

Winter 2022

PRODUCED BY THE CITY OF BROOKHAVEN

Say hello to the Rain Brigade!

Brookhaven introduces first city-owned street sweeper

The purchase of Brookhaven's first City-owned street sweeper means the Public Works Department's "Rain Brigade" will soon be paying a visit to all Brookhaven neighborhoods.

The City Council approved the purchase of the Public Work Department's first major piece of heavy equipment in April.

"Each year our street sweeping program has diverted 40 tons of debris that would have otherwise ended up in our creeks and waterways," said Public Works Deputy Director Tom Roberts. "That's just once a year with our street sweeping contractors. Now that we own this equipment and have trained staff to operate it, we will have the flexibility to clean streets three or four times a year and when specific needs arise."

The purchase of the new equipment and the increased flexibility is also part of the City's Sustainable Brookhaven initiative. "We have this goal of water being cleaner when it leaves Brookhaven than when it gets here," said Mayor John Ernst, who introduced the street sweeper to the public during October's Touch a Truck event in Blackburn Park, attended by about 500 people.

Outfitted with the City's Rain Brigade logo, the new equipment is an Elgin RegenX Street Sweeper that is easy to use, clean and maintain. The Elgin RegenX uses regenerative air to clean the streets and minimize the dust emitted from the sweeper. It's literally a huge vacuum cleaner using an array of water spray nozzles to moisten, brushes to loosen, and a recycled air system to clear most all debris types in its path. As an added plus, it's also equipped with a suction hose and vacuum heads to clean out catch basins and vacuum difficult-to-sweep areas.

Street sweeping is a continuous and linear operation, so the Public



Brookhaven's first city-owned street sweeper was introduced by Mayor John Ernst (left) to the public during the Touch a Truck event (above) in October.

Letter from the Mayor

Greetings Brookhaven residents, and Happy 10th Birthday to our City!

We have a lot to celebrate, such as our Parks Bond projects, the first phase of the Peachtree Creek Greenway, an innovative and effective Police Department, better roads, etc.

But there's also much to look forward to, such as the completion of the Peachtree Creek Greenway, our new City Hall, and express lane transit on the top end of the ever-congested 285.

We've had an exciting past few months, too. Please check out our cover story on Brookhaven's new street sweeper, the department's first purchase of heavy equipment. I enjoyed introducing it at this year's Touch a Truck and loved seeing all the children climb in! It's been a great year for the City, and it will only get better.

Here's hoping for a peaceful and joyous holiday season for you and your family.

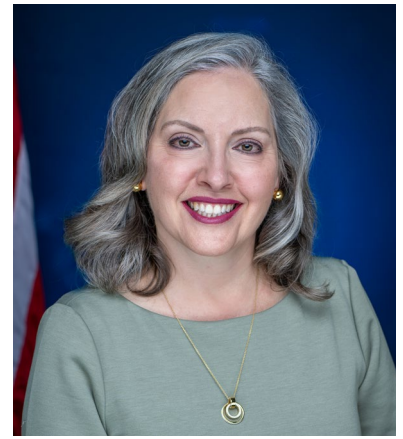
Don't hesitate to contact me at John.Ernst@BrookhavenGA.gov or at 404-637-0710 with any questions or concerns. Thank you for all you do to make Brookhaven better!

Yours truly,



John Ernst
Mayor

John.Ernst@BrookhavenGA.gov



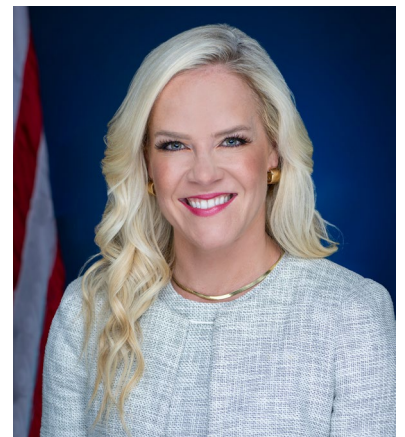
Linley Jones, Mayor Pro Tem
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Madeleine Simmons
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Brookhaven City Council Meetings

The Brookhaven City Council generally meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 4 and 7 p.m. at 4362 Peachtree Road. Visit www.BrookhavenGA.gov/Calendar for schedule changes.

To access meetings and videos, go to the Meetings & Agendas tab near the bottom of the homepage.

Brookhaven Vision and Mission

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.



Around Town



The Community Green and North Boardwalk at Murphey Candler Park opened in September with Mayor Pro Tem and District 1 Councilwoman Linley Jones and Mayor John Ernst cutting the ribbon with help from some young residents. The Community Green and the North Boardwalk were funded by proceeds from the Parks Bond.



U.S. Sen. Reverend Raphael Warnock (D-GA) (pictured center) joined Brookhaven Police Chief Brandon Gurley, Mayor Pro Tem and District 1 Councilwoman Linley Jones, Lt. Abrem Ayana, Mayor John Ernst, Major Linda Burke, District 3 Councilwoman Madeleine Simmons, District 4 Councilman John Funny and City Manager Christian Sigman at the future site of the new Brookhaven Public Safety Building recently. Officials were marking the announcement of \$750,000 in new federal funds for the Brookhaven Police Department.



City of Brookhaven officials, including Assistant City Manager Patrice Ruffin Dowdell, District 4 Councilman John Funny, and City Manager Christian Sigman participated in the Atlanta Regional Commission's 2022 State of the Region in October.



Mayor John Ernst delivered the 2022 State of the City address to the Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce at a luncheon event in September. The full video can be viewed at www.tinyurl.com/BrookhavenStateOfTheCity.



About 200 artists participated in this year's Paint the Park in Blackburn Park. Pictured at left are volunteer judge David Kiefer, youth winner Tabitha Kho, volunteer judge Lola Okunola, Mayor Pro Tem Linley Jones, volunteer judge and Brookhaven Arts Commission Chair Lauren Kiefer, and adult winner Drew Morris.

Light Up Brookhaven 2022 returns bigger and better



Light Up Brookhaven activities include a snow mountain and lighting of the giant tree and menorah in Blackburn Park, Wednesday, Dec. 7, from 6 to 9 p.m.

A gift wrapped evening of Christmas magic, all merry and bright, will launch the holiday season in Brookhaven at this year's Light Up Brookhaven planned for Dec. 7 in Blackburn Park, 3493 Ashford Dunwoody Road from 6-9 p.m.

The fun-filled event will be packed with holiday-themed activities including food, music, and giveaways leading up to the dramatic arrival of Santa, once again via the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta helicopter, (scheduled to arrive at 6:30 this year, weather permitting) followed by the lighting of the City's dazzling 40' Christmas tree. Rabbi Brian Glusman and members of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta will also be returning this year to light the City's Hanukah menorah and dreidel.

Snow may not be in the forecast, but don't worry, we are bringing it in from the North Pole. To add to the fast-paced fun, there will be two snow mountains for the young and young at heart to glide down. Other holiday freebies for kids will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis along with other treats.

Don't forget to pose the kids with two of Santa's live reindeer, returning with their big red sleigh. It's a great opportunity to get that perfect holiday greeting card photo.

"This will be one of the best Light Up Brookhaven events ever," noted Brookhaven Mayor John Ernst. "This is by far one of my favorite annual traditions. What a better way to begin the holiday season than joining our friends and neighbors of all faiths to celebrate this time of year."

Giving the gift of holiday entertainment, local music groups will

come a-caroling for everyone's entertainment. Setting the holiday tone will be performances by choirs from Marist High School, Davis Academy, the Cross Keyes High School marching band along with the Salvation Army Band, among others.

These activities are bound to work up an appetite. Food trucks scheduled to appear, offering holiday goodies at a nominal cost, include Fair on Wheels, Lat's Taco Bout It, A Little Nauti, Eggroll Boyz, Alcohol Heroes and Frozen Sweets. To take the chill off a cool December evening, the Girl Scouts will be offering hot chocolate as a holiday fundraising project. The City of Brookhaven and Explore Brookhaven will also have holiday giveaways on a first-come, first-served basis.

Light Up Brookhaven guests are encouraged to bring a toy for the annual Toys for Tots campaign, a holiday staple. Representatives will be there collecting unwrapped toys to help those less fortunate celebrate the season.

At the height of the evening, Hope and Will from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta will be on hand to help Mayor John Ernst to light the towering City holiday tree and Menorah. "We are very excited about this year's Light Up Brookhaven," said Ernst. "Residents will find this year's event even bigger and better than ever. Nothing brings out the spirit of the holidays more so than when we all see the joy in the faces of the youngsters. I look forward to seeing everyone there!"

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is the sponsor for this year's Light Up Brookhaven event. Mark your calendars and join your friends and neighbors at Blackburn Park Dec. 7 for holiday memories to warm the coldest of winter days.



Above, left: "Paredes Vivas" at Cross Keys High School by Yoyo Ferro. Above, right: An untitled mural at Northeast Plaza by Tatyana Fazlalizadeh.

Brookhaven maps art murals

As part of the Brookhaven Arts and Culture Commission's Master Plan, the City of Brookhaven has created interactive and printable maps of art murals located within the City.

"Art has this amazing ability to bring us together with our neighbors in the same town, city, region and even world," said Arts Commission Chair Lauren Kiefer. "And, we have some phenomenal murals in Brookhaven. So why not bring them together in one place on the web so that residents can learn about their history and go visit them?"

Samantha Trust, a Planner in the Brookhaven Community Development Department who is also an artist, created the interactive site that includes pictures of the art, their history, location, and artist information.

"I started with the Living Walls exhibit list and went from there," she said. "I live in Brookhaven, so I then added what I could find when driving around, took all the photos, researched the artists, and mapped them on the City's GIS (Geographic Information Systems) software."

Trust says she jumped at the chance to create a map when the project was mentioned.

"I really enjoyed myself," she said. "I'm an artist, I love art, and I love GIS."

Featured on the site are a number of murals at Northeast Plaza, including one by Michelle Angela Ortiz inspired by mothers who live along Buford Highway and who work to overcome the challenges faced by immigrants.

Another piece featured on the interactive site is "Paredes Vivas," or "Living Walls," by Yoyo Ferro, who used input from Cross Keys High Schools students, teachers, and staff to create a piece to invoke diversity and welcoming at the school.

To view more murals in the City, visit www.BrookhavenGA.gov/arts/page/murals-city. The page contains links to interactive maps in



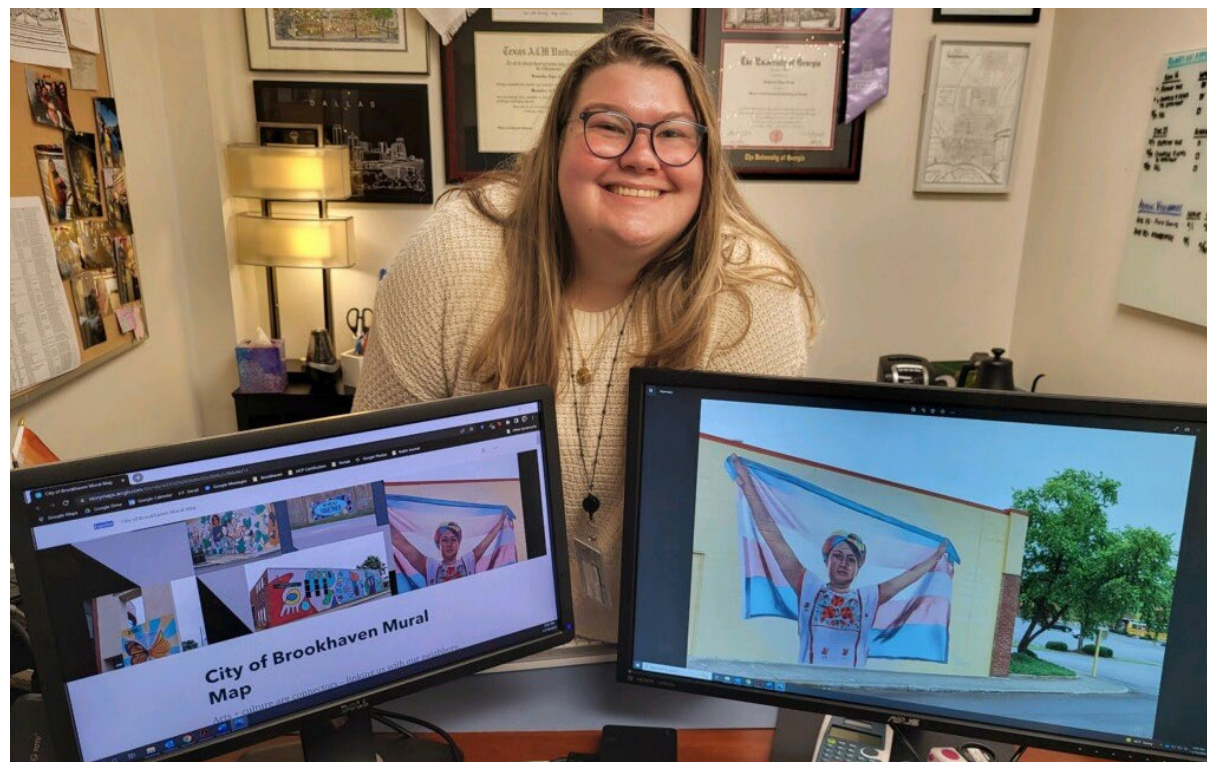
Opportunities for Artists

Are you an artist interested in working with the City of Brookhaven and the Arts & Culture Commission on future public art projects?

Visit www.BrookhavenGA.gov/arts/page/opportunities-artists for more information on getting involved.

both English and Spanish, as well as a printable map. Residents are also encouraged to enter information about other pieces of art

in the City not listed on the page, as well as provide suggestions for locations for potential murals.



Samantha Trust demonstrates the interactive mural map she created for the City of Brookhaven.

Brandon Gurley sworn in as Brookhaven's new police chief



Above, left: Mayor John Ernst administers the Oath of Office to Chief Gurley, pictured with his family. Above, right: Police Chief Emeritus Gary Yandura congratulates Gurley.

The City of Brookhaven promoted Deputy Chief Brandon Gurley to Chief of Police at a September ceremony at Brookhaven City Hall. Gurley succeeds the City's first police chief, Gary Yandura, retiring in January 2023 after nearly 10 years of service with Brookhaven Police.

"I was honored to administer the Oath of Office to Chief Gurley," said Brookhaven Mayor John Ernst. "I am proud of the stellar work that Chief Emeritus Yandura accomplished in his 10 years with Brookhaven, and I am confident that Chief Gurley will continue the charge of leading the department with integrity and innovation."

"I am humbled and honored to serve Brookhaven as police chief. I will be continuing the tradition of Brookhaven Police to fulfill our mission of enhancing the quality of life for all within our community by providing professional, high quality, and effective police services in

partnership with the community," said Deputy Chief Gurley.

Upon Deputy Chief Gurley's promotion to Police Chief, Yandura has assumed the role of Chief Emeritus, to serve as an advisor and consultant to ensure a smooth transition of leadership.

"The police department is one of the City's most critical and highly visible services and Gary Yandura has established a universally recognized and respected Police Department. As with any organization, a methodical and deliberate transition of leadership is extremely important," said City Manager Christian Sigman. "This whole process is in keeping with our Sustainable Brookhaven initiative, which includes fostering an organizational culture that develops talent, connects with the community, and formulates long-term succession planning to serve our community."



Brookhaven Public Works Deputy Director Tom Roberts asks that residents remain patient while crews learn how to more efficiently operated the street sweeper.

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Works Department can't pinpoint when the sweeper will be on each street. For each sweeping service, streets will receive two passes, once down each curb line.

Signage will be placed in neighborhoods to alert residents when the Rain Brigade is preparing to make a visit. Roberts said that residents can see that the sweeper has been through their streets due to the trail it leaves behind. "The trail may cause the road to look dirty, but it's really cleaner than before the sweeper came through," he said.

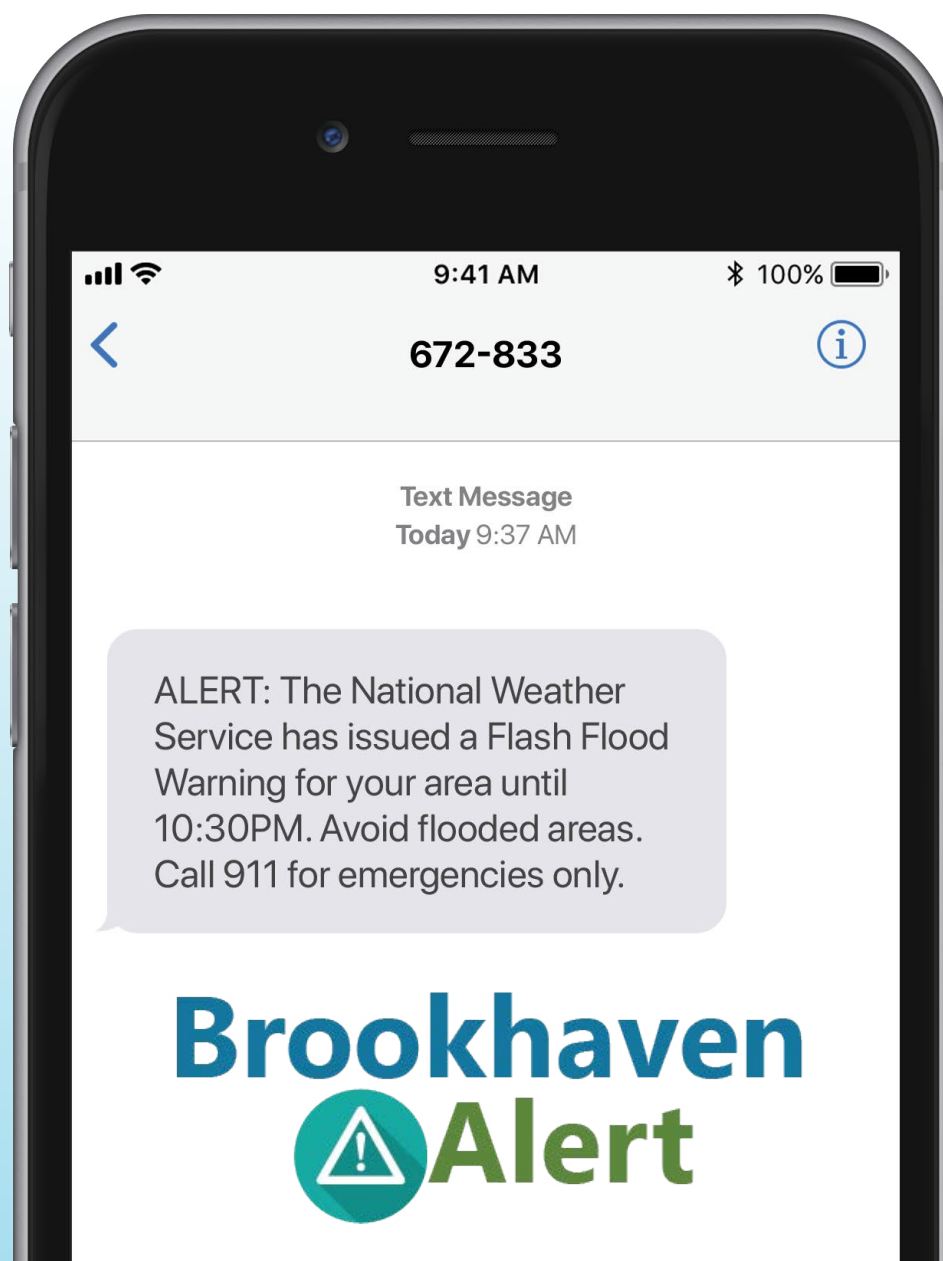
Roberts also advises that residents refrain from using the street sweeper as an opportunity to leave piles of leaves on the street. "That will actually clog the sweeper," he said. "Residents will need to continue collecting and bagging their leaves as normal. We also ask for patience as we learn the routes and learn how to use this equipment efficiently."

To learn more about the Brookhaven's street sweeping program, visit www.BrookhavenGA.gov/publicworks/page/street-sweeping-program.



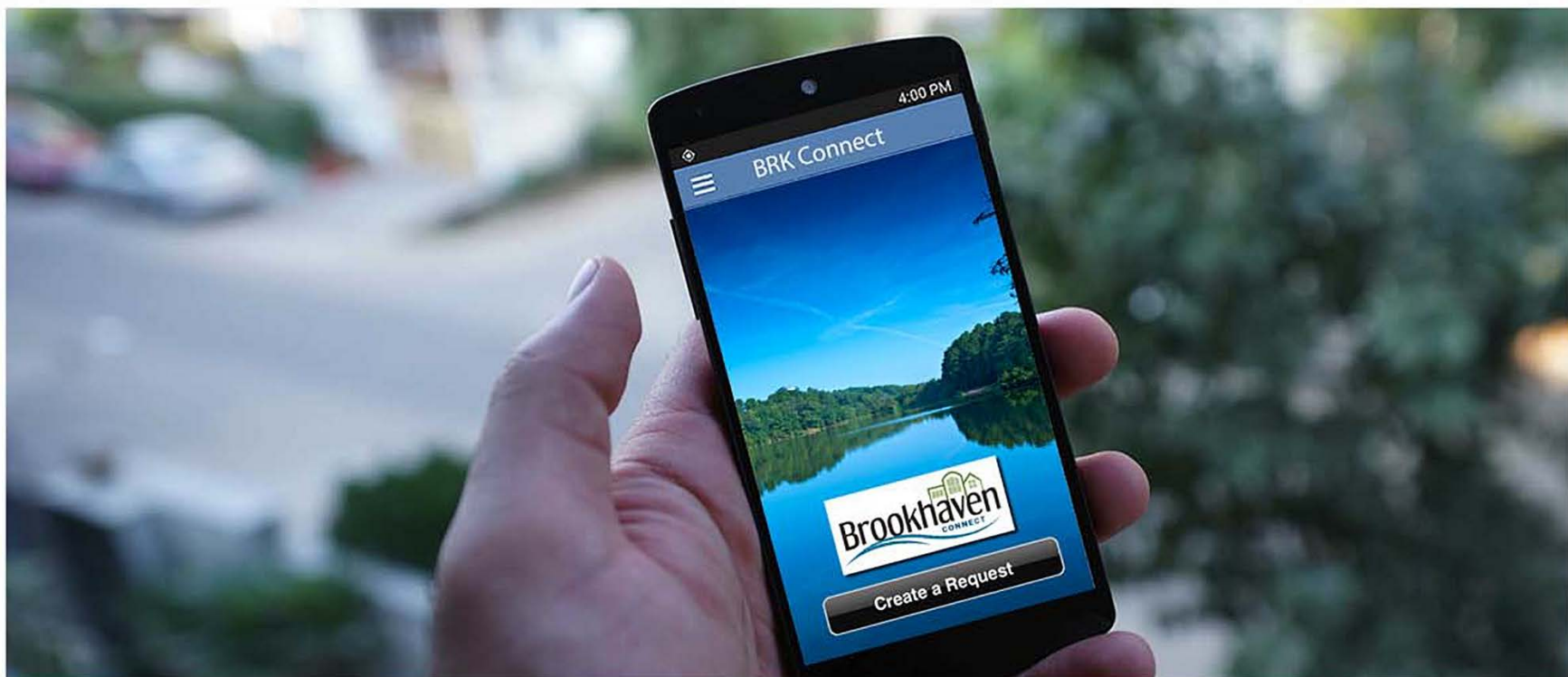
Always Be Notified.

Alerts and notifications help inform you on weather, traffic, and other emergencies in your community. When you opt-in for alerts, you will have the option to choose the kind of notifications you prefer to receive.



Sign up at www.BrookhavenGA.gov/BrookhavenAlert

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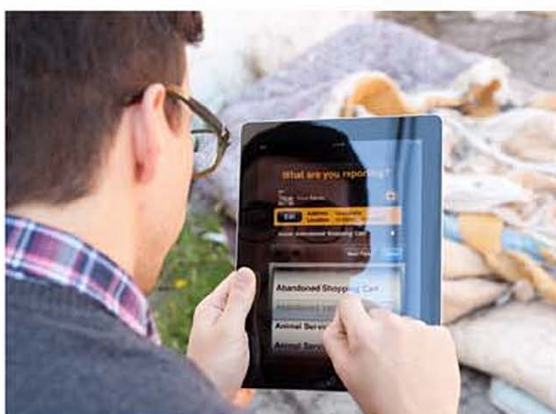
BROOKHAVEN, GA

Brookhaven Connect

EFFORTLESS CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT



Real-time Updates



Simple Reporting



Access Anywhere

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.