.Marquardt@GwinnettCounty.com.



What's New in District 1



Experience Gwinnett's Black History Month Exhibit

Gwinnett County invites you to explore the 2024 Black History Month Exhibit in the atrium of the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville. This year's theme is "Black Arts and Culture in Gwinnett".

During this year's Black History Month Exhibit, the County will display the achievements, contributions, and history of Gwinnett's Black residents, and how the use of art, fashion, literature, and more illustrate a beautiful and awe-inspiring

story about the Black experience in Gwinnett and the United States. **The exhibit is open to the public for all of February during normal business hours** of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center atrium.

Apply for the Gwinnett Youth Commission

Applications for Gwinnett Youth Commission's 2024 – 2025 term are now open! The Gwinnett Youth Commission is a year-long leadership development program for **high school-age students** in Gwinnett County.

The Gwinnett Youth Commission focuses on personal and professional development, civic engagement, and public service. Youth commissioners are representative voices of the County's youth and serve as representatives to elected officials. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, April 5**. For more information and to apply, visit GwinnettCounty.com.





Gwinnett hosting poll worker hiring events

Residents who want to be involved in the elections process and earn up to \$440 per election are invited to two poll official hiring events in February. The first event will take place on **Monday, February 5 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm at the Bogan Park Community Recreation Center in Buford.** The second event will take place on **Monday, February 12 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm at the Lilburn Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library in Lilburn.**

During the event, attendees must complete an I-9 form and bring the required original identification documents for verification. Applicants must be at least 16 years old, a U.S. citizen, and be able to read, write, and speak English. They also must be a Gwinnett County resident or be a Gwinnett County Government employee and have access to a computer for required online training. If you are unable to attend either poll hiring event, please [apply online](#).

Gwinnett organiza eventos de contratación para trabajadores electorales

Los residentes que quieran participar en el proceso electoral y ganar hasta \$440 por elección están invitados a dos eventos de contratación de trabajadores electorales en Febrero. El primer evento será el **Lunes, 5 de Febrero de 4:00pm a 7:00pm en el Bogan Park Community Recreation Center en Buford.** El segundo evento será el **Lunes, 12 de Febrero de 4:00pm a 7:00pm en la Sucursal de Lilburn de la Biblioteca Pública del Condado de Gwinnett.**

Durante el evento, los asistentes deberán completar un formulario I-9 y traer los documentos de identificación originales requeridos para su verificación. Los solicitantes deben tener al menos 16 años, ser ciudadanos estadounidenses, y poder leer, escribir, y hablar inglés. También deben ser residentes del Condado de Gwinnett o empleados del Gobierno del Condado de Gwinnett y tener acceso a una computadora para la capacitación en línea requerida. Si no puedes asistir a los eventos de contratación, puedes [aplicar en línea](#).

Special Events and Happenings

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

Black Heritage Festival

Saturday, February 10 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Free! Come one, come all! Visit with merchants while you enjoy music and food in this celebration of African American history and culture. Vendor spots are still available. Call 678.277.0906 for more information on vendors. Event is open to all ages. Shorty Howell Park Activity Building, 2750 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth.

Mardi Gras Bingo Luncheon

Tuesday, February 13 from 11:00am to 1:00pm

Join the Krewe for a traditional New Orleans-style lunch and bingo. Attendees must be 50 years or older. [Register here by February 9.](#) Resident Fee: \$10. Non-resident Fee: \$15. Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center, 4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Berkeley Lake.

Feathers & Fun at the Farm

Friday, February 16 from 10:00am to noon

Free! Calling all young bird enthusiasts who are interested in learning more about our local feathered friends. Join us as we celebrate the Great Backyard Bird Count with a hayride through the park, crafts, games, and stories all centered around birds and their migration. This program is developed for children ages 3-10. [Register here.](#) McDaniel Farm Park, 3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth.

Kirkland D. Carden, District 1 Commissioner
Gwinnett County

Kirkland.Carden@GwinnettCounty.com