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Brookhaven, GA 30319

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Brookhaven  
GEORGIA



# CITY NEWS

## Brookhaven is Official in the Eyes of U.S. Mail



In October, Brookhaven took another major step in cityhood when the U.S. Postal Service officially recognized the city as a deliverable mailing address for the zip codes 30319 and 30329.

Since our 2012 incorporation, the Service has continued to list our addresses as Atlanta. That is now changing, thanks to the efforts of our elected officials and assistance from U.S. Representative Tom Price.

“It may be a little step, but it’s an important victory in our efforts for cityhood and something many of our constituents have asked about,” Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Chase Williams said. “This shows we are official now.”

Residences and businesses are encouraged to use Brookhaven in their address, but it is not required in order to receive or send mail. So long as your street address and zip code are correct – whether you say Brookhaven or Atlanta – your mail will be delivered.

## Keeping Brookhaven Green

After six months of research and input from residents, City Council recently passed a new tree ordinance with specific guidelines for both homeowners and commercial developers.

“This provides for a healthy urban forest because it requires plant-backs to ensure that we have a mixture of new and existing trees,” said Kay Evanovich, the city arborist.

The ordinance allows property owners to remove up to five trees per year as long as they maintain a density of 50 inches of trees per acre and file a free tree canopy reduction notice with the city. Anyone removing more than five trees files for a permit and gets a certified arborist to inspect the property both before and after the removal.



“For any project for development, an independent certified arborist must go out identify the trees, check their condition and sign off on their plan on how they’re going to save the trees,” Evanovich said. “This helps encourage a property owner from wiping all trees off a lot.”

There is no requirement for a permit of any type for the removal of a dead, dying, or dangerous tree.

The ordinance also contains specific measures for installing green infrastructure to prevent runoff and trap water. In addition, the ordinance includes new enforcement powers to allow the city arborist to issue court summons and stop work orders for developers who fail to follow the ordinance. The new ordinance is based on DeKalb County’s, but also with input from the ordinances in Fulton County and Sandy Springs, as well as residents’ suggestions, Evanovich said.



# From the Desk of the Mayor



As part of my desire to get direct input from you, the Brookhaven resident, I have recently begun initiating neighborhood walks with citizens. These walks have been wonderful in helping me hear specific concerns, field questions, and engage citizens on their terms on their neighborhood streets. The walks are generally two miles and help me get healthier

as we walk briskly and talk candidly about our city. I have walked with groups as small as three and as large as 15 citizens. This citizen feedback has been invaluable.

I have walked Murphey Candler, Ashford Park, Brookhaven Heights, Brookhaven Fields, and other neighborhoods over the past 3 weeks. If you would like to set up a walk in your neighborhood please email me at [jmax.davis@brookhavenga.gov](mailto:jmax.davis@brookhavenga.gov). As always, I still regularly have meetings with citizens on Mondays with the Mayor from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Please email [faz.gonzalez@brookhavenga.gov](mailto:faz.gonzalez@brookhavenga.gov) to set up your time to meet with me at City Hall.

As we near our 2nd birthday in December, I find what we've accomplished in less than two years to be quite remarkable. Police, paving and parks have been and will continue to be our priorities. We have 60 sworn officers, we've paved over 6 miles of roads and have spent over \$2 million on park improvements, and over \$1 million on parks maintenance. (Please see adjoining articles for details on these priorities.) I can assure you that strategic planning is, and will continue to be, the key to our success.

In the last few months, we've adopted a Master Transportation Plan, a Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan and a Buford Highway Improvement Plan and Economic Development Strategy. (See accompanying stories for more details).

Each plan is the result of many months of work by our staff and consultants, with substantial input from the community, for which we are very appreciative. Please join me in thanking the following community volunteers and staff members who have worked tirelessly over many months to develop these plans:

**Comprehensive Master Plan Steering Committee:** Stan Segal (chair), Adrian Schmidt, Jack Honderd, Collette McDonald, JD Clockadale, Thomas Bartolozzi, Alan Powell, Shannon Cameron, Charles Gerrick, Todd Terwilliger and Susan Canon (staff liaison).

**Master Transportation Plan Steering Committee:** Joe Palladi, PE (chair), Jennifer Harper, PE, Denise Starling, Clayton Conarro, Grady Thrasher, Wendy Butler, Esq., Kendall Craig Terwilliger, Eric Hovdesven and Marie Garrett, Susan Canon and Richard Meehan from city staff.

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee:** Karen Whitehead (chair), Jim DeLany, Mari Geier, Jonathan Byrd, Chad Boles, Heather Chasman, Beth Diersen, Vic Parker, Ruthie Taylor Norton, Betsy Coyne, Betsy Eggers, Brad Hamner, Mary Ann Kelly and Jerry Kinsey (staff liaison).

**Buford Highway Improvement Plan:** Luke Anderson (chair), Bridget O'Donnell, Todd McKinney, Glianny Fagundo, Bruce Whitmer, Susan Coker, Pat Hoban, Garry Sobel, Chris Stenglien and Marie Garrett (staff liaison).

When you have a few minutes, please look at the results of their work. Each plan is posted on the city website at [brookhavenga.gov](http://brookhavenga.gov).

Over the past few months I've spent a lot of time in our City parks. We had a beautiful Indian summer and what better place to enjoy it? We're very fortunate here in Brookhaven to have so many parks. Many other new cities are not as fortunate to have this much green space. Of course, these parks are not all yet operating at the standard we will offer our community. However, we're working diligently to make renovations and upgrades at a faster pace.

On September 30, I had the pleasure of joining many of you at an Open House to see the newly renovated Lynwood Park and Recreation Center. Lynwood Park was in pretty bad shape when we obtained ownership from the county. Since then, our Parks and Recreation Department has made both infrastructure and cosmetic improvements for all of us to enjoy. If you haven't seen the renovated gym please stop by and see this restored 60-year-old treasure.

Lastly, our Comprehensive Plan 2034 - which documents the long-term vision for our future - is scheduled to be adopted at the November 18 City Council meeting. Please join us at City Hall for a final discussion. Like all of our plans, it is based on extensive community input. I will write more about the Comp Plan in our next newsletter, following the adoption, and I encourage you to view it on the city website.

Sincerely,  
*Mayor J. Max Davis*

# Be Sure to Vote, Nov. 4

Brookhaven residents are encouraged to vote in the general election on November 4.

Voters in District 2 may choose between four candidates to fill that vacant Brookhaven City Council seat, left vacant since Jim Eyre resigned in April.

The candidates include:

- Charles P. Barry III (*withdrawn but still on ballot*)
- Bill Brown (*withdrawn but still on ballot*)
- C. Tim Nama
- H.J. "John" Park

Brookhaven voters are also able to vote on a referendum to give redevelopment powers to the city of Brookhaven. If approved, the city would be authorized to designate TAD's or tax allocation districts, which incentivize redevelopment through the issuance of municipal bonds. These bonds are bought, sold, and funded through the municipal bond market. A benefit of living in Brookhaven is that issues such as these

# City Benefits Continue to Grow

In just two years, the number of benefits from incorporation has greatly enhanced the quality of life in our community. These benefits result, in part, from a decision made in the beginning by elected officials to be more responsive in all areas of service.

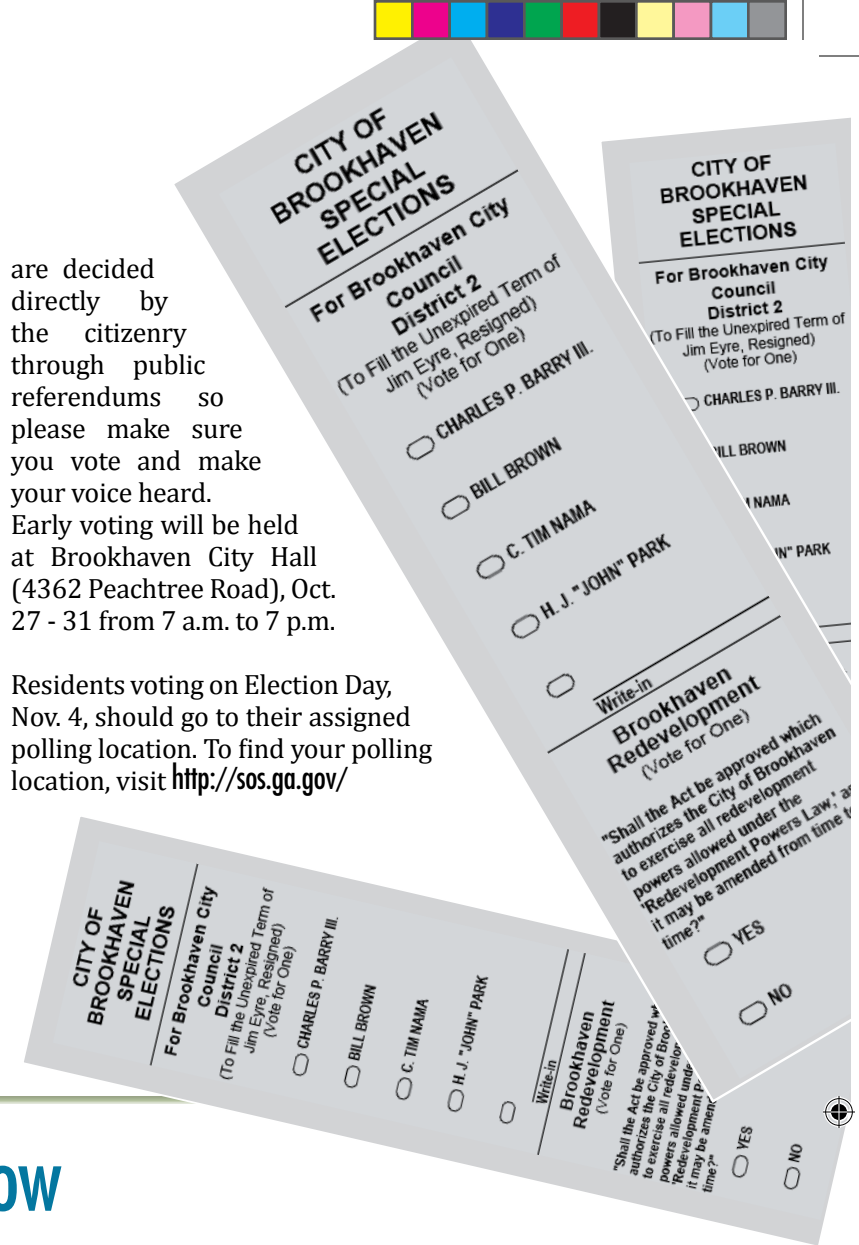
Through quick and effective response to concerns, suggestions, and even complaints, the City strives to provide better customer service for Brookhaven's residents and businesses.

Here are just some examples:

- The millage rate has been reduced over the last two years. Even with a city tax, it's now less expensive to live in Brookhaven than in unincorporated DeKalb County. The county has special tax districts, while Brookhaven just has a flat tax rate.
- Police coverage has tripled with the establishment of the Brookhaven Police Dept.
- Addition of sidewalks and paving of streets throughout city surpasses anything done in the last 10 years.

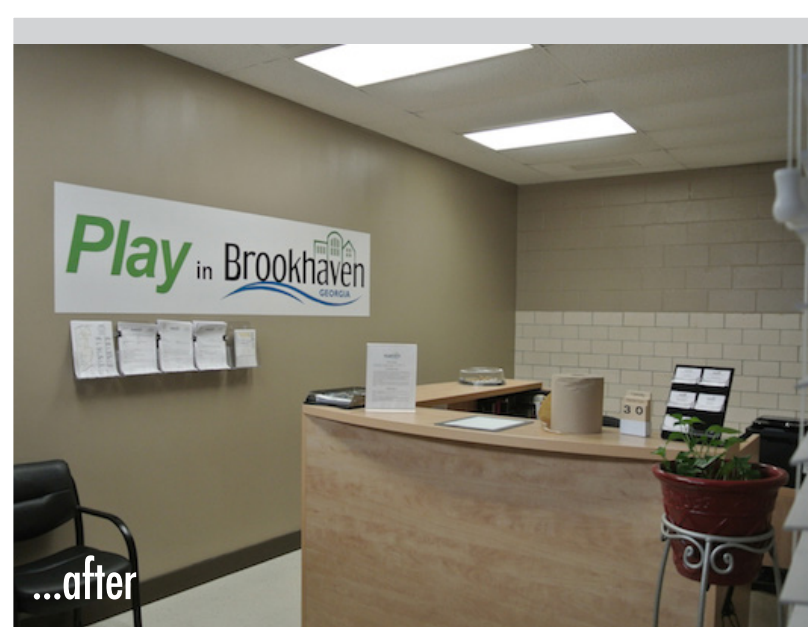
are decided directly by the citizenry through public referendums so please make sure you vote and make your voice heard. Early voting will be held at Brookhaven City Hall (4362 Peachtree Road), Oct. 27 - 31 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Residents voting on Election Day, Nov. 4, should go to their assigned polling location. To find your polling location, visit <http://sos.ga.gov/>



- Vastly improved 9-1-1 communications through joint effort with Sandy Springs, Johns Creek and Dunwoody.
- We have individual code enforcement officers assigned to each city district.
- There's now a 10-day turn around on all building and land development permits. After 10 days you either have a permit or comments on what you need to revise your application.
- City officials are available to discuss issues or concerns on a regular basis. On "Mondays with the Mayor" any citizen can make an appointment to talk about any subject.
- Members of the public participated on four different steering committees over the last year to draft strategic plans for the city's future. This public engagement was actively sought, though not required by law.





## Parks Abuzz with New Improvements

The sound of children's laughter and pounding little sneakers on the new gymnasium floor now replace the dust and silence that used to fill the Lynwood Park Recreation Center. In addition to the shiny floor, new goals, upgraded bathrooms, roof repairs and a fresh coat of paint have been added. The center's old game room has been turned into offices, which now house the city's parks and recreation department. The city is also soliciting bids for a contractor to repave the parking lot.

Since the city took over the parks from the county, priorities were identified and improvements begun. "Lynwood Park was one of our priorities because of its condition," City Manager Marie Garrett said. "To see the gym and all the improvements, now, is simply amazing."

Several hundred residents toured the upgrades on Sept. 30. Parks and recreation staff demonstrated art courses, gym-

nastics classes and fitness programs, which are all available at Lynwood. "We were excited to have such a large turnout, especially the number of families," said Gary Schussler, assistant director of parks and recreation.

The city is also repairing the roof, replacing floors and completing other renovations at the community center at Briarwood Park. "We've added restrooms for the pavilion and the playground area," said Parks & Recreation Director Jerry Kinsey. "All of these renovations allow us to provide more programs and activities for our residents and visitors."

A new playground will be installed at Ashford Park in the next few months and city staff has already met with the park's neighbors to get input into playground design and placement.

Parks and Recreation staff also upgraded bathrooms and athletic fields at Murphey Candler Park, and working on renovating the pavilion at Blackburn Park. In addition, they've made other improvements at Brookhaven Park and Georgian Hills, adding new trash, recycling and pet waste receptacles, and signs and benches.

Other improvements and initiatives at all city parks include: fence repairs, mosquito abatement, removed acres of invasive plants, and hundreds of bails of pine straw laid. Top dressing and aeration and irrigation replacement and repairs have been done at Skyland, Lynwood and Blackburn parks, while playground restrooms, major pool/deck repair and gym refurbishments were done at Briarwood Park.

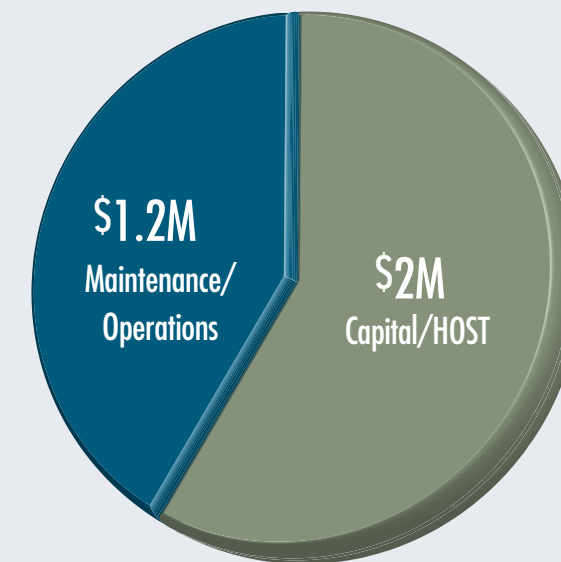
A complete lock and key replacement and conversion from DeKalb parks to Brookhaven was done at all facilities. All pool houses were painted and service contracts funded for janitorial, pest control, life safety monitoring, pool management, athletic field maintenance and parks maintenance. Safety equipment, deck furniture and swim team equipment

was purchased for the three city pools and major infrastructure repaired to all pools.

A basin study for Murphey Candler Lake was begun, as well as standardization of all hand towel and toilet paper dispensers for park bathrooms. These are just some examples of the work done in order to start the process of getting the most basic maintenance and repairs of our parks completed. There will be more bathrooms, new signs, new playgrounds and individual park master plans coming next year, so stay tuned.



### Brookhaven Invests in City Parks



Capital/HOST funds (2013 and 2014)  
Maintenance/Operations funds (Labor Day 2013 to Labor Day 2014)





# Planning Key to Our Success and Future

Thomas Edison said, "Vision without execution is hallucination." After less than two years, Brookhaven is ready to implement several plans to execute the City's vision. Foremost is the City's Comprehensive Plan 2034, scheduled for adoption on November 18. The plan will serve as a long-term guide on land use, community facilities and resources, economic development, population, and housing and transportation.

## Comprehensive Plan 2034

The long-term vision for Brookhaven is to be a model community that preserves what makes it great—including its people, neighborhoods, parks, tree canopy, and accessibility—while acknowledging its role as a premiere community within the Atlanta region.

This vision is documented in Brookhaven's Comprehensive Plan 2034, a strategic planning and implementation guide for the next 20 years.

It's the result of a multi-month planning process, with community desires serving as the basis for implementation. It looks at a 20-year horizon, starting with the first five years: 2015 to 2019.

## Brookhaven Highway Improvement Plan and Economic Development Strategy

Transforming the Buford Highway Corridor - one of Brookhaven's key gateways - into an attractive, safe and trafficable environment is both a goal and a challenge, but improving it will ultimately increase Brookhaven's appeal and success. State Route 23 has been a heavily traveled thoroughfare between Atlanta and Buford for many years. It has a wide mix of commercial, office, retail, and residential use, particularly the Buford Highway Corridor - the roughly three miles that serve as our western and southern borders.

Designed with extensive public input, the strategy to transform the Corridor is outlined in the recently adopted Buford Highway Improvement Plan and Economic Development Strategy. (Posted on the City website at Brookhavenga.gov.) The study area begins at the intersection of Clairmont Road and Buford Highway and continues approximately three miles southwest. It includes sections within 1,000 feet of the right-of-way. Sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic and pedestrian circulation patterns, streetscapes, lighting and other improvements are being considered. Please take time to study the plan and let us hear from you with any questions.

## Comprehensive Transportation Plan

With the adoption of the first citywide Comprehensive Transportation Plan in October, Brookhaven established a transportation vision that will guide us for the next 20 years.

The plan identifies nearly 40 projects to be implemented, grouped into several types: vision/concept; intersection; active transportation (bicycle facilities, sidewalks, and trails); public transit improvements; transportation system operations; and special programs and projects.

Underlying all projects is a focus on: safety, economic prosperity, public health, sustainability, mobility and access, and state of good repair.

- plan/develop/manage a multimodal transportation system SAFE for all users
- provide needed mobility and access for workers, customers, goods, and services essential to protecting our ECONOMIC competitiveness within region
- plan/develop an active transport system that contributes positively to health of all residents with opportunities to walk, bicycle, and access public transportation
- create a balanced multimodal transport system that SUSTAINS integrity of natural environment, keeps system in a state of good repair, and elevates quality of life for current and future residents
- efficiently and affordably CONNECT all residents with neighborhoods, workplaces, commercial areas, medical/wellness centers, civic places, educational venues, and green spaces to maintain a highly desirable quality of life.
- provide regular MAINTENANCE of streets, highways, sidewalks, bike lanes and paths, and other transportation-related facilities to protect investment in our infrastructure

## Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan

After extensive public input, the City adopted a Parks and Recreation Master Plan in September. More details can be viewed at BrookhavenGa.gov, but highlights include:

### Parks

- Acquire land in underserved areas and develop neighborhood parks; find a large parcel near Buford Highway Corridor to develop new park
- Obtain 8.0 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents over next 10 years
- Develop network of small neighborhood parks connected by community greenway system
- Redevelop Blackburn Park
- Renovate throughout park system to improve safety, ADA compliance and create unified park architecture/signage/site furnishings



## Recreation Facilities

- Develop sports fields at proposed new community park near Buford Highway
- Develop multi-use synthetic sports fields at multiple parks
- Develop dog park in one or two existing parks
- Perform study to determine if we should replace existing community centers/pools with one or more modern new facility
- Expand community gardening programs
- Improve parking at Murphey Candler Park to reduce impact on neighborhoods
- Create more walking trails and develop picnic/rental facilities in existing parks
- Remove unsightly/unnecessary fences throughout parks

## Greenways

- Create east-west corridor for regional trail system
- Create north-south corridors connecting parks to proposed regional greenway
- Improve sidewalk/bicycle lanes for access to greenways/parks/public transportation
- Create walking/running clubs when greenways are developed
- Sponsor minimum of one 5K and 10K run/walk on community greenways/trails
- Improve overall safety
- Have minimum 14' paved surface to better accommodate different user groups
- Provide good directional signage/rules at all trailhead access points



## Community Goals

The following are the nine overarching community goals identified for Brookhaven's future. These goals represent the recurring, predominant themes heard by the planning team from Brookhaven stakeholders throughout the planning process. The City should work to achieve these long-term goals as it implements Comprehensive Plan 2034.

### Land Use + Transportation Coordination

Achieve greater walkability, bikeability, and overall mobility for day-to-day activities through transportation and land use coordination.

### Diversity

Preserve the economic and cultural diversity of the Brookhaven community.

### Unique Brookhaven

Establish an identity and brand for the City of Brookhaven.

### A City of Parks

Enhance the City's parks and recreation system.

### Buford Highway Gateway

Promote Buford Highway to enhance this strategic location in the city.

### Transit Oriented Design

Pursue Transit Oriented Development (TOD) as a key strategy to shaping the city's future.

### Neighborhoods

Preserve the City's unique neighborhoods and communities.

### Sustainability

Develop reputation as a forward thinking and sustainable city.

### Economic Prosperity

Ensure a balanced economic environment.





## Georgia Power tree cutting and clearing at Ashford Dunwoody/Johnson Ferry

In October, workers with Georgia Power removed trees, shrubbery and landscaping along the intersection of Ashford Dunwoody and Johnson Ferry roads. Please be assured that this was entirely a Georgia Power project and did not involve the city. Once we learned about it, we got in touch with Georgia Power and the Mayor met on site with neighbors adjacent to the intersection.

Mayor Davis set up a meeting with Georgia Power and the adjacent neighbors. A meeting was held at city hall and on-site to discuss replanting and landscaping. Georgia Power is working closely with the city arborist and will fund this project.

## Street Repaving Update

The City recently completed repaving several roads as part of its 2014-budgeted paving plan. The roads include Ashford Road, Caldwell Road, Fuller Road, Hermance Drive, Lenox Park Blvd, Pamela Drive, Redding Road, W. Nancy Creek Drive, Ashford Dunwoody Road, Curtis Road and Woodrow Way. These roads were selected on the severity of their conditions and the amount of traffic they receive – information gathered during an earlier in-depth roads study by technicians in laser trucks. In each case, the work included milling, full repaving and new striping.

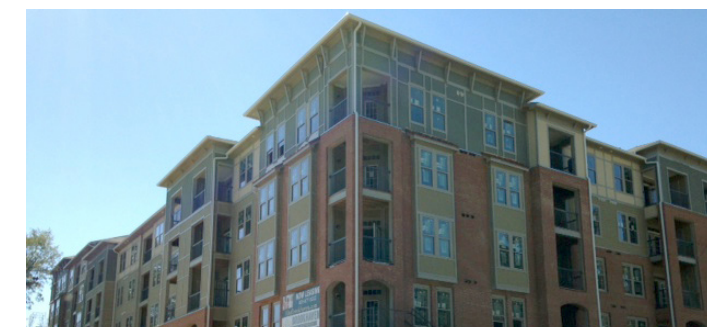
Additionally, the following roads received substantial patching, as opposed to full repaving: Capital Club Circle, Georgian Terrace, Haven Glen, Ivy Brook Lane, Oaklawn Avenue,

Shadecrest Drive, Somervale Court, Star Drive, Hill Stone Court, Hampton Hall, Redding Road, and Sylvan Circle. In each case, these roads had less traffic, but large failing areas of pavement.

With an emphasis on doing the work cost effectively and quickly, the city worked with the selected contractors to ensure the work was completed before the scheduled completion date and under the allotted budget. The total amount of road repaving came out to be 29,000 linear feet or 5.5 miles. This was just phase one of the 2014 paving plan. The city is currently reviewing additional roads to be paved in 2014 using the remaining budgeted funds



## Apartments on Dresden approved by DeKalb County, not Brookhaven



Many residents have expressed concern that the apartments recently completed and nearing completion on Dresden Drive were approved by the city of Brookhaven. "I hear that concern from many residents," said Mayor Davis. "The sheer number of units and lack of any retail element don't really fit with what I think residents in the Dresden area or city leadership envision for Dresden Drive."



# Council Views...



## District 1 City Council Rebecca Williams

The workers at the intersection of Ashford Dunwoody and Johnson Ferry are Atlanta Gas Light contractors moving an underground gas vault across the road to Blackburn Park. The median will then

be removed, the intersection repaved and restriped, and new signals added to allow for two south through lanes on both roads. No right-of-way is being taken and Georgia Dept. of Transportation is paying for the project. Simultaneously, the city will improve crosswalks, and add flashing lights on both roads. This long-awaited fix can reduce wait times by more than half.

We're busy preparing for our first Cherry Blossom Festival next spring. We've put out bids for a festival director, cherry trees and landscape architect. The project is funded by our hotel-motel taxes and we're told the trees can be paid for by the county's tree fund. Plans for the 4-5 day festival with international flair include music, art, children's activities, food, and, of course, cherry trees in a variety of sizes and species. The tree contract includes a one-year warranty for watering and making sure the trees get off to a strong start. The chamber is getting involved to engage and promote our local businesses. Watch for pink drinks, "blossom bucks" and "pinktastic" specials.

We have several big zoning cases in District 1. John Hancock Insurance Co proposes a large mixed-use project at Ashford Dunwoody and I-285 where it already has a five-story office building. They want to add an 11-story office building, retail and 500 multi-family units. The developer has asked for a deferral. I'm personally weighing the traffic impact and implications for nearby Montgomery Elementary School. The property is currently zoned for two 17-story office buildings. Rockhaven Homes wants to rezone four acres at Ashford Dunwoody Road and Oak Forest to build 46 townhomes. The application has been deferred but should be heard by the end of the year.

I hope you are enjoying our six miles of newly paved roads including portions of Ashford Dunwoody and West Nancy Creek. The city is hoping to do more paving before the end of the year that includes West Nancy Creek through Murphey

Candler Park across the lake, as well as Windsor Parkway from the city limit to Hermance. Phase two of a new sidewalk on Windsor Parkway is being finished.

Happy Birthday Murphey Candler Park! Brookhaven's largest park celebrated its 60th birthday in October. The Murphey Candler Park Conservancy hosts the first "Duck, Duck Goose 5K Run" November 15 at 9 a.m. It's a fun morning for the entire family to enjoy the park's natural beauty as the run meanders through the wooded trails and paths bordering the lake.

Email: [rebecca.williams@brookhavenga.gov](mailto:rebecca.williams@brookhavenga.gov)

## Council Member District 3 Bates Mattison



You may have heard about our partnership with MARTA to improve the Brookhaven/Oglethorpe Station and its immediate surrounding area. Our goal is to make the station more convenient, safe and attractive to all riders, but especially for the residents and businesses of Brookhaven. I believe this is a solid approach to smart growth.

In September, MARTA issued a Request for Qualification (RFQ) for a vendor to convert the station's surface parking lots into a mixed-use, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). Many cities have used the TOD approach to redevelopment since the 1980s, with positive results. MARTA is currently undertaking five TODS around Atlanta, including Brookhaven/Oglethorpe.

We agree with MARTA that the TOD approach is forward thinking and smart and that's why we've engaged in the partnership. The decision was based in part on feedback from MARTA's riders, including Brookhaven residents and businesses.

So what exactly is a TOD? The industry explanation is "a mixed-use residential and commercial area no less than a half mile radius of a transit station, surrounded by relatively high-density development with progressively lower-density development spreading outward from the center." The TOD focuses on roughly 10 acres of existing parking lots at the station.

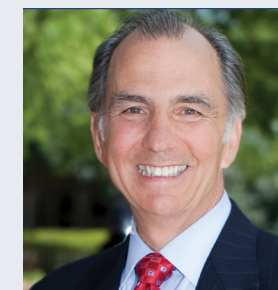
The MARTA TOD is part of our larger Livable Communities Initiative (LCI), which maximizes public transportation access, and encourages mass transit ridership and pedestrian and bicyclist use. The recently approved Walgreen's site will be an important part of Brookhaven's LCI and we may soon see plans for the old Hastings/Chase property.

Though some of you may wonder how these projects would impact traffic, keep in mind that because of their proximity to the station, they will allow access from other forms of transportation, and not be dependent on cars. Much of the traffic on our portion of Peachtree Road is "through traffic" and not solely generated by current or future build environment. Alternative transportation modes, as outlined in our recently adopted Comprehensive Transportation Plan, will be key to the success of moving traffic through and within our city.

We believe by using smart these kind of smart growth strategies Brookhaven can try and avoid the current sprawl development patterns, which affect so much of Atlanta.

The City is providing technical assistance and advice throughout the TOD process. A private developer that MARTA selects through a competitive solicitation process will implement the development, which will serve as a gateway into our city. We are excited about the partnership. You can read more it at <http://www.itsmarta.com/BrookhavenRFQ>.

Email: [bates.mattison@brookhavenga.gov](mailto:bates.mattison@brookhavenga.gov)



## Council Member District 4 Joe Gebbia

I'd like to update you on our ongoing efforts to bring park space to District 4. As some of you may know, we currently do not have a city park or recreation facility in this district. This still surprises many residents - especially since our young city now has 14 owned and operated parks.

The need to rectify this is something I, and the rest of City Council, are painfully aware of and actively moving forward on. Spearheading this challenge, I am focusing on developing unique strategies to rectify this situation. One such strategy is working with the DeKalb County School Board to develop a joint land-use agreement with Cross Keys High School. This would give the city the right to use the school grounds as a park on the weekends, during school breaks and during the long summer vacation period.

Pending approval by the School Board, there will be several "Win - Win" scenarios at play:

- The City would not have to spend tax dollars to purchase park land;

- The City could make park improvements to benefit our residents as well as providing a better sports and recreational environment for the CKHS students;
- And the City could enter into negotiations with the YMCA and the Boys & Girls Club to coordinate year-round park programs for the residents at no cost to the City.

With approval of the CKHS joint land-use agreement, I intend to continue conversations with the DeKalb County School Board to seek a similar arrangement at Woodward and Montclair elementary schools. I will keep you updated on the status of our discussions.

Simultaneously, we are looking for land to purchase for parks throughout the district. Most notably is our effort to work closely with the community and private sector to create a unique linear park along the north fork of the Peachtree Creek. This park could encompass many features including walking trails, observation decks, pavilions, benches and paved bike paths. It would be approximately 3 miles in length and run the entire width of our southern border, eventually connecting to the Atlanta Belt Line. This would offer great regional connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists, and would be a key contributor in enhancing economic redevelopment along Buford Highway and surrounding areas.

Please take time to review our recently adopted Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan on the city website at [BrookhavenGa.gov](http://BrookhavenGa.gov) to learn more about all this effort and all city parks and recreation goals.

I welcome your ideas and questions about creating public green space in the 4th District.

Email: [joe.gebbia@brookhavenga.gov](mailto:joe.gebbia@brookhavenga.gov)



The City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Meetings are open to the public. To learn more: [www.brookhavenga.gov](http://www.brookhavenga.gov)



# City Vision and Mission

The following are vision and Mission statements crafted and adopted by the Mayor and Council during the council retreat at Chamblee Dunwoody Holiday Inn in August:

## Vision

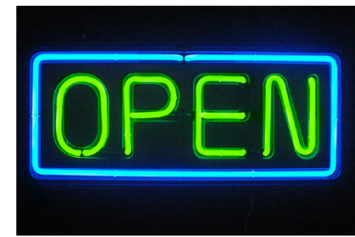
Brookhaven will be nationally recognized as a beautiful community where multiple generations can live in safety, flourish in business, and succeed in a historic, sustainable environment with exceptional education and transportation options.

## Mission

In support of the Brookhaven vision the City government shall: encourage and maintain a beautiful community, meet public safety needs, develop an environment for business success, promote sustainable projects and activities, identify and preserve historic and neighborhood resources, facilitate educational opportunities, and improve transportation conditions, connectivity, and options while listening to and communicating with the public.



# Sign Ordinance to Help with Streetscape



Gigantic billowing banners, flashing billboards and neon-glaring signs will no longer clutter Brookhaven streets.

As part an ongoing beautification project, the Brookhaven City Council adopted a revised sign ordinance to detail the types, sizes and styles of advertisements and other signs posted throughout the city.

The new ordinance includes limitations on brightness and movement of LED signs. It also limits large billboards, re-

stricting signs to no more than 20 feet by 15 feet.

“We want our businesses to reflect the character and nature of our city – a family-friendly, inviting community,” Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Chase Williams said. “The new sign ordinance is part of our efforts to improve the look and feel of our streetscape.”

The council previously implemented a temporary moratorium on all new signs while it studied the ideal size and scope best for commercial signage. Last month, the council lifted the moratorium. To view the sign ordinance, visit [www.brookhavenga.gov](http://www.brookhavenga.gov).

# Business License Renewal Forms Coming Jan. 1, 2015

In the first week of January, business license (Occupational Tax Certificates) renewal forms will be mailed to all Brookhaven businesses currently licensed with the City.

The renewal forms should be completed and returned to the City by April 30, 2015. Renewals by mail need to be post-marked no later than April 30.

Businesses who may not receive a renewal notice, should please contact the Finance Department at (404) 637-0500. If you are currently licensed by DeKalb your business will need to be licensed by Brookhaven. You do not need a DeKalb license in addition to your Brookhaven license. However, failure to receive a renewal notice does not relieve the business owner of responsibility to renew the business registration.

# City Receives Annexation Applications

Brookhaven received formal annexation applications in early October from parties representing Children’s Health-care of Georgia and Executive Park.

Carl Westmoreland, spokesman for Executive Park, said about their desire to be in Brookhaven, “Brookhaven’s proven track record of delivering public services and its business-friendly practices prompted us to initiate the annexation effort.”

The properties referenced in the applications are located in unincorporated DeKalb County land on the east side of Interstate 85, fronted by North Druid Hills Road. In both cases, the parties, who officially requested to become part of Brookhaven, initiated the annexation requests. As part of the review process, the city is assessing the applications to ensure compliance with state annexation laws. View more at: <http://www.brookhavenga.gov/newsroom/hot-topics/annexation-maps>

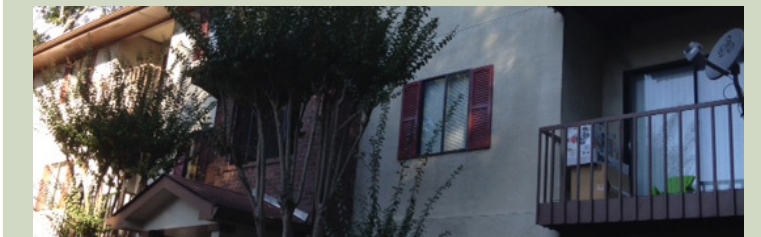


# Multi-family Housing Inspection Program

There are around 67 apartment communities in Brookhaven and it is important that each meet the life safety regulations established in the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC). Like all U.S. municipalities, we have to follow the IPMC in assuring that all commercial buildings, including multi-family housing, in Brookhaven is in compliance with having properly maintained housing structures.

The City is nearing completion of its inspections of the exteriors and grounds of our apartment communities and will soon start interior inspections to assure that the properties are being maintained at IPMC standards and in compliant.

If you have any questions, please call City Code Compliance at 404-637-0570 (daytime) or 404-637-0555 (after hours).



# Court Rules Brookhaven’s Ordinance Constitutional

Earlier in the month, the Georgia Supreme Court unanimously upheld an earlier lower court ruling that Brookhaven’s sexually oriented business ordinance applies to the Pink Pony and is indeed constitutional. This means the litigation regarding the sexually oriented business ordinance initiated by the Pink Pony against Brookhaven is effectively over.

“The Georgia Supreme Court held in a 7-0 decision that the Pink Pony’s lawsuit against Brookhaven was meritless.” Mayor J. Max Davis said. “We are happy that the effort we made to ensure that our ordinance was well written and, most importantly, constitutional was successful.”



# Around Town

Brookhaven is a busy place. Here are just a few photos to show you what we mean.

