association

AIRPORT AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Governmental Affairs & Grants, Etc.

On March 4, 2024, the Federal Priorities will be brought before the City Council for a vote and a discussion with our Federal Congressional Delegation in Washington, D.C. will take place on March 7, 2024. Again, the goal is to align federal priorities with funding through the FY 2025 appropriations cycle and obtain collaborative support from neighboring jurisdictions where there is mutual interest and benefit. Pairing shovel-ready projects with earmarked funding is critical to project implementation.

The House Governmental Affairs Subcommittee convened on February 20th to address several bills related to public works bidding, local government policies, audits, and regional commissions. One of the key bills discussed was HB 1228 which was taken up as a hearing only, which pertains to general provisions for public works bidding and aims to establish procedures for the acquisition of professional services certain by local

governments. Representatives from the architects and contractors association voiced their support for the

bill, emphasizing its potential to streamline processes and enhance efficiency in public works projects. However, the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) expressed opposition to the bill, citing concerns about its implications for local government operations. The Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) took a neutral stance on HB 1228. Another bill, HB 1266, proposes a system whereby certain local governments could seek certifications from the Department of Community Affairs upon enacting specific policies, allowing them to receive priority in grant and loan applications submitted to state agencies. HB 1266 was passed onto full committee. Additionally, two other bills, HB 1149 and HB 1253, were heard during the meeting, without votes. HB 1149 aimed to require local constitutional officers to annually report audits of discretionary funds to the General Assembly. HB 1253 sought to revise the composition of the governing council for regional commissions, provide training for members, establish terms of office, address vacancies, and define procedures for appointing successors.

The Senate Economic Development Committee convened on February 22nd to discuss two significant proposals related to property taxation and sports betting. The first bill, SB 496, presented by Sen. Burns, focused on the ad valorem taxation of property. Specifically, the bill aimed to extend preferential assessment periods for certain historic properties. After deliberation, SB 496 passed the committee, indicating support for the extension of preferential assessment periods. The second proposal, SR 538, introduced by Sen. Summers, addressed sports betting and casino gambling in Georgia. The resolution sought to authorize and require the Georgia General Assembly to provide by law for sports betting and casino gambling in the state by July 2, 2025.

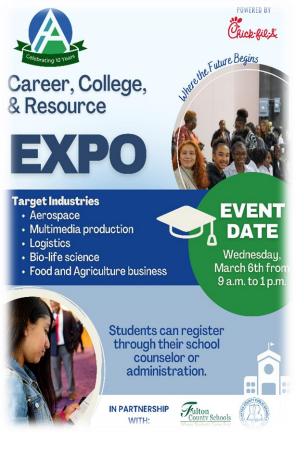
After unanimous approval, SR 538 passed as amended, signaling the committee's support for further exploration of sports betting and casino gambling legislation in Georgia.

Senate Bill 364, coined the "Property Tax Relief Act of 2024", is BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the O.C.G.A., relating to ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide for a statewide homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes in an amount equal to any amount by which the current year assessed value of a homestead exceeds the lesser of 3 percent or the inflation rate from the adjusted

base year value of such homestead; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Eighteen (18) applications for the Grants Manager position at this time. Application reviews revealed that only a fraction of the applicants have grant experience. The goal is to hire a dedicated, qualified individual who will collaborate with Departments, write, manage and report on grants for the City of College Park.

Airport Affairs & Updates



Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is still the WORLD's busiest airport, which means safety, security, and sustainability are top priorities for the economic engine. With that stated, the Airport's General Manager, Balram Bheodari will be preparing a Safety & Security Operations Implementation Plan for submittal within the next 60 days to the City of Atlanta's Transportation Committee.

The Airport, in collaboration with the Aerotropolis Alliance & Fulton County Schools is hosting a Career Fair on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at College Park's Georgia International Convention Center (GICC) to advance opportunities for careers in aviation. This career fair takes place from 9 AM - 1 PM. Additionally, the Airport will participate in the Career Day for The Main Street Academy, charter K-8 elementary school on March 14, 2024. These efforts help the Atlanta region support the aerospace, transportation and logistics industries and strengthen our local economy.

Additionally, the Department of Aviation is currently updating the Airport's Master Plan. The current Master Plan, which is guiding the current Capital Improvement Program (ATLNext), was completed in 2015. The duration for updating the Master Plan is 18-24 months. They started the update in January of 2023 and anticipate completing the Plan by the end of 2024. At this time, the Airport is conducting scoping sessions with key stakeholders, presenting facility requirements based on their aviation activity forecast, and asking for feedback as to what they would like us to consider when developing alternatives for these facility

requirements. We need not brace ourselves for a 6th runway, as it is not being forecasted as a needed project within the next 20-year scope of the plan update.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT

Permits and Business Licenses by the Numbers



Fees Collected for Permits & Business Licensing Division between 2/15/2024 and 2/29/2024.The total fees collected were \$ 165,385.54.

Total Fees collected for 2024 \$925,924.66

Monthly Permits in Issued status between Jan 2024 and Feb 2024 Total: 220 Permits

Code Enforcement



Hotel Sweep- 02/21/2024

The Code Enforcement Division conducted a mini hotel sweep of the exterior site at the Travel Lodge Hotel at 2471 Old National Pkwy College Park GA 30349. A total of 47 notices of violations were issued for code violations noted during the inspection.

Code Enforcement Metrics for February

- Totals: 180 Notices of Violations
- Totals: 134 Citations



Levels of Housing Code Enforcement

There are three main levels of enforcement of the housing code: administrative, civil, and criminal. Administrative enforcement is carried out within the local government. The code enforcement officer first provides notice of the violation to the property owner. If the violation is not remedied within the requisite allotted time, the locality can order several different sanctions. These include assessing administrative penalties, issuing an order to remove the violation, or suspending a license or permit. Some localities have the authority to impose a lien on the property if the property owner fails to pay the penalties. The property owner generally can appeal the locality's determination and sanctions through an administrative hearing, and then to an appellate board or trial court. Civil enforcement, by contrast, begins in the court system. The locality will file a lawsuit seeking an order that the violation be repaired and sometimes that penalties be imposed if the owner fails to do so. Localities generally only pursue civil enforcement in egregious cases where administrative enforcement has been unsuccessful in remedying the violation, or where the property poses health or safety threats. Criminal enforcement is the least common type of housing code enforcement. In jurisdictions that have criminalized housing code violations, a violation is usually considered a misdemeanor or an infraction.

Criminal enforcement may be initiated by a district attorney or a city attorney. Housing code enforcement through the criminal system is generally considered a strategy of last resort that should only be used where the other enforcement options have failed to yield results. A locality's enforcement tools will be shaped significantly by the authorities granted to them from their state, as well as their resources to pursue violations.

Housing Code Inspection Models

Code inspection models can either be proactive or reactive. Under proactive models, the enforcement agency conducts routine inspections of all covered housing. Inspections occur periodically, regardless of whether a tenant or neighbor has made a complaint. Periodic inspections do not replace complaint-based inspections, however – inspections are also conducted in response to tenants' reporting of possible violations.

It is generally considered that proactive inspections can lead to earlier identification of violations and the reduction of complaints over time. Proactive models are also understood to benefit vulnerable renters who may not be knowledgeable about the complaint system, may fear retaliation from their landlords if they complain, and/or may lack the language skills necessary to navigate a complaint-based system. Undocumented renters may be particularly reluctant to use complaint-based systems because of these barriers. Proactive inspection programs can also benefit property owners by helping them become aware of defective conditions before they worsen and by incentivizing preventive maintenance.

Reactive inspection models, by contrast, are complaint-based. Inspections occur only when tenants or neighbors report possible violations. Because reactive inspection programs rely on residents' reporting, the code enforcement agency is less likely to be aware of all violations that exist in the locality. Vulnerable tenants, who fear retaliation and/or are not knowledgeable about the reporting system, may be reluctant to make complaints. Thus, housing inhabited by these residents is likely to fall outside the radar of the code enforcement agency.

Occupational Tax Division



The 2024 Business License renewal season is underway. All businesses located within the City of College Park will have until March 31, 2024, to renew with no penalties or interest fees. All approved businesses in the state of Georgia that have alcohol licenses must have a City of College Park alcohol license before selling alcohol within the city. Our team will work with Code to issue any citations for those not complying with the ordinance.

Sec. 11-27. - Occupation tax registration, and compliance with other laws. <u>SHARE LINK TO SECTIONPRINT SECTIONDOWNLOAD (DOCX) OF</u> <u>SECTIONSEMAIL SECTIONCOMPARE VERSIONS</u>

All business and occupation taxpayers are required to comply with the provisions of all regulations, ordinances, and laws of the city, the state, and the United States of America. The issuance of an occupation tax registration to any business shall not authorize that business to violate any regulation, ordinance, or law of the city, the state, or the United States of America, nor shall an occupation tax registration relieve any business from any requirement to obtain any license or permit or pay any tax otherwise required by ordinance, regulation or law, including but not limited to alcoholic beverage taxes and fees and hotel/motel taxes and fees.

Georgia Secretary of the State Link:

https://sos.ga.gov/licensing-division-georgia-secretary-states-office

CITY CLERK

City Council Agenda Schedule & Due Dates



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK P.O. BOX 87137 · COLLEGE PARK, GA. 30337 · 404/767-1537

CITY OF COLLEGE PARK 2024 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE AND AGENDA ITEM DUE DATE			
January 2, 2024 (Tuesday)	December 21, 2023	December 26, 2023	
January 16, 2024 (Tuesday)	January 4, 2024	January 8, 2024	
February 5, 2024	January 25, 2024	January 29, 2024	
February 19, 2024	February 8, 2024	February 12, 2024	
March 4, 2024	February 22, 2024	February 26, 2024	
March 18, 2024	March 7, 2024	March 18, 2024	
April 1, 2024	March 21, 2024	March 25, 2024	
April 15, 2024	April 4, 2024	April 8, 2024	
May 6, 2024	April 25, 2024	April 29, 2024	
May 20, 2024	May 9, 2024	May 13, 2024	
June 3, 2024	May 23, 2024	May 28, 2024	
June 17, 2024	June 6, 2024	June 10, 2024	
July 15, 2024	July 5, 2024	July 8, 2024	
August 5, 2024	July 25, 2024	July 29, 2024	
August 19, 2024	August 8, 2024	August 12, 2024	
September 3, 2024 (Tuesday)	August 22, 2024	August 26, 2022	
September 16, 2024	September 6, 2024	September 9, 2024	
October 7, 2024	September 26, 2024	September 30, 2024	
October 21, 2024	October 10, 2024	October 14, 2024	
November 4, 2024	October 24, 2024	October 28, 2024	
November 18, 2024	November 7, 2024	November 11, 2024	
December 2, 2024	November 21, 2024	November 25, 2024	

Council meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month (with the exception of designated days that are observed for holidays, and in the months of July and December which only have one meeting a month). City Council agenda items are due the following Thursday after a City Council meeting. This allows staff ample time to prepare, sort, and compile agenda items; and provide any pertinent back up information in advance of the agenda being publicly published. As of late, agenda items are being received and or requested after the due date. This causes major delays in the finalization process. The Clerk's Office is reiterating

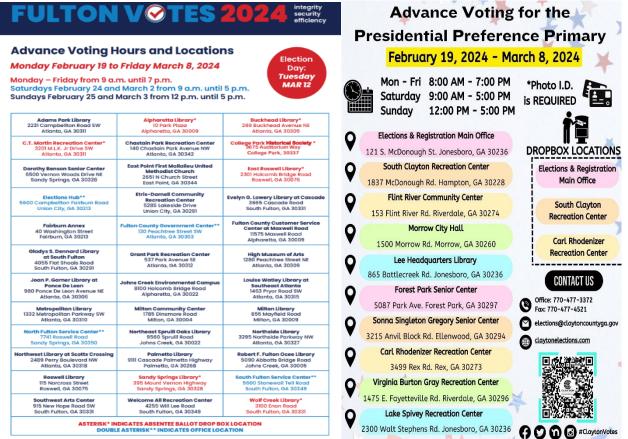
the importance of adhering to the adopted city council meeting agenda due date schedule to add items to the agenda. Additionally, a request to receive the draft city council agenda that is discussed in the Department Head Agenda Review meeting before the agenda is published, has been requested to be supplied to the governing body at the request of the elected officials through the City Manager. For this reason, the Clerks Office wants to ensure that the governing body is getting the most accurate and timely information; and to stay in line with this initiative, the agenda meeting schedule needs to be abided and followed by all members of staff with the support of the City Manager. This will increase the chances for a full complete agenda with all the important information to be advertised in the community.

City Hall Vehicle Request

The Office of the City Clerk met with the Interim City Manager and the Finance Director, along with other city staff members, for our pre-budget meeting. In this meeting, the Clerks Office was given the opportunity to communicate a number of items that are being sought for consideration of approval in the upcoming fiscal year budget. Specifically, a "pool" car for City Hall has been requested. This is not the first time a pool car has been requested for City Hall. Last year, this was initially pulled from

consideration in the pre-budget meetings and placed on the 2023-2024 "Wish List". One of the important benefits of having a pool car is so that staff can utilize a city vehicle, and not their personal vehicles to attend trainings, off-site meetings, run city errands, etc. Currently staff's vehicles are not covered under the city's insurance policies while on city time. Having an addition of a City Hall pool vehicle will lessen the liability if an accident occurs. Due to the current policy, if a City Hall vehicle is approved, only city staff members will be authorized to operate.

Elections



Citizens in the City of College Park still have the opportunity to participate in early voting for the Presidential Preference Primary election from February 19 – March 8, 2024. The Presidential Primaries while give registered voters across the nation the chance to determine who goes on the ballot as the Republican and Democrat candidate for the President of the United States in the November 2024 election. The early voting location for College Park residents are: College Park Historical Society – 3675 Auditorium Way College Park, Georgia, 30337 (Fulton County residents in College Park) and Virginia Burton Gray Recreation Center – 1475 E. Fayetteville Road, Riverdale, Georgia 30296 (Clayton County residents in College Park). All early voting locations can be found online at <u>www.votecollegepark.com</u>. Residents can also vote early at ANY early voting location in their county; however, on election day, residents MUST report to their designating polling location to cast their vote. If a resident is uncertain of their polling

location, this can be located at the Georgia My Voter Page by using this link: <u>https://mvp.sos.ga.gov/s/</u>

IIMC Region III District Conference



The Office of the City Clerk attended the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Region III Conference that was held in Columbus, Georgia from February 28, 2024 -March 1, 2024. Clerks from the Region III District are from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. As Clerks, we were reminded on the importance of our roles to municipal government. "The Clerk role is so important that it predates biblical times".

Some takeaways from the courses taken in Supervisory Leadership included – "Management will mandate change without realizing the effect it will have on the staff members who will implement it". For this reason, communication is key, from the top of leadership to the bottom whenever change is being considered. When leading any change, it is important to promote the why, the how, and maintain the momentum.

Additionally in the Leadership Development session, we also learned that it is important

to empower your team, leadership is for everyone (not just a person in position or a place of power), and great communication is key for great leadership. Lastly, in the Athenian Dialogue course, discussion was held on the Lighthouse Effect. The Lighthouse Effect outlines how ordinary people can have an extraordinary impact on the world as told by author Steve Pemberton. By attending and completing these courses, credits are earned towards the IIMC Clerk Certificate and the IIMC Master Clerk Certificate.



Main Street

The College Park Main Street Association new board members held its first meeting of the year, making the transition from 2023 to 2024 to turn over past and future ideas, events, and to support businesses on Main Street and Virginia Avenue.



College Park Main Street Association will kick-off the **2024 Wine Stroll March 14**th collaborating with our Department of Recreation & Cultural Arts presenting "Live Music on the Lawn". Main Street Manager, Ginger Melton, oversees details to get participation from merchants and volunteers for a successful event. We're super excited to collaborate with the College Park Golf Course and College Park Police Department to have golf carts available to include North Main Street and Virginia Avenue in the Wine Stroll spring kick-off this year!



Six West Cultural Arts Initiative

The Departments of Economic Development and Recreational & Cultural Arts are excited to launch the Six West Cultural Arts Initiative. The Six West Cultural Arts Initiative began as an effort lead by Recreational & Cultural Arts to identify key historic locations within the Six West development area. This effort, assist by Georgia State University, is the beginning of a trail system that will educate residents and visitors about the historic African American community which previously thrived on site. This effort is followed by a session of community charettes hosted through Economic Development, welcoming stakeholders to reimage the historic Price Barbershop and how it can be reused in the future Six West development.

Price Barbershop, located at 1988 Harvard Ave, is owned by the College Park Business and Development Authority (BIDA). Mayor & Council and BIDA agreed to remove the property from active marketing so that Sustainable Development staff may work with community stakeholders to reimage the property for reuse within the Six West development. Through the Brownfield grant offered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), staff have worked with historical preservation experts and environmental specialist to assess the property and research historical significance. Communications has launched the Six West Cultural Arts webpage at <u>https://www.collegeparkga.com/six_west_development/six_west_cultural_arts</u>, which provides an over view of the previous meetings and a survey seeking additional community input.

The City of College Park recognizes the importance of legacy and heritage and wants to capture our rich cultural heritage in the future development of the city. Please visit the website above to complete the survey and look out for additional information to come.

ELECTRIC POWER

Street and Park Lighting Improvements

Since 2018, over 2700 streetlights have been replaced with light emitting diode (LED) fixtures and several hundred more have been added to fill in dark spaces on the streets, public parking, and several City parks.

Recently, more lighting was added or repaired to the Frontage Road area, Riverdale Road, Godby Road, Lottie Miller Boulevard, Temple Avenue, and Barrett Park. The light additions improve the appearance of the area and visibility at night.

Lighting improvement supports the Strategic Plan Goal IV: Public Safety and Security under section IV.4 – Install improved lighting around business and city facilities.



Seventeen lights were recently added to the Riverdale Road area from Herschel Road to the Global Gateway Connector



Thirteen new decorative lights now highlight the sidewalk on Frontage Road.



Barrett Park lights are back in operation after the construction of the new restrooms.



Additional lighting enhances Temple Avenue.

ENGINEERING & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Six West Project: Comprehensive Erosion Management and Project Closure

The

commit

accordance



Functioning as a crucial Land Development Authority (LDA), the City of College Park plays a vital role in shaping the regulatory framework for construction erosion. This framework is significantly influenced by the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC), with the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975 serving as the primary legislative mandate. This legislation mandates counties and municipalities, including College Park, to establish ordinances for erosion and sediment control.



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Department (EID) of the City of College Park, in collaboration with the Sustainable & Economic Development team, is actively working to close out the Six West Project and address both punch items and erosion challenges. The recent intense rainfall has exacerbated the situation beyond the initial intervention, leading all involved parties to remedial

Infrastructure

measures

Erosion

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These mititigation efforts adopted through local ordinances must incorporate the minimum standards outlined in the GSWCC's Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia. By adhering to these standards, the ordinances establish explicit requirements for developers and builders throughout the construction process. The overarching objective is to minimize erosion and sediment runoff, ensuring the adoption of responsible and sustainable construction practices.

Navigating Challenges: The Journey of the Gateway Connector Bridge Project

Approaching its completion, the Gateway Connector Bridge project has faced significant developments affecting its original schedule. The planned erection and road closure of Camp Creek Parkway initially set for January have been rescheduled to June 2024, attributed to heightened scrutiny in the fabrication process. King Fabrication (Houston, TX), responsible for this stage, has filed a claim citing delays in the fabrication inspection process. This claim has been formally submitted to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), with King Fabrication issuing a "Notice of Delay" to C.W. Matthews, the partnering general contractor.

Numerous meetings involving the Engineering Department, King Fabrication, GDOT, C.W. Matthews Inc., and Prime Engineering Inc. have occurred to address the challenges associated with placing the Gateway Connector Bridge. Recognizing the claim against GDOT and its potential impact on the project timeline, the city is proactively pursuing a swift and amicable resolution. The Engineering and Infrastructure Department, working in collaboration with City Attorneys and project managers overseeing the Gateway Connector Bridge, is actively engaged in resolving the current dispute. This collective effort is aimed at preventing schedule delays and ensuring the successful completion of the Gateway Connector Bridge project



FIRE RESCUE

From the Office of the Fire Chief Fire Department Response Statistics and Activities

February 1 through February 29

NFIRS CATEGORY		AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES
100 - Fire	9	6:04
300 – Rescue & EMS	362	9:24
400 – Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	3	7:07
500 – Service Call	33	7:53
600 – Good Intent Call	19	6:27
700 – False Alarm	9	5:25
Unassigned Responses	20	8:51
Response Total	493	
Monthly Response Times Average		7:18

Personnel Action - Recruitment & Hiring

The Fire Department conducted interviews on February 19, 2024, for certified firefighters to fill critical staffing shortages. With the assistance of Human Resources, four candidates were evaluated on fire-related knowledge, skills, and abilities. Conditional job offers will be sent to candidates. Employment will be contingent on background and occupational physical.

FROM THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - Community CPR Late Entry:

Community CPR Class:

- 1. Quality Personal Care on January 7th, 2024 12 students
- 2. Quality Personal Care on January 14th, 2024 12 students

From the Office of the Fire Marshal

Inspections

80% Facility Inspection – McClarin High School



Business Inspection

1. Motel X – 4874 Old National Highway. The facility failed the initial inspection. Rescheduling will be in conjunction with the Building Department.

Community Risk Reduction

A meeting with Safe Kids USA to discuss a new partnership with Safe Kids GA on the End of Year Bash, Walk & Roll Safety Event on May 4^{th,} 11 am- 1 pm. Looking at locations on Godby Road and Camp Creek. Food, Drink, Car Seat Check, Bicycle Helmets, Poison Prevention.

Partnering with Rezy Save on a Multi-Family Residential Monitoring System for Monitored Smoke Alarms, Water Flow Alarms, CO, and Heat Detectors. Potentially a Pilot program @ 2001 Godby Road.

Summer Smoke Detector Push. Working on graphics and notifications for the program. We will target specific subdivisions with flyers and signs, followed up by a door-to-door campaign checking batteries, checking locations, and installing new detectors. Reviving the See Something/Say Something Program for Multi-Family Residential to ensure working smoke detection.

Constructing a new ordinance for submittal banning Charcoal and Gas Grills on Patios and Balconies of apartment complexes.

Construction Site Visit – Somersby Apartments



Training

Fire Marshal Damon Jones attended **FBI-LEEDA** (Law Enforcement Executive Development Association) Supervisor Leadership Institute.



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Cameron Murray, the nephew of Fire Recruit Marcell Murray, will run all three rounds of the 60mhurdles on Saturday, March 2nd (Session 3 and Session 4). The attached schedule displays the times in GMT which is 5 hours ahead of EST. I have listed the times below in EST.

Currently, we are unaware of who will be broadcasting the track meet in the US. Typically, NBC and/or Peacock broadcast the meets as they have exclusive rights to the **World Championships and Olympics**.

Preliminary Round - 5:10 am, EST (Session 3) Semifinals - 2:10 pm, EST (Session 4) Finals - 4:30 pm, EST (Session 4)

He grew up in College Park off Old National Hwy and attended Westlake High School. He ran track for Quicksilver Track Club. He was the 2017 Gatorade Boys track and field player of the year. He was a 2x high school state champion in the 110m hurdles and long jump. He earned a scholarship to the University of Tennessee and transferred to N.C State where he currently works and trains. He won the ACC indoor 60m hurdles championship last year and made it to the college track and field national championship in the 110m hurdles but got hurt in the finals and didn't finish. He won 2nd place in the USA indoor 60m hurdles championship two weeks ago to earn a spot on the USA team.

GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER (GICC)







Volume II: 2024 Issue 2: February

GATEWAY CAMPUS C PNNECTION



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

For the month of March we celebrate Women's History Month by recognizing the incredible accomplishments of women on and off the campus. 2023 was a year of historic firsts for women. Check out a few of them below!

• Admiral Lisa Franchetti became the first woman to lead the U.S. Navy when the Senate voted to approve her in November.

• Claudia Goldin became the first solo woman awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics (for studying obstacles women face in obtaining equal pay).

• Sen. Patty Murray made history in April by casting her 10,000th vote on the Senate floor and becoming the first woman to do so. Only 32 other senators (all men) have achieved that milestone.

• Vice President Kamala Harris became the first woman to give a West Point commencement speech in the military academy's 221-year history.

IN THIS ISSUE

Items of Interest P. 2 & 3

Upcoming Events P. 3

- PROOF Leadership Conference P. 4
- Staff Milestones & Birthdays P. 5
 - Employee Spotlight P. 6

Test out your knowledge of women's history with a few trivia questions!

- Who is the first African American woman to be elected to the U.S. Congress?
- Who was the first female Supreme Court Justice of the United States?
- Rosalind Franklin's work largely contributed to the discovery of what?
- In 1893, New Zealand was the world's first nation to pass what suffrage-related measure?

• What U.S. Olympic track and field star in 2000 was the first woman to win medals in five different events at the same Olympics?

Answers included at the bottom of the newsletter

Items of Interest from our Facilities



This month GICC hosted another campus-wide birthday celebration for February birthdays along with an amazing super bowl party! The event was filled with games, dancing and even a 360 photo-booth! A very special thank you to Proof and everyone who played a part in making such a lively event! *More photos on page 5.*



NEW DUNKIN' KIOSK GICC was proud to have its grand opening of the new Dunkin' kiosk here on campus. The new

the new Dunkin' kiosk here on campus. The new concessions addition will be open during events at the convention center. And don't forget GICC employees receive a discount on all concessions!



TEAM BUILDING AT PUTTSHACK

The Sales & Marketing team had an amazing lunch and team building outting with the DMO early this month at Puttshack in the upper west side! Darcel Ivey acheived the high score well ahead of the rest of the pack! **Congratulations Darcel!!!**

Meetings, Tournaments & Conferences



The convention center was booked and busy this month! We hosted the Commander's Cup Volleyball Tournament as well as the Southeast Qualifier and Invitational, the year's first All-Teams meeting as well as the Proof Leadership Conference which was the talk of the campus. It takes a full and dedicated team to keep us busy and for our events to run so smoothly. Thank you to everyone on campus for doing their part and contributing to our success as a whole!

Find a full page spread on the Proof conference on page 4!

Cont'd Items of Interest, News from City Hall & Upcoming Events





The College Park Skyhawks played 4 home games in the month of February bringing in fans from all over the city! The arena has a very busy month

coming up in March with 8 Skyhawks games and is offering \$5 tickets as well as \$5 meals at all homegames! So make sure to grab tickets for you and the family to show our team our continued support! See the March homegame schedule below!



GOT GOLF? Every 1st Wednesday of the month you can play nine holes with a cart at the Historic College Park Golf Course. For the month of March the first Wednesday lands on **March 6th**! So be sure to mark your calendars!

News From City Hall

• The makeup day for anyone who missed **Defensive Driving Training** will be **March 14th** from 10:30am-12:30pm at GICC in the German Suites.

• The College Park Wine Stroll will also be on March 14th from 4-8pm so mark your calendars! It's \$30 to purchase a wine glass for the wine stroll and there will be free music on the lawn of the College Park Auditorium.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT GICC

March 8-10 GROOM'D Pet Grooming Expo March 8 Revival Is Now Atlanta

March 10 16th Georgia Beauty Trade Show

March 13-16 2024 Provoked Conference

March 20 2024 South Metro Development Outlook Conference

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UPCOMING EVENTS IN COLLEGE PARK

March 14 **College Park Wine Stroll + Live Music on the Lawn** 4:00 PM 8:00 PM College Park City Auditorium

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GATEWAY ARENA

March 1 **Cleveland Charge vs. CP Skyhawks** March 3 **G League Ignite vs. CP Skyhawks** March 5 **Delaware Blue Coats vs. CP Skyhawks** March 8 **Osceola Magic vs. CP Skyhawks** March 9 **Osceola Magic vs. CP Skyhawks** March 26 **Maine Celtics vs. CP Skyhawks** March 28 **Maine Celtics vs. CP Skyhawks** March 30 **Long Island Nets vs. CPSkyhawks**

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GOLF COURSE

March 6 First Wednesday \$10 Promo

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*Please note that this calendar shows only those events open to the public. For a full facility schedule please check with your department head.



Proof Conference

proof the pudding











This years POP Leadership conference, held on campus at GICC, was an amazing event where several employees were recognized. Randy Atkins, Accounting Manager, won Finance Manager of the Year, Howard Hickman, GM, won General Manager of the Year and Diann Jackson was recognized for 10 years of service! Please join us in congratulating all those recognized as well as thanking everyone who helped put on a beautiful conference!



Employee Spotlight



This month our employee spotlight shines its absolute brightest on our **Executive Director Mercedes Miller**. We're exceptionally proud to be celebrating her as she continues to make black history. Mercedes is one of only 3 black women to serve as Executive Director of a convention center in the United States and has been employed with GICC for 30 years! Our campus, the City of College Park and the entire South Side are proud to call her our own as she continues to build her legacy.

Women's History Month Quiz Answers:

- Shirley Chisholm
- Sandra Day O'Connor
- The double helix structure of DNA
- Women's right to vote
- Marion Jones

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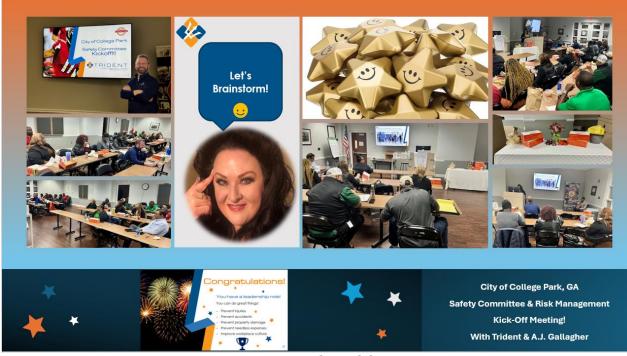
HUMAN RESOURCES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Employee Benefits and Payroll

DOL Finalizing Overtime Rule in April: Regulatory Agenda Released The Department of Labor (DOL) and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) released their semi-annual regulatory agendas. DOL advised that in April 2024, it plans to issue a final rule concerning the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) overtime exemptions for executive, administrative, and professional employees. DOL estimates that the proposed rule would extend overtime protection to 3.6 million more workers and impose \$1.2 billion of direct costs on employers in the first year. DOL proposed to increase the salary basis threshold to \$1,050 per week/\$55,068 per year, representing the 35th percentile of full-time salaried workers in the lowest census region, the South. The highly compensated earnings threshold would be increased to \$143,988/year, representing earnings from the 85th percentile of all full-time salaried workers. At the organizational level, unavoidable fluctuations increased turnover and decreased retention. DOL advised that the salary basis threshold would be automatically increased every three years.

Risk Management

Risk Management is pleased to share some exciting news regarding the Park's recent 1st quarter Safety Committee Meeting, that took place on February 22nd. This meeting was a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to prioritize safety and risk management within the City of College Park. During the meeting, our dedicated team of stakeholders, including representatives from Human Resources, Risk Management, and our esteemed partners at Gallagher and Trident Risk Solutions, came together to discuss various safety concerns and risk management strategies. Through collaborative discussions and expert consultation, we were able to identify key areas for improvement and develop actionable plans to enhance safety measures across our city.



Moreover, I am thrilled to announce that the City of College Park has received recognition from our risk consultant, Trident Risk Solutions.

I am so very proud of the City, you all, and your team.

Thank you so much for all that you do – your dedication, diligence, determination, and hard work. It matters. It makes a real difference. What you are accomplishing is truly exemplary.

Again, working with you has been exciting, and I sincerely look forward to our next projects!

Very Truly Yours,

Ashley

This acknowledgment underscores the City's commitment and effective measures in managing risks and mitigating potential liabilities. I want to express my gratitude to all City employee for their hard work and commitment to ensuring the well-being of our community. Let us continue collaborating to maintain these positive trends and enhance our risk management strategies.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

By-Weekly Strategic Performance

The updates listed below are relative to Strategic Goal: Governance-Customer Service

They are as follows:

Bandwidth/Phone upgrade deployment: We have upgraded the city locations with new internet and new phones. The only remaining location is City Hall. We are scheduling them in the next 2 weeks. We must be sure that Customer Service will have minimal impact during this upgrade. I talked with Lisa Keels about a schedule for deployment. More updates once we set a cutover date.

Backups: Hurrah! Our vendor has installed the (2) backup appliances). Our next step is to migrate the data, test it and go live with the backups. We now have a backup solution that is viable and ready. Limited Information



Barrett Park-We are in the testing phase of the technology deployed at Barret Park. I met Councilwoman McKenzie and one of her residents at the park last Friday to test the technology. It worked fine and we can unlock the bathroom doors via an app. Installed on my phone. The Park Rangers will have this technology to assist residents and guests.



Thanks

POLICE DEPARTMENT

College Park Police Department



2023 Annual Report Chief Connie Rogers



Mission and Vision Statements

Our Mission

The mission of the City of College Park Police Department is to serve the community utilizing 21st Century Policing practices to promote effective crime reduction, while building public trust, and collaborating with community and business stakeholders. To maintain public trust, it is our responsibility to conduct ourselves with the utmost professionalism, respect, and integrity, while always adhering to the highest ethical standards.

Our Vision

The City of College Park Police Department is committed to accomplishing our mission with the use of intelligence-led policing-based approaches in all our policing strategies. Our commitment to exceptional public service will serve as the guiding principle for our relentless crime prevention.



Table of Contents

- 2. Mission and Vision Statement
- 4. College Park Municipal Governing Authority
- 5. Message from the Chief
- 6. Executive Staff
- 7. Organizational Chart
- 8. Agency Goals
- 10. Crime Statistics
- 13. Municipal Court
- 14. Uniform Patrol
- 16. Investigations
- 18. Support Services
- 22. Community Outreach
- 29. South Metro S.W.A.T
- 30. College Park Police Department Awards

College Park Mayor and City Council The College Park Police Department salutes our municipal governing authority.



Mayor The Honorable Bianca Motley Broom



<u>Ward 1</u> Ambrose Clay



<u>Ward 3</u> Ken Allen



<u>Ward 2</u> Joe Carn



<u>Ward 4</u> Roderick Gay

Message from the Chief



We appreciate you taking the time to review the College Park Police Department's 2023 Annual Report. This report will provide an overview of the accomplishments and obstacles encountered by the College Park Police Department (CPPD). The officers and staff of the College Park Police Department exhibit unwavering dedication and compassion while delivering police services of the utmost professionalism to the residents and visitors of the City of College Park.

The purpose of the CPPD's End of Year Report is to ensure information is communicated to each

community member in an open, transparent way while revealing many of the initiatives, awards, and recognition and an understanding of police enforcement activity. We extend a warm invitation to you to visit our department at any time to voice your concerns and become acquainted with your officers.

The past year has presented CPPD and the City of College Park with challenging circumstances. With much anticipation, we anticipate that 2024 will bring the resumption of numerous CPPD programs that have become so popular. The police department cordially invites you to participate in our numerous initiatives as we work together to ensure the safety of the City of College Park. Our community partnerships will be fostered through the return of the Citizen's Police Academy, the implementation of the Neighborhood Watch Program, and the establishment of a real-life crime center equipped with cutting-edge technology.

I want the citizens of College Park to know that I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to serve as your Chief of Police. I thank the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and staff for supporting CPPD, our mission, and our people. I want to acknowledge our staff and volunteers for their diligent efforts and selfless dedication in ensuring the safety of our streets and communities daily. We wish each of you a safe and healthy 2024.

Sincerely, Connie Rogers Chief of Police

Executive Leadership



Chief of Police Connie Rogers



Deputy Chief Sharis McCrary

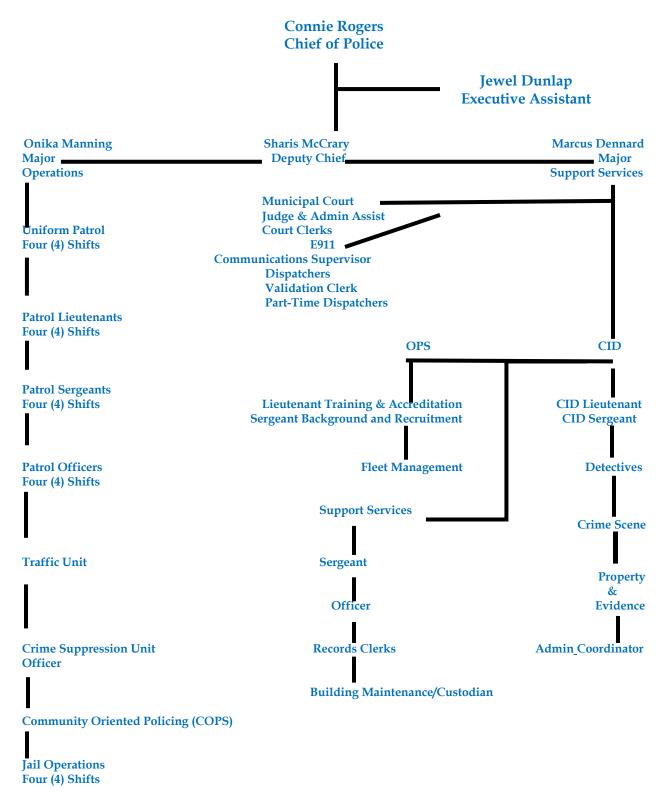
Major Marcus Dennard Support Services Commander



Major Onika Manning Operations Commander



Organizational Chart



Agency Goals

Field Operations Division:

- 1. Continue the use of Body Cameras by all police officers. This will assist with officer accountability in reviewing calls for service. The pending implementation of Axon Fleet 3 in-car video system will significantly increase the effectiveness of this practice.
- 2. Continue efforts to integrate the use of new Taser 7. This equipment can aid police officers when encountering combative persons where force may be necessary.
- 3. Continue to track open record requests related to police activities and meet state mandated requirements.
- 4. Encourage participation in career advancement and leadership training for management and supervisory staff; FBI Leeda, FBI Academy, and Guadian Leadership.
- 5. All sworn personnel attend Crisis Intervention Training.
- 6. Increase staffing by 20% to include both sworn and civilian staff.

Criminal Investigations Division:

- 1. Utilize the Intelligence Led Policing Model to share information internally and externally outside the department to assist in investigating incidents.
- 2. Increase the clearance rate of Part 1 crimes by 5%.

Corrections:

1. Decrease booking time for all inmates processed into the facility. Establish and maintain 100% accountable of all inmate property. Maintain the 90-day standard for disposal of unclaimed property.

Agency Goals (continued)

E-911:

- 1. Ensure all new and current 911 personnel attend relevant training to maintain and increase their skill set and knowledge.
- 2. Track call taking and response times for quality control and improvement.

Municipal Court:

- **1.** Achieve and maintain 100% accuracy with court and citation entries and customer service interaction.
- 2. Achieve and maintain 100% accountability of all monies received, ensuring accurate balancing with receipts.
- 3. Hire the necessary court personnel to bring staffing levels up.

Crime Statistics



Dawn Chappell -Crime and Intelligence Analyst

Dawn has been with the Police Department for just over 30 years. Dawn began her career with the city as a part-time employee, doing odd jobs throughout the city while in college. She then came to work full-time for the Police Department as a dispatcher in September 1993. After a few years in dispatch, she was transferred to CID as the receptionist. While in CID, she discovered that she enjoyed researching information for cases and following trends and patterns. Dawn was allowed to explore cases and send out information on crime trends as they were identified and instantly saw where this was beneficial to CID and the entire uniform division. Dawn has been the crime analyst for

the department for over 15 years and has assisted many other departments with training their crime analysts.

2023 National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Data for College Park Police Department

To gain a measurement of crime trends, College Park Police Department participates in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. As part of a national transition required by the FBI in 2019, CPPD converted to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). NIBRS uses incident-based reporting to identify all elements within an incident, whereas SRS records only a synopsis of the event. This new detail includes information on the type and frequency of offenses, arrest data, and relationships between involved parties. The NIBRS method of reporting is intended to provide a more comprehensive representation of crime trends and patterns by requiring local, state, and federal departments to report crimes in a more robust and uniform manner.

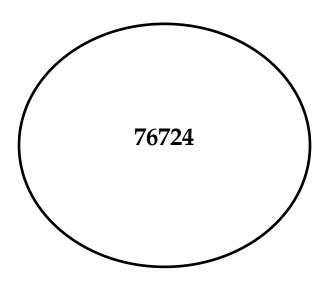
National Incident -Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Type A offenses, the following categories were pulled for 2023 to closely represent "Crimes Against Persons": Murder, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assaults and "Crimes Against Property": Burglary, Larceny, and Motor Vehicle Thefts.

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY
MURDER	BURGLARY
13	105
RAPE	AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
9	133
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS	ROBBERY
215	42
LARCENY	

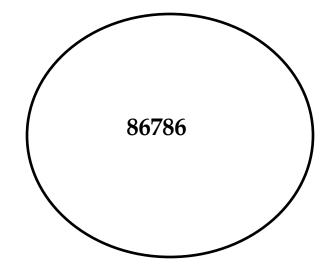
800

Calls for Service

Calls for service consist of any call to which the College Park Police Department responds regardless of whether a report is generated. Calls for service can result in many types of reports, including accident or incident reports. Calls may also be officerinitiated in response to a citizen "flag-down" or proactive patrols initiated by officers to deter and prevent crime. 2023 witnessed a 9.5% increase in Calls for service as compared to 2022.



2022 CALLS FOR SERVICE



2023 CALLS FOR SERVICE



Officer Activity

Officer Activity is represented by a number of incident reports, citations, and warnings written, as well as field interviews completed, arrests made, and accidents investigated. In 2023 we witnessed a 13.4% increase in Total Arrests as compared to 2022.



Municipal Court

The Municipal Court of College Park is a municipal court (a court of law with jurisdiction limited to a city or other municipality. It typically addresses "violations of city ordinances and may also have jurisdiction over minor criminal cases) that tries ordinance violations, issues criminal warrants, conducts preliminary hearings, and hears misdemeanor cases on traffic and other minor criminal crimes.

Fees Collected

Calendar Year 2022

\$467,562.37

\$902,911.60

Calendar Year 2023

Uniform Patrol



The Uniform Patrol Division is the largest and most visible division within the department. This division is broken down into four separate shifts and each shift is supervised by a Lieutenant and two Sergeants. The division commander holds the rank of Major.

College Park officers are deployed daily and nightly across the city to protect College Park's residents, businesses, and visitors. Patrol officers serve as the initial responders to the department's requests for service, and they are required to possess the capability to manage a wide range of complex, diverse circumstances. College Park officers must address all requests for assistance and compose related reports. Furthermore, College Park officers carry out a range of additional tasks in addition to these obligations. The other duties consist of neighborhood patrols, proactive and intensive patrols in highcrime areas, enforcement of traffic laws, conducting accident investigations, directing traffic, field interviews, preliminary criminal investigations, providing support to crime victims, searching for missing individuals of all ages, gathering information from residents regarding neighborhood concerns, and, when required, apprehending criminals.



Officers participating in a road safety check, identifying safety concerns and risks on local roads. This process helps reduce the number of accidents on the road and serves as a starting point for road improvements that can improve the flow of traffic and increase public safety.

Investigations



The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is responsible for determining followup investigative needs for all criminal incidents, and those cases needing special attention or long-term investigation.

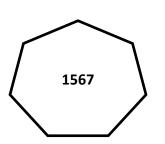
The CID supervisory team reviews incident reports daily and applies a formal case screening process to all crimes to ensure that investigative resources are assigned to those cases which can most benefit from the

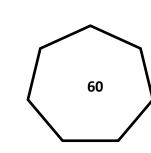
expenditure of additional investigative effort. Screening is based on research and experiences within the agency and case solvability factors.

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is under the command of a Major and is supervised by a Lieutenant and a Sergeant who are responsible for assigning cases and overseeing daily operations. The division consists of six detectives who handle all criminal investigations. CID also has one crime scene investigator.

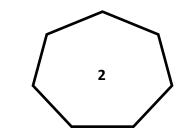
Arrests

Cases Assigned





Search Warrants



Godby Rd/West Fayetteville Rd – Murder Solved



On August 24, 2023, Detectives responded to Godby Road and the West Fayetteville Road intersection in reference to a person shot. The victim was shot multiple times while seating in his vehicle at the traffic light. Detectives conducted a canvas of the area and reviewed video footage attempting to identify potential leads. Upon locating a witness and reviewing the convenience store video footage detectives were able to get a tag number belonging to the suspect vehicle. Within hours of the initial call, the suspect and his vehicle were tracked to a home located in McDonough, Georgia, where with the assistance of Henry County Police Department, 20-year-old Victor Isom, was arrested.

College Park Police Chief Connie Rogers expressed her satisfaction with the quick capture of this violent offender, stating that the victim and the community can now feel safer. She commended the diligent work of the detectives and community partners who collaborated to resolve the case swiftly.



Support Services

The mission of the Support Services Division is to facilitate the operational support of the police department, foster the effective and efficient delivery of police services, and ensure that quality training and standards are maintained within the College Park Police Department.

The Support Services Division is comprised of several different functional areas including E-911, Records Management, Terminal Agency Coordinator, Training, Fleet Management, Court Security, Property and Evidence, and Background and Recruitment. The Support Services Division is under the command of a Major. Support Services is managed by an E-911 Supervisor and two (2) Sergeants, who. oversees the day-to-operations.

Civilian Support Staff



The civilian support staff were presented with flowers on Administrative Professional Day.

E-911



The College Park E-911 Center receives, classifies and prioritizes calls from the public and dispatches the calls that require police response; transfers and/or directs calls that do not require police response to the proper agency/unit; performs stolen checks on items, wanted/missing checks on persons and hit confirmations from entering agencies, and completes GCIC/NCIC forms on missing persons and stolen autos.



The College Park Police Department E-911 Dispatchers hard at work answering calls.



Background and Recruitment/Training Unit

The Background and Recruitment and Community Services at a pop-up job fair on Main Street at the Train Depot.



Background and Recruitment and COPS Officers conducting the Georgia State mandated physical agility testing all recruits must pass to complete Basic Law Enforcement Training.



Special thanks to the Department of Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts for the use of the Tracey Wyatt Recreation Center to host our physical agility tests.

The College Park Police Department is committed to hiring highly qualified and professional police officers and invests in their continued growth through rigorous training requirements.

Training standards for law enforcement officers and agencies are established by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST).

CALENDAR YEAR 2023

Recruitment – New Officers Hired 21

Training 10,785 hours

Community Outreach

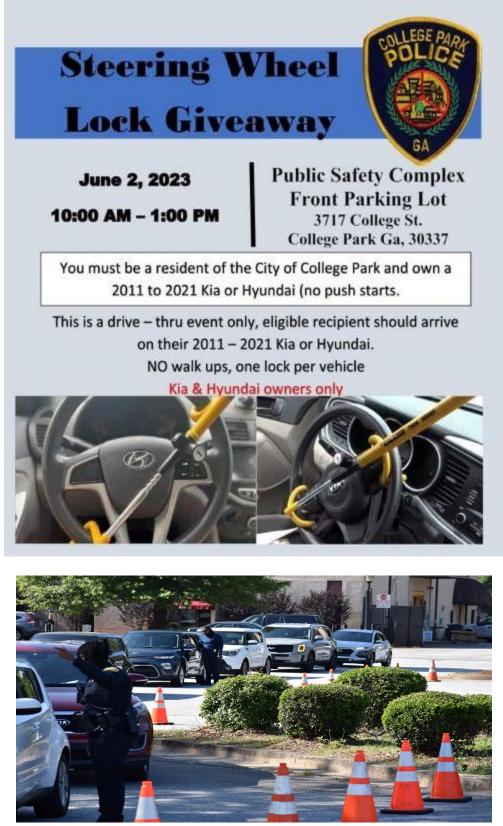
During 2023, the Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Unit interacted with thousands of residents, businesses, houses of worship, and those visiting College Park. The College Park Police Department hosted and participated in a variety of events during the year, both small and large. The Police Department's goal has been to build strong and lasting relationships with those in our community through crime prevention efforts and community events.

Senior Social



The Police Department hosts a Valentine's Senior Social every year to acknowledge the role and significance of the seniors in our community.

Steering Wheel Lock Giveaway



The College Park Police Department teamed up with Kia Corporations to host a free steering wheel lock giveaway on June 2, 2023, to College Park residents to help Kia and Hyundai owners protect their vehicles from being stolen. Those who own a Hyundai model manufactured between 2016 to 2021 or a Kia model manufactured from 2011 to 2021, qualified to receive a free streering wheel lock.

The goal of the event was to help curb car thefts of Kia and Hyundai vehicles, which started to rise after the viral TikTok "Kia challenge." Hyundai and Kia's vehicles have been easily targeted because they use a mechanical key to start rather than a key fob and push-button.

Gun Buy Back Event





With the support of Councilman Carn and City leadership the Police Department hosted a gun buy back event on July 15, 2023. The goal of the event was to prevent firearm violence by reducing the stock of firearms in a community. Gun buybacks also serve as venues for raising awareness of the risks associated with firearms, educating participants about safer firearm storage, and connecting violence prevention organizations, all of which could potentially lead to reductions in firearm crimes, injuries, or deaths.

The College Park Police Department collected eighty-three (83) weapons on that day that will not be used to commit a crime.



National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes policecommunity partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

This event could not take place without the help of our neighboring law enforcement agencies participation and College Park business stakeholders.



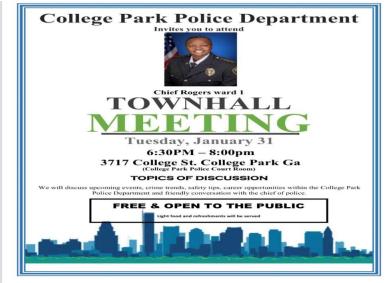


Trunk or Treat



Trunk or Treat has become one of the Police Department's most anticipated events. Using the Tracey Wyatt Recreation Center parking lot, our annual Trunk or Treat allows for a contained area, so children are at less risk of being hit by a vehicle on a dark road. Trunk-or-Treat also allows for another opportunity for the Police Department to get to know the families in our community.

Town Hall Meetings



Chief Rogers hosted Town Hall meetings throughout the year in each Ward to discuss police events, crime trends, safety tips, quality -of-lifeissues and to have productive dialogue with residents about topics that are important to them.





The Shop with a Cop program provides students whose families are having financial issues during the holidays with a great shopping experience. Families must reside inside the city limits of College Park, children must be between the ages of 3 and 13 to participate, families cannot have participated in the program in the last 3 years, and the children must be enrolled in school.

The Police Department assisted ten (10) families during the holiday season.

South Metro SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics)

The College Park Police Department has five (5) active members on the South Metro SWAT Team. The South Metro Swat Team is an elite team of officers from local metro police agencies that are specially trained to handle threatening situations that fall outside the capabilities of patrol officers. The SWAT Team is primarily used to serve high-risk search and arrest warrants across various divisions.

SWAT is also used for other unusual occurrences, including barricaded subjects, sniper situations, dignitary protection and other special assignments. Each SWAT team member is fully equipped and able to respond directly to the scene of an incident for immediate deployment. SWAT also works closely with the Department's Crisis Negotiator to assist the Incident Commander in a particular situation in working toward a successful negotiated resolution.

SWAT Team members train several times a month to include firearm proficiency, building entry and clearing skills, hostage rescue, less lethal force options and terrorist incident resolution.

South Metro SWAT is comprised of College Park Police Department, South Fulton Police Department, Fulton County Schools, Fairburn Police Department, and East Point Police Department.



77 CALL OUTS

College Park Police Department Awards

Sergeant Nico Goss



This is awarded to the supervisor who has distinguished themselves above all other supervisors during the year.



Officer of the Year

This is awarded to the officer whose work performance and actions are clearly above the call of ordinary duty.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building and Grounds Showing Up for The City

Despite the usual busyness of our department, the past few weeks posed significant challenges for this team. In Ward IV, we crafted a stunning hardscape along Riverdale and Herschel Road. Hardscapes involve incorporating hard landscape materials into the environment, such as stones and sod. The additions brought both a sense of tranquility and versatility to this area. Our department's skills in transforming city grounds are evident, and the results speak for themselves.







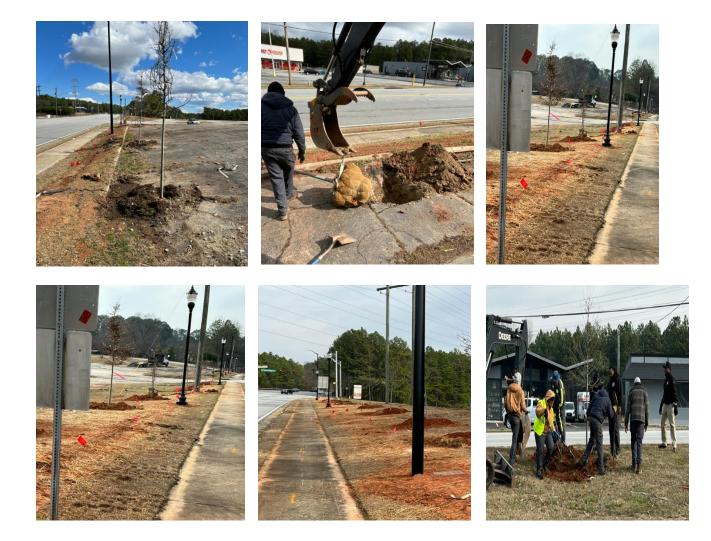




Let the Planting Begin!

Building and Grounds participated in another landscaping project in Ward IV. This required the planting of thirty-eight trees, a combination of Eastern Red Bud, Nuttal Oak and Forest Pansy. When the trees begin to bloom, this area will light up with color changing the city's landscape considerably, creating green spaces which contribute to mental well-being, reduction in stress while encouraging outdoor activity. Great job team! Thanks to the department of Highway and Streets, their team not only assisted us with a portion of the landscaping but was instrumental in digging the holes needed to secure the trees in their future resting place. **(See pictures below)**





Highway, Streets and Storm Water

More street repairs for this team. This repair took place at the Walker Avenue location. There was damage caused by a utility vehicle. There are three types of repairs that this skilled team of workers are responsible for when dealing with asphalt and street defects and that is, sealing cracks, patching potholes, and covering the existing asphalt. You can see below the before and after.





Before

After

A constituent caller worried of others safety provided information of a fallen tree in Ward II on Edison Drive near the Clean Energy facility. The tree was hanging over into the road causing a slight traffic issue. No matter how big or small, this team responds to meet the safety needs of its citizens.



A new ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) ramp from Princeton Avenue to Auditorium Way was installed this month by this team. Our city enforces ramp building codes to prevent people from experiencing situations like falling, tripping and being unable to access certain areas of the city due to unaccommodating travel routes (*pictures below*).



Watch below as this team preps a utility cut for asphalt using hot mix on Lee Street and Temple Avenue, after underground repairs to utilities was done by the Water and department. This is an essential step as it ensures a successful repair while maintaining the integrity of the surrounding pavement.



Keep College Park Beautiful (KCPB)

Keep College Park Beautiful's Executive Director facilitated a site visit to SMI, a glass facility located in College Park. Councilman Carn requested a site visit to speak with SMI facility management regarding the possibilities of curbside glass recycling. We met with Eugene Moreland, plant manager, Mark Lyons, supply manager and Kevin Fitzgerald, operation manager. SMI, Strategic Materials, Inc., has a 125-year history and is North America's most comprehensive glass recycler with nearly 50 locations in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Two facilities are in the Metropolitan Atlanta, one of which is in College Park on

Rosevelt Highway. The SMI team gave us a tour of the plant grounds, while explaining their operation of collection, processing, and sales *(pictures below)*.

SMI generates through the collection sources from haulers, companies, governmental entities, and other collectors' tons of glass daily. Separating glass by color clear and amber generates the highest monetary value. All other colors can be mixed and bring a lesser value. SMI offers a roll of containers that they service which will allow collection of glass by color as they prefer. SMI shared their experience with a manned operation which separates the glass as requested and is then delivered to them at the plant facility.

Should College Park begin a curbside recycling program, it is desired that glass be included. Doing so could involve additional arrangement depending on the company College Park uses for the single stream collection. All programs usually carry a fee and can range upwards to \$17 per household per month.





Keep College Park Beautiful with Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation - Legislative Day at the Capital February 8, 2024.

Additionally, KCPB participated in the day at the Capital. It was an opportunity to connect with State Representatives and Senators. Affiliates set up displays that show their work in meeting the objectives of the KAB/ KGBF programs.



Programs areas include litter reduction, beautification, recycling, and water conservation. I was joined by Councilwoman McKenzie, Sanitation Superintendent, Cedric Hand, and board members Charles Jefferson, Chair, Sakena Abernathy, Kenny Anderson, and Constance Rodriguez. (**Picture on left**)

Keep College Park Beautiful presented the accomplishment of our first year which ends next month. Keep College Park Beautiful also received the 2023 Governor's Circle Award. The Governor's Circle Award is given for outstanding achievements in community beautification and environmental

sustainability. The Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation presents the award in recognition of exemplary performance in litter reduction, waste minimization and community greening.



Keep America Beautiful National Conference – National Conference February 12-14, 2024.

Attended the Keep America Beautiful National Conference. The theme of the conference was The Power of Beauty, KAB has been inspiring and educating people to take action every day to improve and beautify their community. Opening remarks by KAB, President and CEO Jenny Lawson, gave an overview of nationwide KAB activities and goals of the next 3 years. Keep College Park Beautiful received the President's Circle Award. The President's Circle Award is given to communities who have are in good standing and have met all program affiliate requirements. Keep College Park also was also acknowledged for being the 1st affiliate to take the Greatest American Cleanup pledge and receive the Mission Badge. Mayor Brianca Motley Broom signed the pledge in November 2023.

Some topics addressed during the conference included: Green Space and Social Impact; the sound of a Billion Butterflies is Fading, But You can Help; Creating Beautiful and Sustainable Communities Through Educational Initiatives; Ethical Approaches to Litter & the Unhoused; Recycling the "unrecyclable," and Generative AI and the future of our Work, just to name a few. We did a beach cleanup on the first day of the conference in addition to other networking opportunities.

Keep College Park Beautiful was acknowledged at the conference for being **the** 1st City to join the Greatest American Cleanup Campaign nationwide. This is KAB's challenge to have 2,500 communities participating the cleanup efforts that will mark the 250th Birthday of the United States of America. Keep College Park Beautiful was also awarded the President's Circle Award. The President's Circle Award acknowledges the affiliate has a active board of directors, an active Executive director, the Director attends the KAB National Conference training, complete the affiliate profile and governance, conduct the community appearance report, event reporting, pay annual affiliate fees, implement a minimum of one activity in each impact area, and adopt and implement One Shared Brand logo standards.

Sanitation

There has been a rise in illegal dumping at our recycling centers. An overloading of householding items and excessive trash are spilling onto the surrounding areas of our recycling center. This situation complicates the recycling process, as some items end up being treated as trash. As usual, our Sanitation team to action by cleaning up the area and ensuring that all labels are visible for residents to continue efforts to sort their recyclables.





Water & Sewer

Water and Sewer tackled a major water project, which required installation of (6) six water taps on East Harvard.





RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS

Automatic External Defibrillators (AED)Replaced

With collaboration with College Park Fire, Ron Taylor, Division Chief of EMS for the City



of College Park and the Recreation and Cultural Arts five Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) were purchased to replace current AEDs. The new five AEDS were replaced at the Brady Center, City Auditorium, Conley Center, Wyatt Center, and the Wyatt Community Center. The AED were a city-wide interdepartmental budget for replacing the equipment and were purchased from Cardio Partners, Inc.

When every second counts, the AED can be a lifesaving equipment. The department is excited to have the new AEDs in the facilities, but staff hopes that the technology is never needed. Recreation & Cultural Arts year around staff and seasonal staff are trained yearly on the equipment for in case they are needed they are familiar with the equipment.

New Purple Carpet Gymnastics Floor Exercise

The College Park Gymnastics replaced the gymnastics floor exercise carpet. The floor was replaced with new purple carpet bonded foam for the floor exercise equipment. The prior carpet on the floor was over 10 years old, and the foam and carpet were two separate pieces of equipment, and the carpet would slide and move after a period of performing on the floor. The new carpet has foam bonded to the carpet which prevents the carpet from sliding.

The gymnastics program was established in 1976 by Donna Stuart and accommodates 650 participants every eight weeks. It is one of the largest programs for the department in which the program runs year and offers programming for ages 12 months and up for boys



and girls along with a competitive woman's gymnastics program, birthday parties, Parent's Night Out, private lessons, and hosts several competitive gymnastics meets at the facility a year.

This equipment was budgeted, and the new type of flooring is state of the art equipment. and the gymnastics program and staff are delighted to have the updated equipment.

Outreach to Woodland Middle School

The Recreation & Cultural Arts staff, Kirkland Arnold, Tanya Laplanche, and Bryant



Anderson attended Woodland Middle School's family night on February 22, 2024, from 5:00-7:30 PM. Staff shared programming flyers, information and answered question for the students and parents of Woodland Middle School.

Staff also outreached to Embarcadero Apartment on Superbowl Sunday to provide upcoming information for programs offered at the Recreation & Cultural Arts Department for the community.

Aerospace Awareness Student Featured on 11 Alive

A student of the Aerospace Awareness program offered at the Brady Recreation Center was featured on 11 Alive news on February 21, 2024. Faith Washington, 11-year-old Aerospace Awareness student took her first fight ever.

Recreation Center.



Posted by Bryant J. Anderson 4d · College Park · 🕥

Come join Aerospace Awareness Inc in the City of College Park! -> https://www.collegeparkrca.com/ aerospace-awareness



11alive.com Metro Atlanta 11-year-old takes first flight

accomplishment is rewarding and creates a foundation for future life structure and success. The curriculum is both fun and structured.



The Aerospace Awareness program was founded by

Thomas Abair. Four years ago, the program began

The Aerospace Awareness program looks to bridge

underprivileged children 9-15 years old of age. This project is motivated to provide an experience that will

the gap between specialized knowledge and

with a summer camp programming and offers the

program year around and is offered at the Brady



The program covers the study of flight in and beyond the Earth's atmosphere, and it focuses on team building, leadership, flight theory and flight instruction executed on a computer flight simulator.

Through the years of the program the Aerospace Awareness program has introduced many young students to flight and aviation. The program has organized a scheduled helicopter landing at the Bill Badgett Stadium to show them all different types of flight.

Wine Stroll and Music on the Lawn

College Park Main Street Association (CPMSA) and the College Park Recreation & Cultural Arts Department are collaborating for the annual Wine Stroll and Music on the



Lawn event on March 14, 2024, from 4:00 PM-8:00 PM.

Come out and join us for a delightful evening of wine tasting and strolling along College Park's Historic Main Street corridor. Experience the best of College Park unique and dynamic businesses located on Main Street and Virgina Avenue. The event will commence at the The Depot, 3724 Main Street, where you can check-in and receive

your commemorative wine glass with light fare and some freebies from local businesses.

Your wine glass grants you unlimited pours at any of the participating businesses situated on Main Street and Virginia Avenue. It's an opportunity to unwind, savor exquisite wines, and explore the charm of local shops and restaurants.

This year's Main Street Wine Stroll is set to be even more delightful with live music on the lawn from 6:30-8:00 PM featuring John Beal at the College Park Auditorium, located at 3631 Main Street. To ensure you can fully indulge in the festivities, golf cars will be readily available to transport patrons to and from businesses on Main Street and Virginia Avenue, as well as to the Live Music on the Lawn event.