

# CITY NEWS

## Groundbreaking



City officials and staff recently broke ground for the future Emory Sports Medicine Complex in Executive Park in Brookhaven. The first-of-its kind facility will also serve as the site of the Atlanta Hawks basketball club's official practice site and operations center, and will bring some 200 permanent jobs to Brookhaven.

Pictured (from left) are Brookhaven City Attorney Chris Balch, Parks & Rec Director Brian Bordon, District 3

Councilmember Bates Mattison, Community Development Director Ben Song, Development Authority member Sarah Kennedy, District 4 Councilmember Joe Gebbia, Mayor John Ernst, District 2 Councilmember John Park, Police Chief Gary Yandura, District 1 Councilmember Linley Jones, Zoning Board Chair Jed Beardsley, City Manager Christian Sigman and Deputy Community Development Director Patrice Ruffin.

### Children help plan Brookhaven's parks



Park planning in Brookhaven recently had some input from perhaps the most important source - this city's children. Some 120 youth showed up when the Parks & Recreation Department, along with consultants Greenberg Farrow, held four interactive workshops for the park playgrounds, allowing children to illustrate their ideas for future playground designs.

"The cool thing was that we'd already had adult input for the parks' master plans, but this was an opportunity for the kids to be a part of the process and give them a sense of ownership in their parks," Parks and Recreation Director Brian Borden said.

Overall park planning is progressing, with the city completing field surveys for six of its parks, and work to begin soon to complete Clack's Corner.

## From the Desk of the Mayor

#### A chance to shape our city's future

Currently, one of the most prevalent conversations in Brookhaven is the pace and direction of development in our city. The time has come for us to act on our best intentions to strengthen our policies for smart and thoughtful growth. I am asking for as many residents as possible to participate in Brookhaven's Character Area Study to maintain, preserve and enhance your neighborhood's character and identity. We are all stakeholders in our city's future.

This important component of Brookhaven's 2034 Comprehensive Plan will further define the vision, goals, appropriate land uses and implementation strategies for Brookhaven's neighborhood and districts. What does that mean exactly?

The Comprehensive Plan is the forward-looking document designed to guide the development goals of the city, and dictates public policy related to land use, housing and economic development. Strengthening this plan through this study will:

- Aid the rewrite of the City's Zoning Code (which is the current conditions of land use), that was carried over from DeKalb County at city inception and is archaic.
- Provide guidance to residents and real estate developers on type and location of development/redevelopment,
- Help determine where growth could occur in your area; and ultimately,
- Save YOU time and trouble fighting new developments.

Your participation will include at least



John Ernst, Mayor john.ernst@brookhavenga.gov

two separate meetings, at which you and your neighbors will work together to recommend strategies to Brookhaven's Planning Commission and City Council as they relate to the character of existing single-family residential neighborhoods, and where and what growth should occur.

The more residents that participate in this study, the stronger our policies

can be.

YOUR ideas and input are critical to achieving our vision of Brookhaven as a haven of greenspaces nestled inside our urban landscape, a city of thought leaders and a community with character. Taking the time and effort now to shape our city's future will benefit each and every citizen for many years to come.

Please participate and encourage your neighbors to join us. Visit the project website at www.BrookhavenCharacterAreaStudy.com or contact the Community Development Department at 404-637-0500 or characterareas@brookhavenga.gov to get involved.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me at john.ernst@brookhavenga.gov or at 404-637-0710 with any questions or concerns. **Sincerely,** 

John

John Ernst

#### **Monthly Town Halls**

**Thursday, July 28**Latin American Association 2750 Buford Highway

Thursday, Aug. 25
The Marist School
3790 Ashford Dunwoody
Road

**Thursday, Sept. 29**Montclair Elementary School
1680 Clairmont Place

**Thursday, Oct. 27**Oglethorpe University
4484 Peachtree Road

Thursday, Nov. 17 Ashford Park Community Center 2980 Redding Road

Thursday, Dec. 29 Lynwood Park Community Center 3360 Osborne Road

All town halls take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m.





Brookhaven's mayor and city council in May appointed Christian M. Sigman as city manager following a competitive nationwide search. The city manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the city. Sigman has held leadership roles in local government administration for more than 20 years, most recently serving as county administrator for Hamilton County, Ohio. "In addition to Mr. Sigman's distinguished career, his compassionate leadership style, his budgetary prowess and his visionary approach to 'right-sizing' development for the community make him the ideal candidate to lead Brookhaven as the city's second chief operating officer," said Brookhaven Mayor John Ernst.

## City Council

City meetings are streamed online and archived at www.brookhavenga.gov. Go to the "City Government" tab near the top of the homepage and click on "Meetings & Agendas."

#### **Notes from a Councilmember**

It's summer picnic time! This summer, be sure to take advantage of our city's great park system. We in the city of Brookhaven are fortunate to have 12 parks within our small 12-square-mile footprint.

Our parks run the gamut from the very large Murphey Candler Park, at over 100 acres including the largest public lake inside the perimeter, to the tiny neighborhood gathering spot of Clack's Corner, only .2 acres.

Our parks differ not only in size but also in character. Lynwood Park, for example, has basketball courts, a large rec center with lots of classes and activities, and a beautiful stand of trees including one of the largest dogwood trees in the South. Blackburn Park has lots of playfields, a thriving community garden, lots of signature Brookhaven Cherry Blossom trees, and a wonderful sidewalk and path system.

Every one of our parks has unique features - why not visit them all this summer?

There are even better times ahead for Brookhaven's parks. This year, after a series of public meetings and tremendous citizen input, your City Council approved detailed park plans for each of our city's parks.

The work on many of the plans has already begun. Beautiful new bridges are going in at Murphey Candler Lake and Briarwood Park, and playground equipment



Linley Jones
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is in the final stages of selection after our community's children took advantage of the opportunity to share their dreams for the playgrounds by drawing pictures of their favorite playground equipment for our parks consultants, Greenberg Farrow.

To view the detailed park plans online, just visit http://brookhavenga.gov/Home/Components/News/News/381/17.

Always feel free to e-mail me anytime with your issues or concerns at Linley.Jones@BrookhavenGa.gov.

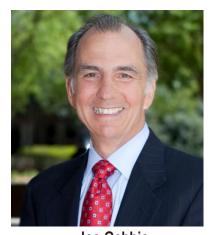
I hope to see you soon in the park!



John Park
District 2
john.park@brookhavenga.gov



Bates Mattison
District 3
bates.mattison@brookhavenga.gov



Joe Gebbia District 4 joe.gebbia@brookhavenga.gov

The Brookhaven City Council generally meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 3:30 and 7 p.m. at 4362 Peachtree Road. Visit www.brookhavenga.gov for schedule changes.

## **City News**

## **Character Area Studies kick off**

With the Character Area Studies kicking off in July, citizens will have a chance to review their neighborhood plan in depth and make recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan update. This process will help strengthen Brookhaven's development policies, and will help inform the Zoning Code Rewrite effort, which is currently suspended. For more information, visit www. brookhavencharacterareastudy.com.

## RICK OFF MEETINGS

The Comprehensive Plan **Character Areas** lay out the vision, goals, appropriate land uses, and implementation strategies for Brookhaven's neighborhoods and districts.

#### Now it's time to take a closer look!

Join us at an upcoming meeting to lend your ideas and learn more about how to **be involved** in this important planning

process.

### City collecting HOA contact information

To better communicate with Brookhaven's individual neighborhoods, the city is collecting contact information for presidents and/or representatives of homeowner associations and neighborhoods. To be added to our contact list, email news@brookhavenga. gov or call 404-637-0508.

## Video Cameras Can Offer Extra Neighborhood Security

New technology allows Brookhaven communities to install video cameras that can provide video access to the Brookhaven Police Department. Video cameras, purchased and maintained at the expense of the neighborhood, can be installed at entrances or other strategic locations. Neighborhoods may then choose to provide video access to the Brookhaven Police Department. Such community video sharing allows Brookhaven PD immediate access to security footage in the event of criminal activity.

Brookhaven Police will not routinely monitor neighborhood security footage unless a criminal investigation is in progress. Installation of security cameras for neighborhoods must be privately funded and will not be paid for by the city of Brookhaven.

For more information, contact Sergeant Justin Young at Justin. Young@brookhavenga. gov or 404-637-0616.



The Brookhaven Police Department's Detective David Snively was recognized in May during ASIS International security association's annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Snively was honored for his efforts in "Positive Policing" and launching the Brookhaven Police Explorer Program, which allows youth to explore careers in law enforcement. Snively (second from right) is pictured accepting his award along with Explorer Jordi Chinchilla (left), ASIS past chapter chair John Garrigan and Brookhaven Police Chief Gary Yandura (right).

#### More sidewalk, paving projects approved; work set to begin this summer

The Brookhaven City Council recently approved some new sidewalk and paving projects.

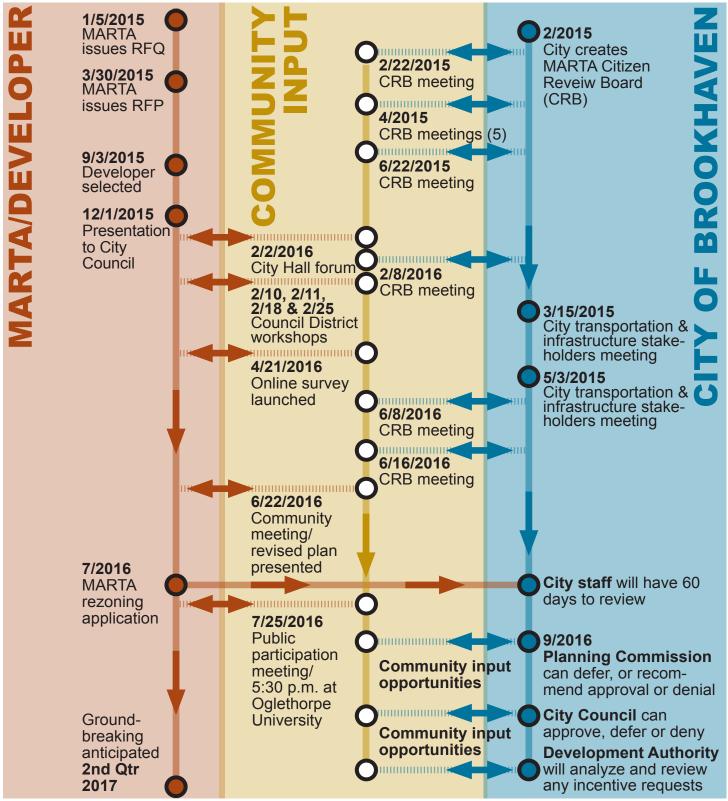
The latest round of sidewalks to be installed will include: Ashford Dunwoody Road from Kadleston Way to Brookhaven Hill; Donaldson Drive from Bubbling Creek to Runny Meade; North Druid Hills from Arrington Place to Lenox Park Boulevard; and Goodwin Road from Shady Valley Road to East Roxboro Road.

Four-and-a-half miles of roads are also slated to be resurfaced soon, including Briarwood Road, Clairmont Place, Somervale Court, Clairmont Court, Corporate Boulevard, Ashwoody Court, Oak Forest Drive, Oak Forest Way, Ashwoody Trail, Coosawaatee Drive, Georgian Drive East, Milowyn Place, Alta Vista Drive, Oakland Trace, Pelly Circle, Capital Club Circle, Rains Court and Parkcrest Drive.

Street resurfacing is set to begin this summer.

# Community Input MARTA TOD Development Brookhaven

The **community** is **encouraged to continue providing input** on MARTA's proposal for a mixed-use development on 15 acres at the Brookhaven/Oglethorpe station on Peachtree Road. The proposal includes residential units, retail, offices, a hotel and public and civic space. For MARTA to build the project as proposed, a rezoning request must be approved by Brookhaven's City Council.



## **Around Town**



The second annual Cherry Blossom Festival drew tens of thousands of folks to Blackburn Park in April to enjoy arts and craft tents, food trucks, live music, a 5K, kids area and pet parade.



Food trucks returned to Blackburn Park in May and continue every Wednesday through Sept. 28. The Lynwood Park Community Day in May continued a decades-long tradition.







Kids were able to climb in fire trucks and police cars at Park & Rec's second annual Touch a Truck. Mayor John Ernst threw out the first pitch at the Brookhaven Bucks' opener in June.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Food Truck Roundup**

**PRICE:** Free

**DATE:** Every Wednesday through

Sept. 28 **TIME:** 5-9 p.m.

LOCATION: Blackburn Park

**DETAILS:** Join us on Wednesdays at Blackburn Park for our weekly Food Truck Roundup. Each night will feature at least 10 food trucks and live entertainment. This is a family friendly event so bring the kids, dogs and whoever else is hungry!

#### It Starts in the Parks 5K

PRICE: \$35 from 7/4-7/22, \$40 on-site registration DATE: Saturday, July 23 TIME: Race begins at 7:30 a.m. LOCATION: Blackburn Park

**DETAILS:** July is National Parks and Recreation Month, so what better way to celebrate than to get out in your parks? Brookhaven Parks and Recreation will host our second annual 5K to coincide with NRPA's National P&R Month. The course will begin and end at Blackburn Park. T-shirts and awards for various categories will be presented at approximately 8:30 a.m.

#### Parent's Night Out

PRICE: \$15 per child

**DATES:** Aug. 12, Sept. 16, Oct.14

**TIME:** 6:30-9 p.m. **AGES:** 5-12

**LOCATION:** Lynwood Community

Center

**DETAILS:** Parent's Night Out is a great way for parents to drop off the kids on a Friday and get some time to themselves. We will provide dinner as well as games, activities and plenty of options to keep the kids entertained! Pre-registration is required by Wednesday before the event and pickup is promptly at 9.

#### **An Evening of Tango**

PRICE: \$15 per person (you do not

need a partner to attend) **DATES:** Tuesday, Aug. 16 **TIME:** 7:30-10:30 p.m.

**AGES:** 18+

**LOCATION:** Briarwood Community

Center

**DETAILS:** The night will begin with a fun one-hour introduction class to the social dance of Argentine tango,

immediately followed by a traditional tango party (Milonga) so you can try out what you learned on the dance floor. The social will have light refreshments, Argentine Tango music, dancing, and a short performance later in the evening. Dress is casual or dressy- no sneakers or open back shoes. Registration is required by 8/12; register online or by calling 404-637-0512.

#### **Fall Festival**

**DATE:** Saturday, Oct. 22 **TIME:** noon-4 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Lynwood Park

**DETAILS:** Enjoy the crisp fall weather at Lynwood Park with a fall-themed get together for the whole family. We'll have food, a bounce house and other activities.

#### **Thanksgiving Day Meal**

DATE: Thursday, Nov. 24 TIME: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Lynwood Community

Center

**DETAILS:** If you don't have plans for Thanksgiving, stop by Lynwood Community Center and pick up a meal. Call 404-637-0542 for information.

#### **Light Up Brookhaven**

DATE: Thursday, Dec 8

**TIME:** 6-8 p.m.

LOCATION: Blackburn Park

**DETAILS:** This FREE event features special musical performance, visits with Santa (parents welcome to take pics), holiday crafts, Toys for Tots collection box, hot chocolate sale, refreshments and Christmas tree and Hanukkah display lighting.

#### **Red and White Ball**

DATE: Saturday, Dec.10

**TIME:** 7-11 p.m.

FEE: 13 & up: \$30 / 6-12: \$15 /

5 & under: Free

**LOCATION:** Lynwood Community

Center

**DETAILS:** This holiday ball and toy drive will benefit people of all ages. The ball will feature a dinner and jazz band providing the entertainment, and will also be a means to donate toys that will be given to Toys for Tots to go to children in need during the holidays.





BROOKHAVEN, GA

# **Brookhaven Connect**

EFFORTLESS CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT







Real-time Updates

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The City of Brookhaven is excited to provide residents improved access to issue reporting and other helpful city information. Visit the city's website or search for 'Brookhaven Connect' in your app store to download today.



