AIRPORT AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Federal & State Governmental Affairs

Last week, the first federal FY 2025 appropriations application was submitted with the remainder of applications to be sent to our federal delegation by or before April 5, 2024. The two projects submitted were the Camp Truitt Revitalization Phase I project and the project for Lead/Galvanized water pipelines replacement within five (5) locations throughout the City of College Park.

During the Senate Appropriations meeting regarding HB 916, the FY 25 Georgia State Budget, several key points emerged. Notably, the budget was set at \$1.5 billion less than the Adjusted Fiscal Year 24 budget, indicating a significant reduction in financial allocations. However, amidst these



reductions, the Senate echoed the House's proposal for pay raises for state employees, ensuring consistency in this aspect of the budget. The House had initially allocated \$22 million for Superior Court Judges and the Senate opted to leave a significant portion of this untouched and in the budget. Crucially, funding for essential areas such as school safety grants and school bus resources remained intact in the Senate's version of the budget, emphasizing the continued commitment to education and student welfare. Additionally, the Senate notably doubled the proposed increase in the Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program, reflecting a heightened focus on supporting families and childcare initiatives. However, differences emerged in certain allocations between the House and Senate. While the House had proposed an increase in funding for the Secretary of State (SOS) specifically for ballot machines, the Senate did not match this increase, suggesting differing perspectives on the allocation of resources in this area. Moreover, an innovative efficiency measure was proposed by the Senate, aiming to streamline resources by combining the costs for dyslexia and literacy screeners through the utilization of the same screening tools for both purposes. Furthermore, the Senate marked a significant \$6 million allocation for the State Trauma Care Commission, underscoring the importance placed on healthcare and emergency services within the budget. Ultimately, despite these variations and deliberations, the Senate Appropriations Committee unanimously passed a motion to approve HB 916.

House Higher Education Committee

During the meeting, Senator Bill Cowsert presented SR 579, proposing that the Georgia General Assembly enact legislation to legalize sports betting in the state. This bill would have the Georgia Lottery serving as a sort of licensing agency for gambling. The bill stipulates that 15% of the revenue generated from sports betting would be allocated to address problem gambling, while 80% would be directed to the Georgia Lottery. The discussion was held as a hearing only, without any decisions made.

Senate Transportation Committee

During the Senate Transportation meeting on March 18th, Amber Clark, the President of the Georgia Airports Association, delivered a comprehensive presentation on various aspects of airport funding and development in the state. She began by providing an overview of the FY 24 state funding, which initially stood at \$26.3 million. However, the House approved an increase of \$53.3 million, and the Senate approved an increase of \$71 million, resulting in a final approved figure of \$124.5 million for airport improvements in FY24. Additionally, Clark gave an overview of the Georgia Airports Association and highlighted past projects undertaken in 2023. Notably, she emphasized the need for a state hangar funding program, citing its significance in boosting fuel sales, increasing ad valorem taxes, and bolstering local economic impact while aiding airports in becoming more self-sustaining. Clark referenced a recent GDOT hangar study indicating a requirement for 1400 additional hangars in the state, amounting to \$450 million in construction costs. Lastly, she addressed the necessity for state height restriction legislation for Georgia airports to ensure airport protection, revealing plans to release a height restriction bill in 2025. Clark's presentation provided valuable insights into the current state of airport funding, development projects, and the impending legislative needs essential for the continued growth and security of Georgia's airports.

Senate Finance Committee

During Senate Finance on March 18th, several House bills were presented. Representative Crowe introduced HB 101, proposing changes to the income tax with a focus on rural hospital tax credits that would be effective January 21, 2025. There was a successful motion to amend the bill for data centers, with only one opposition, and another motion to remove section 1.4 which passed. The bill was then motioned to pass as amended, with only two members dissenting. Additionally, Representative Camp presented HB 283 regarding sales and use tax on new manufactured single-family structures, and this bill passed after an amendment to change the effective date. Representative Washburn introduced HB 1031 concerning mandatory reappraisal of property parcels for Ad Valorem tax, passing unanimously with the substitute. Lastly, Representative Crowe's HB 1182 aims to revise low-income housing tax credits, and this resulted in a tie vote of 5-5, leaving it in the committee for further consideration.

During the Senate Finance Committee meeting held on March 19th, several key legislative proposals were discussed and decided upon. Firstly, HB 1019 was deliberated upon, which aimed to increase the state minimum floor for homestead exemptions for all jurisdictions from \$2,000 to \$4,000. The Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) drafted a proposed amendment that sought to provide more tax relief by increasing all homestead exemptions by \$2,000. However, Senator Albers raised concerns, arguing that the ACCG amendment was inconsistent with the original intent of the bill. In response, Senator Albers proposed an amendment that would change the proposed increase from \$4,000 to \$10,000 on specific lines within the bill. This amendment was subsequently passed, and the bill itself passed unanimously. Another bill discussed was HB 170, introduced by Representative Kasey Carpenter, which pertained to the taxation of certain digital products and services. The original language of the bill was replaced with SB 344, a bill previously passed by the committee, which

created a sales tax holiday for hunters. SB 344, sponsored by Senator Anavitarte, exempted firearms, ammunition, gun safes, and related accessories during an 11-day period each year. HB 170, with the substituted language, passed with three opposed. Additionally, HB 308, sponsored by Representative Newton, was addressed during the meeting. This bill concerned certain medical preceptor rotations and aimed to revise tax credits. An amendment was proposed during the discussion to include dentists in the scope of the bill, which was passed unanimously. Lastly, HB 1020, introduced by Representative Sainz, focused on revising income tax credits for military zones that qualify for designation as less developed areas. This bill barely passed, indicating a close vote on the matter.

During the Senate Finance Committee meeting on March 20th, the main agenda item was HB 1116, sponsored by Representative Debbie Buckner. HB 1116 focused on the extension of the sunset date for the income tax credit related to the rehabilitation of historic structures, specifically the home portion. The bill garnered significant support among committee members due to its aim of promoting the rehabilitation of historic structures, which contributes to preserving cultural heritage and revitalizing communities. Key points discussed during the meeting included raising the cap on residential historic tax credits to \$2.5 million and extending the sunset date to 2027. These changes were intended to align the residential historic tax credit program with the commercial historic tax credit program, ensuring consistency and continuity in the application of tax incentives for historic preservation efforts. Ultimately, HB 1116 was voted out of the Senate Finance Committee with overwhelming support, passing with only three votes in opposition.

Community Outreach, Updates & Events



The Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) Airport Station Closure has a temporary closure to renovate the station. This means that College Park MARTA station will not conduct service to the Airport MARTA station during temporary closure April 8th – May 19th. Please note that Bus Shuttle Services will take place beginning 22

hours per day, $4 \, \text{AM} - 2 \, \text{AM}$, every 12 minutes from College Park MARTA station to Airport Station. Wayfinding signage and additional buses will be on standby and additional staff will be on-site to assist shuttle riders. Please visit <u>MARTA (itsmarta.com)</u> to learn more. This important announcement is posted on our website as well.

The Airport Careers/Jobs weblink is on our College Park Home page and on the Airport Affairs web page for College Park residents and businesses to review. There will be a **Job Fair on Saturday, April 13, 2024, 10 AM – 3 PM** at Benjamin E. Hays High School (3450 Benjamin E. Mays Dr., SW, Atlanta, GA 30331). Please go to www.ATL.com to register.

On Wednesday, March 20th, Airport & Governmental Affairs along with several of our elected officials attended the 2024 South Metro Development Outlook Conference (SMDO). Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Aerotropolis Alliance and the ATL Districts Community Improvement Districts (CID) talk about transportation as a major objective in the region, as future investment at the Airport is directly tied to the Capital Improvements Plan and the ATL Next Master Plan.

On March 21st, in conjunction with efforts of Airport & Governmental Affairs, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and College Park Public Works Dept., completed the water system repairs at the Atlanta Fire & Rescue Department on Clipper Drive.

BUILDING PERMITS

Permits and Inspections





The Department of Building & Property Sustainability are rapping up the final Inspections of a renovated Hotel (WYNDHAM former Howard Johnson). This hotel renovation is a part of the strategic improvements in the Airport District and Ward 3 lead by Councilwoman Tracie Arnold. Please be on the lookout for the upcoming ribbon cutting for the Grand reopening.

Celebrate with us Building Safety Month



Building Safety Month is an international campaign celebrated in May to raise awareness about building safety. Please note the following link for more information. https://www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/building-safety-month/

Code Enforcement





Hotel Sweep - 03/18/2024

The Code Enforcement team continues to make positive changes in our community and in Ward 3. The Code Enforcement Division conducted multiple hotel inspections for the reopening of MotelX located on Old National Hwy. MotelX will change its business name and business model to fit our building code and city ordinances before a Certificate of Occupational License will be issued.

WARD 3 and 4 Townhall Meetings





The Code Enforcement Division was delighted to attend, speak, and share updates on code enforcement matters within their perspective wards at Ward 3 and Ward 4 townhall meetings for Councilwoman Arnold and Councilman Gay. Our team enjoyed the opportunity to engage the public and assist in any way possible to promote our city's progress.

Occupational Tax Division

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. 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.

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. SHARE LINK TO SECTIONPRINT SECTIONDOWNLOAD (DOCX) OF SECTIONSEMAIL SECTIONCOMPARE VERSIONS

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

First Quarter Updates

First quarter updates for the office of the City Clerk are as follows (from January 1 to present):



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK FIRST QUARTER UPDATES 2024



Swearing In - Keep College Park Beautiful Member

The Office of the City Clerk had the esteemed opportunity to swear in Ward 2 appointee Kenneth Anderson as a member to the Keep College Park Beautiful Committee. Mr. Anderson was unable to attend the previous swearing-in ceremony of the Keep College Park Beautiful members that was held on January 18, 2024, at the first Keep College Park Beautiful Board meeting of the vear. ln addition to Board members, the Office of the City Clerk is requested to swear in College Park Police Officers and elected officials occasionally.



Green Day Friday



Staff were invited to dress up in their favorite green wear to kick off the St. Patrick's Holiday. To add a bit more flare to the day, we made it a contest on whoever had on the best Green Day outfit won a gift from the office of the City Clerk. This year's winner was Kesha Clark from our Inspections Department. Themed days are a small way to boost morale throughout the city for staff members. Additional themed days are on the horizon as we hop into the Spring season.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Main Street/Virginia Avenue

College Park Main Street Association (CPMSA) Spring Kick-off – the "Wine Stroll" collaborating with the Department of Recreation & Cultural Arts "Live Music on the Lawn" was a success! We estimated over 300 people in attendance, and we sold out of wine glasses again this year! For the first time, we incorporated golf carts from the College Park Golf Course to escort people to North Main Street and Virgnia Station, with the assistance of volunteers and our College Park Police Department.





We are excited to announce the Ribbon Cutting of the Virgina Avenue Bridge Artzybella Mural on March 30, 2024, from 4:00PM – 5:00PM to celebrate and commemorate this vibrant addition to the community. This is a collaboration of the College Park Main Street Association, City of College Park, and the Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance.



New Business Presents "Push Push" at 1805 Harvard Ave. Come out and support two nonprofit organizations.



We are receiving a lot of inquiries and proposals from Developers interested in our available city properties. Staff, the College Park Business and Industrial Development Authority (BIDA), and Stream Realty LLC Representatives are all working diligently to bring quality and needed developments into our great City of College Park, GA. We will "Keep You in The Know as We Grow"!



https://view.ceros.com/stream-realty-atl/six-west/p/1

FIRE RESCUE

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF

Fire Department Response Statistics and Activities March 15 through March 28

NFIRS CATEGORY		AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES
100 - Fire	4	8:34
200 Overpressure Rupture,	0	
300 – Rescue & EMS	171	8:50
400 – Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	0	
500 – Service Call	1	7:55
600 – Good Intent Call	11	11:33
700 – False Alarm	10	5:47
Unassigned Responses	27	8:23
Response Total	224	
Monthly Response Times Average	9:03	

In-Service Training

1. External Water Source - Drafting

Fire personnel were shown the techniques of drawing water from a constructed water tank as an external source.



- 2. Pediatric Advanced Life Support Recertification
- 3. Leadership Training

Personnel Action - Recruitment & Hiring

The Fire Department conducted written examinations for two (2) candidates. The remaining candidates have been extended conditional offer letters pending medical screening.

The Fire Department extended an offer letter to a qualified Administrative Assistant Candidate. The candidate is completing the final hiring phases.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

Community Risk Reduction

- 1. Citizen Home Safety Inspection
- 2. Home Fire Inspection
- 3. Smoke Detector Installation (2)

Fire Plan Review & Certificate of Occupancy

- 1. Building Construction Final Holiday Inn
- 2. Certificate of Occupancy Issuance (14)

FROM FIELD OPERATIONS - PUBLIC RELATIONS

- 1. Ward 4 Community Meeting
- 2. Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Fire Safety Message

Vehicle Fire Safety



It's important to act quickly if your car catches on fire.

If your vehicle catches fire:

- Pull over as quickly as you can when it is safe.
- Once you have stopped, turn off the engine.
- Get everyone out of the car. Never return to a burning car. Do not try to fight the fire yourself.
- If you think there is a fire under the hood or trunk, do not open it. This could cause the fire to grow.
- Move everyone at least 100 feet from the burning car and well away from traffic.
- Call 911.

To prevent a vehicle fire:

- Have your car serviced regularly by a trained mechanic.
- Keep gas cans or propane tanks away from passengers. Tightly seal and place them on a flat surface to make sure they stay upright.
- Keep windows open to stop fumes from building up if you must put gas cans or propane tanks inside your vehicle.
- Drive safely to avoid an accident.

For more information and free fire-safety resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.







OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Recruitment

Vacancy Report

03.01.24 - 03.31.24

<u>Job #</u>	Job Title	<u>Openings</u>
Arena & GICC		
NEW	Custodian - Arena	1
4970	Part-Time Custodian - GICC	1
4970-060	Lead Parking Attendant - GICC	1
4970-094	Part Time Crew Worker - GICC	1
4970-098	Crew Worker - GICC	1
4970-924	Part-time Parking Attendant	2
Fires Rescue		
3520	Firefighter/AEMT	4
3500-004	Administrative Assistant	1
City Clerk		
1100-006	Receptionist - City Hall	1
1100-900	Part-Time Custodian	1
Executive		
NEW	Grants Manager	1
1300-001	City Manager	1
1300-010	Executive Assistant to the City Manager	1
Purchasing		
1517-011	Purchasing Administrator	1
Information Technology		
1535-013	Executive Assistant - IT	1
Human Resources & Risk Management		
1540-001	Director of Human Resources & Risk Management	1

Engineering		
1575-018	GIS Coordinator	1
1575-001	City Engineer	1
Public Information		
1570-001	Director of Communications	1
<u>Police</u>		
2650-904	Part-time Records Clerk - Courts	1
3223-000	Police Officer (Continuous Recruitment)	
3400-001	Part-time Jailer	1
3400-901	Jailer	1
3800-015	Communications Operator - E911 Dispatcher	5
Public Works		
4200-012	Equipment Operator II - Highways & Streets	1
4620-012	Laborer I - Water & Sewer	1
5195-910	Part-Time Litter Collector - Building & Grounds	1
4400-051	Equipment Operator I - Water & Sewer	1
SEASPRKATTD24	Park Attendant - Building & Grounds	1
Power		
4600-023	Electrical Line Worker - Power	1
Recreation & Cultural Arts		
6110-021	Receptionist - Recreation & Cultural Arts	1
SUMCMPCSLR24	2024 Summer Day Camp Counselor	18
SUMCMPCUSTO24	2024 Summer Day Camp Custodian	3
SUMCMPMGR24	2024 Summer Day Camp Manager	2
SUMGYMINSTRC24	2024 Summer Gymnastics Instructor	10
<u>Inspections</u>		
7200-002	Building Inspector/Plan Reviewer	1
Economic Development		
7520-001	Director of Economic Development	1

Risk Management

Risk Management teamed up with Trident Risk Solutions once again to host its last Defensive Distracted Driving Training for the year. This collaborative effort aimed to enhance awareness and promote safe driving practices among our staff members. By prioritizing safety and investing in ongoing training initiatives, the City of College Park remains committed to ensuring the well-being of our employees and fostering a culture of responsibility.



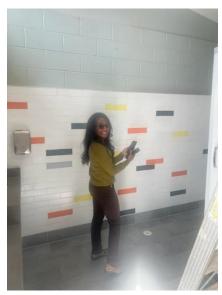
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Access Control: IST has trained Public Safety team members on how to use the new access control system. Unfortunately, there are more doors that need access control. I have sent the quote to both Chief Elmore and Chief Rogers. I am waiting for their response.

Bandwidth/Phone upgrade deployment Update: Our phone deployment in City Hall has been pushed back again to April 16th because of scheduling conflicts for Customer Service. All other locations have been upgraded to a "Cloud Voice" system.

Barrett Park-Update: We now have "WIFI" in the park at Barrett Park. The new phones have arrived for the park rangers. We will program them in the first week of April. Then we will need a week to test. Once this is done Councilwoman McKenzie will determine a date to open.





Camera Upgrade:

I have added a quote to the April 1st. agenda to upgrade all "city owned cameras. It is imperative that we upgrade these cameras immediately. There are "Life Safety" issues that are crucial to the safety of our citizens, staff, and guests of our city.

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

POLICE

Background and Recruitment

In our continued efforts to recruit in the College Park Police Department, Command Staff, along with other members of the police department, held a hiring board on March 19, 2024.

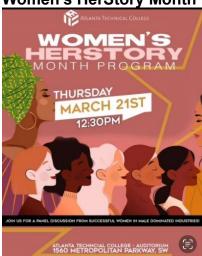
The board recommended one certified police officer, four non-certified police officers, and one dispatcher for hire. These individuals will undergo an intensive background check. Once all background and hiring guidelines are met, we look forward to them joining the College Park Police department family.

Community Outreach



On Friday, March 22, 2024, the rain did not keep members of College Park's Police department from assisting with the Ward 3 Food Giveaway, held at the Tracey Wyatt Recreation Center. The City of College Park participated in the Atlanta Metro Cities Health Initiative, which evaluated citizens' health needs in College Park. With research and data, the information supported the need to provide citizens access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

Women's HerStory Month Program



On March 21, 2024, Major Manning participated in a panel discussion at Atlanta Technical College, *Women's HerStory Month Program*, which focused on successful women in a male dominated industry.

Currently, women make up only 12% of sworn law enforcement officers and 3% of police leadership in the United States.

The panel discussed some challenges faced by women in a male-dominated profession, such as increased challenges while attempting to balance work and family responsibilities, sexual harassment, and a lack of mentoring. Ward 4 Town Hall Meeting



Major Dennard and Major Manning participated in a Ward 4 Citywide Town Hall Meeting. Provided were updates regarding upcoming events, city initiatives, and departmental updates.

Major Dennard updated Ward 4 residents on crime which showed a 22% decrease, compared to this time last year, accounting for only 8% of the total crime in the city.

Public Safety

3710 E. Main St (Teeny Weeny), *Burglary Forced Business*, Police Officers received an alarm call at the mention location, after arriving on scene a male was found in the location sleeping on a couch; one subject taken into custody.

2000 Convention Center Concourse (GICC), *Cruelty to animals x* 7, College Park Police Officer, while conducting patrols located 2 small dogs and 5 brand new puppies left unattended a locked vehicle. Contact was made with the owner who advised she had left the dogs in the vehicle for over twelve (12) hours. She was not aware that the dogs had puppies. One of the puppies was deceased. The dogs were taken to Harvard yard and released to PW2: one subject taken into custody.

2514 West Point Ave, Aggravated assault X2 / Possession of firearm by felon X2 / Possession of firearm during commission of a felony X2, The Police Department was dispatched to the location mention, in reference to a victim reported he went to the business regarding money he paid for a 4-wheeler to be repaired. Upon entering the business to ask about his property and money, employees pulled out guns on him; two subjects were taken into custody.

2135 Godby Rd (Chelsea Garden Apartments), *Marijuana with Intent to Distribute.* The Crime Suppression Unit contacted two (2) individuals loitering, after investigating. One individual was found to be in possession of a large quantity of marijuana, 3.4 ounces packed for distribution: two subjects taken into custody.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building and Grounds

New Hires

The Building and Grounds team extends a warm welcome to our new hires: Jakai Smith, Benjamin Thompson, Anil Court, Marticus Atkins, Dontae Askew, Minnette Ballard, Lisa Antoine, Jamecca Spencer, Malik Luckett and Otis Florence, Jr. These dedicated individuals will be taking on important roles as Litter Collectors, Park Attendants, and Labor I's. We are thrilled about this department's growth and eagerly anticipate the valuable assistance these new team members will provide.

Revitalizing Our City's Visual Appeal into the 21st Century

The Building and Grounds team adds beauty and visual appeal to our City Hall premises. It's a project that has been on this department's agenda for a while. The goal is to impact on our city's overall image and to create a positive first impression for our citizens and traveling tourists exploring the area, or even potential investors. Much like that of the Keep College Park Beautiful agenda, this department is committed to environmental sustainability, aesthetics, and community well-being.

We hope you; our visitors, residents and employees enjoy the newness of this outdoor environment. Feast your eyes on the transformation.





Beginning

Choice of Plants & Flowers





















Highway, Streets and Storm Water

This department plays an intricate part in defining the look of our cities. It connects communities, determines the way we move and plays a crucial role in the development of safer roads. The Highway, Streets, and Storm Water department has a challenging responsibility in that they restore old infrastructure and provide future road infrastructure to tackle future challenges, such as an increased urban population.

The Public Works Department and its divisions are all readily available to address the needs of our governing body and of our community. This is noticeable with the number of calls from our constituent base updating us on potential road hazards.

For instance, recently this department was called on to repair a catch-basin on Hemphill Road. Over time, during heavy storms, erosion can play a pivotal part in the recession of these basins, causing cracks. See the example of what this looks like.





The Repair

Safety

Consistency is the hallmark of this department when it comes to repair and maintenance. Their unwavering commitment ensures safe travel for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. After all, potholes, cracks, and uneven surfaces can pose serious risks, leading to accidents and injuries. This department actively engages in street refreshing, pothole repair, paving, and the installation of new street crossings – all with safety as the driving forces. These efforts contribute to enhanced accessibility, improved visibility, and smoother traffic flow – critical components of their essential projects. See the below for reference.





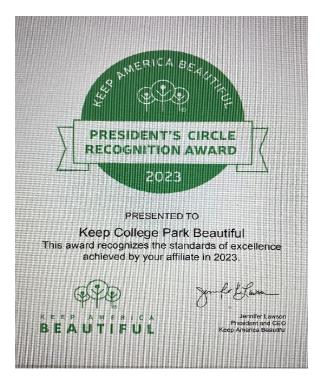




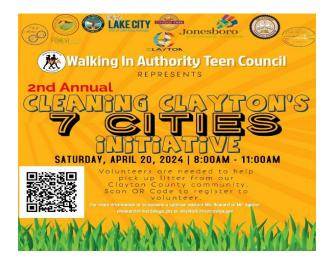


Keep College Park Beautiful (KCPB)

Keep College Park Beautiful achieved the President's Circle Keep America Beautiful (KAB) 2023 reporting year. Through this accomplishment, Keep College Park Beautiful has upheld the KAB mission, values, and vision. Keep College Park Beautiful maintains certification in the KAB national network through compliance with the KAB annual reporting and fulfillment of the other necessary requirements.



Keep College Park Beautiful is working for the second year with the 7 Cities Cleanup Initiative. Information regarding the event is below. Please contact Keep College Park Beautiful at fkennedy@collegeparkga.com to volunteer for this event. The location for College Park is to be determined. Each city involved will select their location.



Sanitation



Sanitation Administrator, Mercedes Lewis actively took part in the Keep College Park Beautiful City-Wide Clean-Up. Her efforts were concentrated on Willis Park and the adjacent creek situated in Ward II. Accompanied by two colleagues, they successfully gathered a total of four bags of litter.

Animal Control

Mike Antol, the Animal Control Officer, remains a persistent thorn in the side of our uninvited and unwelcome animal wildlife guests on city property. But can we blame our furry neighbors? After all, they were here first. Nonetheless, when there's a call about wildlife on school grounds, or city property, too close to our citizens, tourists, or children, Mike is occasionally summoned into action to extinguish this metaphorical fire. Would you believe in the diversity of wildlife living amongst us? Look!!!

This wild opossum was found hanging out of one of our residents Herby Curby on Walker Avenue, partaking of some of their favorite delectables, I assume. He was later released into a wooded area.





Face the camera!



And then there's this spirited young, elusive mind you, goat! We can call him the traveling goat as he has been spotted in various locations near Godby Road and continues to elude capture. He has given the Animal Control Officer, Mike Antol, a run for his money, as this department receives numerous calls about a goat siting and its current location. While we're not entirely certain of its origin or ownership, one thing is clear; this goat is quite the clever one!

Wrong place, wrong time Mr. Beaver! This time, Mike snuck up on our neighborhood beaver who happened to be in the middle of an important construction project, gnawing and chomping away at available limbs and wood, a process that could be detrimental to our water flow. Found at the stream on Karen Road, he was becoming quite a nuisance. These animals can lead to the loss of valuable trees in urban and suburban areas and are well known to block structures like our culverts which can lead to flooding. Flooding and erosion caused by these little guys can undermine roads and water lines, causing infrastructure damage.



Water and Sewer

As part of their routine work, the Water and Sewer team is actively addressing water line breaks across our city. This division recently repaired a 2' line on Clipper Drive. They also had to install a new shut off valve at the same location.

RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS

Food Distribution on March 22, 2024

It Takes a Village Program and Ward 3 Food Giveaway was provided at the Wyatt Recreation Center on March 22, 2024, from 2:30-5:00 PM. The event provided fresh vegetables, fruit,



pantry and supplies. This initiative assists with providing access to food for the south side of College Park, which is a food desert. The City of College Park also participated in the Atlanta Metro Cities Health Initiative, which evaluated the health needs for its' citizens. With the and data. research the information supported the need to provide citizen's access to fresh fruits and vegetables.



Men's 35 & Up Adult Basketball Team Blueprint State Champs



College Park Recreation & Cultural Arts hosted the Georgia Recreation & Park Association (GRPA) Men's Basketball State Tournament the Wyatt Recreation Center on March 15-16, 2024. The College Park Recreation and Cultural Arts Department 35 & Up Men's Basketball Team "Blueprint" won the tournament on March 16, 2024. This is the team's second consecutive winning the tournament.

Adult and Senior Programming Offered

The Recreation and Cultural Arts Department offers Adult and Senior Programming at the Brady, Conley, and Wyatt Recreation Centers. Wyatt Recreation Center offers line dancing classes. Beginner Classes are on Monday's and Thursday's from 9:00 AM-10:00 AM. Intermediate Classes are on Monday's and Thursday's from 10:00 AM-11:00 AM.

Move it Monday w/dem Pearls offers a line dancing class for intermediate and advanced level adults at the Conley Recreation Center from 7:00 PM-9:00 PM. The cost for the class is \$7.00.





Pickleball is becoming a fast-growing sport! The Brady Recreation Center offers weekly pickleball play on Monday's (12:00 PM-3:00 PM), Friday's (10:00 AM-2:00 PM) and Saturday's (10:00 AM – 12:30 PM).

Women's Kickball season kicks off on April 3, 2024, at Brannon Memorial Park. This will be the third season for Women's Kickball. The program is organized by Alexis "Bo" McMillan. This will be the first programming scheduled at the newly renovated Brannon Park. For more information about any or all classes please visit www.Collegeparkrca.com.



Youth Spring Break Camp April 1-5, 2024



The College Park Recreation and Cultural Arts Department is offering Spring Break Camp April 1-5, 2024, from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM at Brady, Conley and Wyatt Recreation Centers for ages 6–11-year-olds. The cost is \$100 per camper. Camp will offer Peacemaker projects to include projects to include arts, gardening, recreation sports, outdoor activities and more with free lunch.

Registration is online at www.collegeparkrca.com. For more information, please call Jerisha Bronson at 404.669.9206 Ext. 4113.