



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS!

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2020



On July 10th, Mayor Newton participated in a Zoom panel hosted by the Southwest Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, discussing COVID's impact and recent city updates along with fellow mayors Lois Salter of Berkeley Lake and Mike Mason of Peachtree Corners. Find a recap of Mayor Newton's responses below:

Q: In what ways has your city dealt with COVID in your community and among your constituents?

Gwinnett currently has the highest confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Georgia, with 11,882 confirmed cases and 187 deaths. Additionally, our city's zip code (30071) has the second highest number of confirmed cases in Gwinnett.

When we realized the potential negative impacts that this virus could have on our community earlier in the year, the council and I met with staff to create a mitigation strategy to address both economic and public health concerns that this virus posed. We began pushing as much information and resources out to the community as possible via social media, email and our website—and we continue to do so.

Our council, boards and staff have all transitioned to virtual meetings in order to safely continue operations. We also approved a forbearance program for all city-owned properties as a good-faith effort, sending the message that we are all in this together.

Watching the data and listening to health officials, we made the call back in April to cancel all city-sponsored events through August 1, and now again we've pushed them back through October 1. We continue to monitor the situation and will revisit the calendar again as more data and projections become available. We have also been bringing in the director of the GNR Health Department, Dr. Audrey Arona, to give expert advice at our council meetings. This keeps the public directly informed with firsthand information, and provides a platform for their questions on health and mitigation efforts to be answered.

Q: Please tell us what new things are happening in your community this year?

Last night, I received the incredible news from our city manager, Rudolph Smith, that our city's 2020 tax digest for real and personal property has reached the one-billion-dollar mark in assessed property value. What a great milestone to reach in the year of our sesquicentennial (150th anniversary)! We also currently have about \$400 million in recent and ongoing residential investments throughout the city. We are no longer that hidden jewel north of Atlanta. The word is out, and we are working keep up with the ever-growing demand for housing in our area! We have more than 900 new residential units under construction throughout Norcross:

- The Brunswick [Gateway Ventures] – A \$40 million project, this development is scheduled for completion by the end of Fall 2020, and leasing is already in progress. There will be 193 units, nine of which are live-work units.
- The Broadstone [Alliance Residential] – A \$100 million project, this development is scheduled for completion in Spring 2021 and is also already leasing. It will contain 354 units, of which 200 are apartments, 90 are lofts and 64 are townhomes.
- Other projects currently under review include several townhome communities such as Bromolow Park (70 units) off Buford Highway and Pinnacle Townhomes off Pinnacle Way (24 units). A second phase of Sierra West (14 units) is also in the works along with a new unnamed development at 370 Thrasher Street (5 units). A multifamily development is also under review at Jimmy Carter/ Peachtree Industrial.

Continue Reading at
[norcrossga.net/mayorpaneljuly10](https://www.norcrossga.net/mayorpaneljuly10)





2020 CENSUS *Get Counted!*

Respond now to the 2020 Census online, by phone or by mail. Ten minutes will impact the next TEN years! The census is 100% safe—your data is protected and it's confidential. Federal law protects your responses, which cannot be shared with law enforcement, immigration agencies or housing authorities. Getting an accurate count of Norcross' population and demographics is extremely important—each person who responds to the 2020 Census helps their community secure its fair share of over \$675 billion dollars in federal funding for roads, schools, healthcare services and more.

*So please, help us help you!
Respond now at my2020census.gov.*



QUALIFICATION REMINDER

The qualifying period for the November 3, 2020 election will run from Monday, August 17, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. through Friday, August 21, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Individuals intending to qualify shall complete a qualifying packet on the website and remit the sum of \$243.00. Open council seats include Elaine Puckett, Andrew Hixson and Josh Bare.

Visit norcrossga.net for more information.

HELP THE BRITISH CAR FAYRE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT A.R.F.

While the 2020 Atlanta British Car Fayre in Norcross has been canceled along with other events this year on account of COVID-19, that's not stopping the organizers from continuing their support of the Amanda Riley Foundation! For 19 years, all profits generated by the event have been donated to this foundation, a charity which supports children in the Atlanta area who have been hospitalized with cancer. In addition to the children themselves, monies received by the foundation also supports the financially strapped families that must sacrifice time at work to be with their children.

In the absence of this year's show, the Atlanta British Car Fayre is asking all of its past visitors and exhibitors to please donate a nominal amount (as little as \$10, \$15 or \$20) towards its annual donation. Donations can be made at atlantabritishcarfayre.com.

Please note all previously scheduled city events have been canceled through October 1st due to COVID-19. This includes festivals, car shows, concerts and Movie Mondays.



DON'T FORGET!

YOU CAN ORDER ONLINE FROM THE NORCROSS COMMUNITY MARKET!

Each week this summer, you can place an order online at norcrosscommunitymarket.com between 9 a.m. Sunday and 5 p.m. Thursday. Those who have placed orders will then receive instructions on how to pick up their purchases via a socially distant drive-through at City Hall that Saturday! Payment is taken by credit card online, though NCM does also accept SNAP (and doubles buying power on qualified food purchases). SNAP shoppers must pay in person upon arrival for order pick-up according to USDA requirements. Contact norcrosscommunitymarket@gmail.com or 404-229-7077 for more SNAP info. When you are picking up your order, please stay in your vehicle and a market volunteer will bring your order to you. Please wear a mask if possible and observe safe distancing. NCM is following all CDC guidelines to make your shopping experience as safe as possible.

SUSTAINABILITY TIP OF THE MONTH: TRANSPORTATION

If you're looking for more ways to integrate sustainability into your every day, leave the car at home and try biking or walking to your destination! The City of Norcross is prioritizing efforts to make our sidewalks more pedestrian and bike-friendly. We are working hard on a number of projects to ensure that everyone can walk or bike safely within our city. These projects include the Beaver Ruin Greenway, the Safe Routes to School sidewalk on Beaver Ruin Road, the expanded sidewalks at the new Broadstone apartment complex, removal of trip hazards on our older sidewalks, and updating our sidewalk ordinance to require all new sidewalks to be a minimum of five feet wide.

REMINDER

NEW RECYCLING CHARGE EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2020

On January 1, 2020, our solid waste provider began charging the City of Norcross a recycling fee for recycling services. This is due in part to multiple factors: 1) an increase in the processing charge for residential single-stream curbside recycling due to contamination, 2) recycling commodity markets are down on a global basis, and 3) China has a new policy in which they will no longer accept recyclables from the United States. Faced with this issue, a lot of municipalities have elected to eliminate a recycling service to their community all together. The City of Norcross, however, as a Platinum-rated Green Community, is invested in providing sustainable services to its residents. To help share the burden of this new expense, all residents will be charged \$0.72 per month for this service on the resident's tax bill, effective in September 2020.

BUFORD HIGHWAY MASTER PLAN AWARDED TO SIZEMORE GROUP

A target area for reinvestment and future growth in the city's 2040 Imagine Our Future Comprehensive Plan, the Buford Highway Corridor is a 1.85 linear mile gateway into Norcross which the city hopes to redevelop as part of the ongoing plan to extend Downtown Norcross to Buford Highway. In order to ensure the future redevelopment of this corridor is guided in a coordinated and consistent manner to create a more livable and vibrant community, the city released a request for proposal back in February seeking a qualified firm to prepare a Buford Highway Master Plan.

The city is now excited to announce that Sizemore Group has been awarded the contract and work on the master plan will soon begin. Sizemore is an Atlanta-based architecture and planning firm dedicated to sustainable architecture that serves the common good. The firm specializes in projects that improve communities across the nation (such as town centers and educational facilities) and has designed many notable spaces including portions of Centennial Olympic Park, Interim Medical Partnership Building at the University of Georgia and Smyrna Town Center.

150th Anniversary **MEMORABILIA** **ON SALE NOW!**

New commemorative items are now available celebrating Norcross' 150th Anniversary! All items available for purchase in the Welcome Center. Totes, tea towels and license plates are also available at Carolees, Taste of Britain and Antique Traditions, while Anna Balkan carries the boat tote and Norcross Community Market has tea towels on offer in their online order/drive-through pick-up store. Limited quantities are available, so get yours today!

