

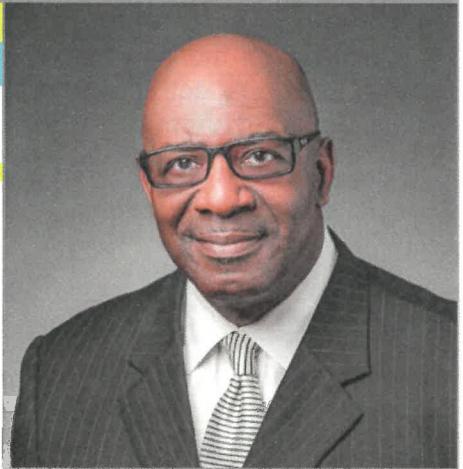


JANUARY 2020



city of
powder springs

cityofpowdersprings.org



Mayor Al Thurman

Inspired. Invigorated. Innovative.

Our 2020 Vision: Clear, Sharp and Focused.

This past year was high energy and exciting! As I campaigned for re-election in 2019, I heard so much positive feedback and support for city initiatives from Powder Springs' voters. It is reassuring to know that growth is welcomed and that city leaders are on the right track balancing new opportunities with our hometown character.

I believe 2020 will be a special year for Powder Springs. It begins a brand new decade of opportunity, and starts second-terms for myself and our At-Large City Council members Patrick Bordelon and Patricia Wisdom. It also showcases the value of business-friendly partnerships and quality growth in Powder Springs.

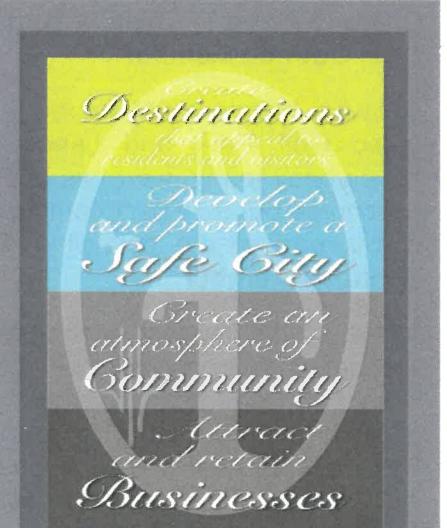
In 2020, we will complete significant projects already in progress and continue to invest in our citizens, employees, public safety, responsive services, and infrastructure. We will remain mindful to balance progress with character as we prepare for a promising future.

With fresh storefronts and musical fanfare, Powder Springs and the Downtown Development Authority will officially open our newest public amenity in mid-May. The downtown park will be a special symbol of citizen participation, rooted in a longstanding vision to revitalize our city center. Additionally, we will continue to leverage our unique proximity to the Silver Comet Trail and our city's trail network.

Across Powder Springs, we are enjoying new subdivisions, new businesses, new industries, and new jobs. In August, Westside Woods plans to open its \$10 million sports complex, offering year-round soccer, e-sports events, and local programs for our communities. This landmark facility will anchor economic development along C.H. James Parkway that complements growth already underway on Sailors Parkway.

We have reported positive housing starts since 2017. Senior residences are open at Silver Comet Village. Construction continues to move forward at subdivisions on Powder Springs Road, Lost Mountain Road, and New Macland Road.

As our city's attractive reputation spreads, our population grows, too. In fact, since the last census in 2010, Powder Springs' population has increased about 10.3% -- higher than increases in Cobb County and the



YEAR IN REVIEW

In this Issue:

Council's View

Business Licenses

New Employees

Rave Alert System

Census 2020

SPLOST

Parks and Recreation

(Mayor's Letter cont.)

U.S. population overall. Census data is used in distributing federal funds and grants to small cities like Powder Springs. Your full participation in the 2020 Census is essential to capture our successful growth and strengthen funding opportunities for the city.

Through town hall meetings, boards and commissions, and open dialogue, Powder Springs' citizens, volunteers, and city staff have rallied around a vision of quality growth and pride in our city. I encourage your active involvement and enthusiasm for sharing your talents and ideas. 2020 will bring even more communication and opportunities to weigh in on city activities and support initiatives. Let us continue to hear from you!

Al Thurman

Mayor, City of Powder Springs

What Were the City's Biggest Accomplishments in 2019?

We had some outstanding town hall meetings with the mayor, with four per year — that really opens the communication up with the community, and we saw the attendance of those town hall meetings increase more and more each time, so I'm very excited about that and more to come in 2020." - **Henry Lust, Mayor Pro Tem and Council Member**

"Having two new parks open in Ward 2 — Hopkins Road Disc Golf Park and Lancer Court Community Park. Everybody in my ward has been excited about them, and of course our new park coming online in May. I'm proud to be a part of the council. - **Doris Dawkins, Ward 2 Council Member**

"One of the biggest accomplishments is us getting the soccer and sports complex. . I'm really happy about the Flint Hill (Road project), where we're redesigning the road and going to put up a traffic light — that's really going to help people over there, because they can't get out, can't turn left on that road. - **Nancy Farmer, Ward 3 Council Member**

"Overall, us being named the fastest growing city in Cobb County was a big accomplishment. I don't think I would have expected us to be able to come that far, that fast, but I think that speaks a lot to our staff and our leadership pulling together - **Patrick Bordelon, Post 1 - At Large Council Member**

Of course the major thing is the (downtown) park. The park really was a catalyst to start growth and development in the downtown area — more businesses are coming in. My focus in these next four years will be looking at commercial opportunities that we will have. - **Patricia Wisdom, Post 2 - At Large Council Member**

2018 City Council Members



MAYOR



POST 1 - AT LARGE



WARD 2



POST 2 - AT LARGE



WARD 3



WARD 1

Al Thurman

Patrick Bordelon

Doris Dawkins

Patricia Wisdom

Nancy Farmer

Henry Lust

2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

January 6 & 21*	July 20
February 3 & 17	August 17
March 2 & 16	September 21
April 6 & 20	October 5 & 19
May 4 & 18	November 2 & 16
June 1 & 15	December 7

Meetings are held Mondays @ 7:00pm
City Council Chambers
4488 Pineview Drive

*Indicates a Tuesday Meeting

Thirty-Plus New Business Licenses Issued for City's Storefronts

The city issued a total of 76 new business licenses in 2019, with 45 for home-based businesses and 31 for commercial properties.

New commercial entities that have opened are **Alabaster Healthcare Enterprise, Big Grin Fireworks, Bridgestone Academy, Don Diego Restaurant, Dr. Biggs Chiropractic, Extra Space Storage, Georgia Palms and Gardens, Headpoets Barbershop, Hopps Trust Plumbing, King Tux Rentals, K's Cup, Limitless Auto Styline, MPJ Photography, Pearl Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, Redline Fitness Group, Rodney Cooley Agency, Royal Granite Creations, Scotchie's (leasing with a new location soon), Silver Comet Village, Sneek A Peek Consignment Boutique, Sparkleberry Craft Market, SpecialTea Smoothies and Juices, Trish's Caribbean & Southern Creole Cuisine, Vonedaful Hair, West Cobb Engineering and Tool Co., What's Poppin's Gourmet Kettle and Yoyo's Hand Car Wash.**

We welcome all of our new businesses to Powder Springs, and hope to welcome even more in 2020! Photo supplied by <http://audreygracephoto.com/>



Communications

The city in August hired Cobb-based Gargis Consulting to supplement its communications and public information efforts. The company's principal, Jon Gargis, has provided written and visual coverage of city meetings and events, along with video profiles of City-based businesses.

Gargis brings 15-plus years of experience in creating content for local, regional and national publications, along with nearly 15 years of residency in and knowledge of the metro Atlanta area. Over the course of his career, his bylines have been in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Patch.com, Marietta Daily Journal, Atlanta Jewish Times, Reporter Newspapers, and The Daily Tribune News in Cartersville, Georgia. His written work has earned him no less than 10 awards in state and national journalism contests.

Annexation

The City also engaged Alliance Strategies Consulting LLC in 2019 for advertisement creation and communication relating to implementing annexation plans.

The company's principal, Dannelle Crowe, is a communication strategist with 15 years experience working in the corporate world and with nonprofits and governments providing communication services, including Specialized Population Outreach for annexation initiatives,

Department	Director	770-943-1666	Email
City Manager	Pam Conner	Ext. 313	pconner@cityofpowdersprings.org
City Clerk	Kelly Axt	Ext. 312	kaxt@cityofpowdersprings.org
Community Development	Tina Garver	Ext. 361	tgarver@cityofpowdersprings.org
Court Administrator	Tracie Jackson	Ext. 233	tjackson@cityofpowdersprings.org
Human Resources	Rosalyn Nealy	Ext. 317	rnealy@cityofpowdersprings.org
Police	Tony Bailey	Ext. 209	tbailey@cityofpowdersprings.org
Public Works	Dwayne Eberhart	Ext. 102	deberhart@cityofpowdersprings.org
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs	Jeff Crowder	Ext. 305	jcrowder@cityofpowdersprings.org
Finance	Danny McCullars	Ext. 349	dmccullars@cityofpowdersprings.org



Business Surveys Continue

As part of its business retention program, the Powder Springs Economic Development Team launched an in-person business survey of local businesses, with approximately 100 businesses contacted in 2019.

The survey is focusing on businesses that maintain a storefront or have a bricks-and-mortar presence in the city. Results from the survey will be used to bolster Economic Development efforts to support existing business and maintain the city's attractiveness to new development.

"We're trying to focus a lot of our efforts on business retention and putting a little more focus on the businesses that are already here," said Ashley Youmans, one of the City's economic development coordinators. "Bringing in businesses is very important as well, but we also want to maintain or create a relationship if it's not already there with our current businesses." Fellow economic development coordinator, Shaun Myers said: "Creating and maintaining a business friendly environment in Powder Springs is a top priority. We want business to feel valued and know that they have a direct line of communication to have their issues addressed."

Asked on their overall opinion of Powder Springs as a place to do business, more than three-quarters of respondents gave the two highest grades, with 28% giving the top rating of "excellent" and 51% the next highest rating of "good." Another 12% gave the mid-tier response of "average," with just 8% giving a "poor" rating and 1% a "very poor" rating.

More than 39% of survey responses said "marketing assistance" would be the most valuable support their community could offer, with the next popular response at nearly 37% being a "buy local" program. Business owners who wish to add their voices to the survey are asked to call Ashley Youmans or Shaun Myers at 770-943-1666.

Local Storefronts Featured on Powder Springs' Social Media

Want to learn about Powder Springs' oldest continually operating business, one of its newest smoothie shops, service providers along the Marietta Street corridor and more? The city this past fall began its "Businesses of Powder Springs" video series, which profiles what local storefronts have to offer, narrating by the men and women who operate them. These videos are being filmed by a city contractor, Jon Gargin of Gargin Consulting, at no cost to the businesses.

To view these business profiles, visit <http://bit.do/PowderSpringsBiz>.

These along with other videos that focus on news and events within the city can be found by visiting <http://bit.do/PowderSpringsVideos>.

Local businesses interested in being featured in future Businesses of Powder Springs can email Jon Gargin of Gargin Consulting at jg@garginconsulting.com.

Can't Travel? Watch Council Proceedings Online— The City is now streaming in an effort to expand its public outreach

LifeStream LLC, a streaming media service and content delivery network provider, was hired in November to stream council meetings for a one-year term. Those who wish to view city council meetings online as they happen can visit cityofpowdersprings.org for links to the live stream as well as several past meetings. This initiative provides real time accurate information to citizens and demonstrates the City's commitment to transparency.

City Welcomes New Department Heads

Jeff Crowder joined the city in March 2019 as the Director of the Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Affairs Department after working in the Cobb PARKS Department for 30 years. He is a lifetime resident of Cobb County and is very excited to be able to serve the Powder Springs community where he grew up, attended school, played sports, and developed so many friendships over the years. He received his A.S. in Recreation from Young Harris College and a B.S. in Recreation from the University of West Georgia. He is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional and has been a member of the Georgia Recreation & Parks Association for 33 years where he has served on the state athletic association and was the District 5 athletic chairman.

In his spare time, Jeff enjoys playing tennis and bowling. In 2019, one of his tennis teams finished 2nd at the USTA National Championships held in Arizona. He is married and currently resides in Marietta. He is very proud to serve such a caring and supportive community and it is his goal to provide the highest level of leisure programs and facilities to our residents.

Danny McCullars came to Powder Springs having served in local public finance and administration more than twelve years. He is a certified public accountant, having spent more than ten years as an independent CPA working with various industries, including local governments and non-profits. A native of Alabama, McCullars earned his BS in accounting at Jacksonville State University, just across the state line west up Silver Comet. No stranger to biking communities, McCullars worked at the municipal level to administer funding on extension of the Chief Ladiga Trail, which of course becomes Georgia's Silver Comet.

His tenure began on November 6, 2019. 'The working relationship with the city manager and staff has been great since I started; I have enjoyed becoming part of this team and appreciate the opportunity you (city council) afforded me' McCullars offered as he presented the city's financial information on January 15th. He will be presenting financial results at the forthcoming community meeting on January 28th.

Dwayne Eberhart joined Powder Springs as the Director of Public Works in January 2019. After having worked in both Union City and Temple, Dwayne acquired over 20 years of local government experience. He is a native of Fulton County and graduated from Creekside High School. He later attended Shorter College where he completed a degree in Business Management as well as the University of GA where he earned a Certificate of Government Management. In his spare time, Dwayne enjoys attending sporting events, exercise/physical fitness, and coaching baseball. As a proud member of the Powder Springs staff, Dwayne embraces challenges and welcomes different perspectives; one of his favorite sayings is "if everyone was the same, the world would be a boring place." Along with his wife and two children, Dwayne currently resides in South Fulton and is a member of Word of Faith Family Worship Cathedral.



Jeff Crowder, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Director



Danny McCullars, Finance Director



Dwayne Eberhart, Public Works Director



DCA 's Plan First Community Award



Community Development staff Shaun Myers, Ashley Youmans and Tina Garver accept the City's designation as a PlanFirst Community. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) operates a program known as PlanFirst to recognize and reward communities that clearly demonstrate an established pattern of successfully implementing their Local Comprehensive Plan.

The City of Powder Springs was selected as a PlanFirst Community in 2019, and the designation will last for three years until December 31, 2022. This designation recognizes the City's hard work and successful comprehensive plan implementation, and acknowledges our commitment to identifying opportunities and setting the goals to move our community forward.

Keeping the City Clean

A cleaner, greener Powder Springs is the goal of two of the programs the city offers.

For those with large items they wish to dispose of, "Reside With Pride" takes place twice a year, in March and October.

"Refrigerators, mattresses, couches, stoves, washers, dryers, grills, freezers, things of that nature — if they put it out on the curb, we'll pick it up free of charge," said Dwayne Eberhart, the city's Public Works Director. "It's a way of keeping the city clean, as well as offering the citizens free services -- most cities, you have to pay for things like that. We do actually have a weekly pickup, but you have to pay for those items -- just call us and we'll make a work order out for that."

The Reside With Pride campaign has been offered for years, Eberhart said, with residents taking advantage of the service: On one typical week of pickups in October, he said, the city picked up 108 tons of refuse, which is fairly normal. During the week of Reside With Pride, more than twice that was collected -- 273 tons.

Litter removal across the city is the focus of "Pick-it-Up Powder Springs," which is held on two Saturdays during the year, one in April and the other in October.

Despite a cool and gray morning during the latest "Pick-it-Up" day in late October, 116 participants worked together to collect 149 bags of trash across 22 miles of road. Fifty-five of the participants came from McEachern High School and fifteen from Tapp Middle School, with many of the student participants taking part to fulfill volunteer hours.

Receive Emergency Alerts and Important Info on Your Cell Phone



The City of Powder Springs has partnered with Rave Mobile Safety to provide emergency alerts to residents. The company's Rave Alert service is used by thousands of institutions and agencies, and residents can opt in to receive emergency communications and other important information from the city via text message and email by following the steps below:

- 1 Click "Alerts Sign-Up" on city's website (cityofpowdersprings.org).
- 2 Click "Register" at the top right corner of the city's Rave login page.
- 3 Enter name, mobile phone number and email address as part of the registration process, then create a password for your account and agree to the site's terms of use before proceeding. Confirm mobile carrier and phone number to complete registration.

Rave does not charge subscribers to send or receive SMS messages. Standard or other messaging charges may apply depending upon your wireless carrier plan and subscription details. Once registered, users can opt out of SMS messages at any time by texting STOP to 226787.





City's Financial Reporting Retains Clean Bill of Health

Mauldin & Jenkins CPAs & are taxes, including insurance water fund, the cash flows went Advisors has issued a "unmodified taxes, franchise fees and property back into the system by paying off clean opinion" on Powder Springs' taxes. The report shows that tax debt or new acquisitions. The Comprehensive Annual Financial revenues have increased as a sanitation fund had no capital Report for the fiscal year ending result of new development and June 30, 2019. increased assessed values.

water fund, the cash flows went back into the system by paying off related items for the fiscal year but stormwater did have capital asset additions to invest in the system.

Mauldin & Jenkins audited the financial statements prepared by the city and tested enough transactions to issue an opinion that the statements were materially correct. Its review, issued Dec. 27, 2019, was submitted to the state by the Dec. 31 deadline and presented to the mayor and city council on Jan. 15, 2020.

The majority of the revenues are expended on public safety, using approximately 42% of the budget. This is similar to most communities which also typically see public safety absorb most of the revenues. Public works has a smaller percentage than many communities, 15%, due to the department's use of revenues from the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, or SPLOST.

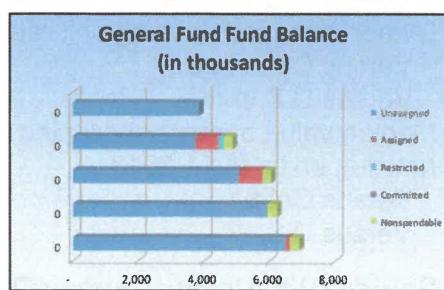
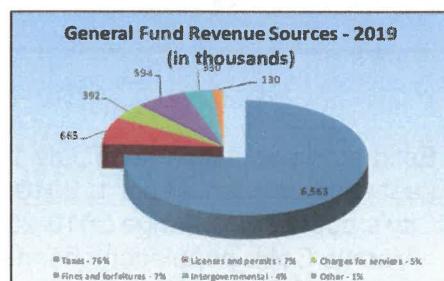
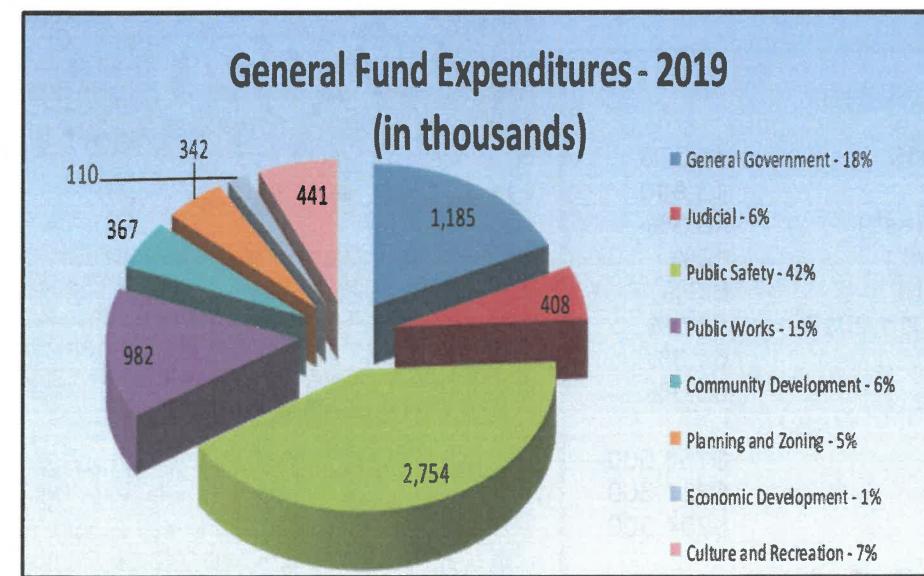
Mauldin & Jenkins noted that it found no instances of material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in the city's internal controls over financial reporting in the city's report, which is also called a "CAFR," nor did it note any instances of noncompliance to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. The entire 2019 CAFR is posted for public review at cityofpowdersprings.org.

General fund operations are \$6.5 million, and though required to maintain two- to three- months' operating reserves, the city's policy is to maintain six months. Currently, the city has about 10 months of available fund balance to general fund expenditures.

Regarding the City's enterprise funds of water/sewer, sanitation

The report reflects a \$12.6 million net position following the sale of the water and sewer system, which includes the \$5.5 million payable from Cobb County over the next ten years. The \$7 million in cash at the end of the year will be adjusted as receivables and payables are completed. Once satisfied, the finance department will present a trust fund for the deposit and investment of the balance along with recommended investment strategies.

In addition to the CAFR, the Finance Director noted that as of December 31, 2019, the fiscal year 2020 budget is trending as projected in expenses but lower in TAVT revenues and fines and forfeitures. Because fewer building permits have issued, both revenues and expenses for permits are trending lower.



The entire 2019 CAFR is posted for public review at www.cityofpowdersprings.org.



Powder Springs Police Officer Davis Honored by Cobb Chamber



Powder Springs Police Department Officer Josh Davis was among those lauded for excellence in protecting the community during the Cobb Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Appreciation Breakfast at the Cobb Galleria Centre on Oct. 7.

Davis was recognized for showing "great poise and restraint" during a Sept. 2018 incident in which a male suspect reportedly fired shots over moving vehicles along Richard D. Sailors Parkway. As the first officer on the scene, Davis engaged the suspect by giving him verbal commands to get on the ground and show his hands, with the suspect pulling a handgun from underneath his shirt and throwing it on the ground before being taken into custody without incident. Though Davis had less than one year of experience in law enforcement at that time, he conducted himself as a seasoned officer and has continued to set a positive example to others in his department.

The Chamber's annual event honored 31 public safety personnel from departments across the county. Pictured with Davis after the event were, from left, Councilwomen Nancy Farmer and Patricia Wisdom, Powder Springs Police Chief Tony Bailey and Councilman Patrick Bordelon.

Welcome to the Force



The city's three newest police officers were given their oath of office by Mayor Al Thurman during the Powder Springs City Council's Nov. 18 meeting. Pictured from left are Thurman; Officers Thomasina Jordan, Tava Morales and Paul Philpot, and Police Chief Tony Bailey.

Powder Springs By the Numbers

Estimated population as of July 1, 2019	15,378
Last Census count (April 1, 2010)	13,940
City's population change 2010-2019 (est.)	10.3%
Versus Cobb population change (est.)	10%
Versus U.S. population change (est.)	6.3%
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2014-2018	74.5%
Versus Cobb rate	64.3%
Versus U.S. rate	63.8%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2014-2018	\$154,600
Versus Cobb	\$237,800
Versus U.S.	\$204,900

Source: U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts data



Silver Comet Village Adds Shine to City

A \$37-million investment in the city is now open and providing a new community to the city's seniors. Powder Springs officials were on hand in August to help celebrate its commencement of operations.

After breaking ground almost exactly two years prior and launching as the city's largest community development project to date, Silver Comet Village opened its doors and today offers independent living. Assisted living and memory care will be available 2020.

Like the city itself, Silver Comet Village is located at the crossroads of important transit corridors — Richard D. Sailors Parkway, Route 278/C.H. James Parkway and Powder Springs Road — providing unique access to city amenities and Cobb County.

Three Wellstar hospitals and medical offices will serve the complex, which also benefits from its proximity to the Park-n-Ride and transit support, linking residents to many more opportunities.

United States® Census 2020

Census: Did You Know

The annual distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants & support to states, counties & communities are based on census data. That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works & other vital programs.

Achieving a complete count in Powder Springs is especially important for the 2020 Census to ensure that the allocation of federal funds aligns with the population growth we've experienced in recent years!

Signs, Signs

Residents later this year will see signs for many of the city's facilities replaced with a fresh and new look.

Most of the city's signs are in need of new hardware and are showing their age. The new signs will also reflect the city's new logo and branding.

National Sign Plazas was awarded a \$300,000 design and build contract in 2019 for the sign replacement project for roadway, public facilities and trails. Installation is planned for early 2020, and the signs will resemble the renderings pictured here.

36" W x 52" H



Westside Woods \$10 Million Sports Complex Groundbreaking in Powder Springs!

Powder Springs and Cobb County officials and Westside Woods owners and operators broke ground in late October at the future site of no small project — a \$10 million sports complex focused on soccer and other activities.

Westside Woods Sports Complex is set to open in August along Hill Road, just off Highway 278/C.H. James Parkway.

"Along with available land and prime location on major transit routes, metro area entertainment venues and business centers, we have updated our city codes and permitting processes to earn a pro-business reputation with developers and investors," said Powder Springs Mayor Al Thurman during the Oct. 29 event. "Today, our excitement reaches a new height as we celebrate the groundbreaking of Westside Woods Sports Complex. This \$10 million landmark opens the door for investment and development along the C.H. James Parkway corridor. It puts us on the map for world-class soccer year round as well as e-sports tournaments and events. We look forward to the participation of city residents in local sports programs to be developed for our youth and adults. The Westside Woods Sports Complex is truly a win-win partnership, progressing and preserving our community character."

Spanning 22 acres, Westside Woods is set to feature an indoor soccer field on a playing surface spanning 60-yards-by-40-yards, a 40,000-square-foot building on the development will also include a concession area, bar, offices, conference rooms and retail spaces.

Outdoor amenities on the development will include three full-size turf soccer fields with lights and two futsal courts that can double as pickleball court. Similar to soccer, futsal is a 5-on-5 small-sided game played on a basketball-court-sized hard surface with a smaller, low-bounce ball, according to United States Youth Futsal's website.

David and Laurie van Gelder, who are 17-year residents of Powder Springs, are two of the principals behind the Westside Woods project. Laurie is the owner and CEO of Westside Woods, while David is its chief financial officer.

Additional amenities being explored range from a fitness center to a physical therapy provider. "Powder Springs has been very good to us, and we wanted to give something back to the community, David van Gelder said.

For more information on Westside Woods, visit westsidewoodsllc.com.



Longtime City Volunteer Remembered

For serving the Powder Springs community during the 40-plus years he resided here, the late Elder Alfredder (Fred) Coleman was recognized with a proclamation presented to his widow, Annie, by Mayor Al Thurman at the Oct. 7 city council meeting. Mr. Coleman, who died in September 2018, volunteered countless hours with the Powder Springs Youth Association, coaching baseball, football and basketball. His contributions also included service on the committee to establish the Ron Anderson Center and volunteerism at local schools, from being a guest reader at Compton Elementary, serving on the Tapp Middle School Advisory Board and being an avid supporter of McEachern High School Athletic programs through both his engagement and finances.



Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to Petergaye Rhodes on being recognized as the 2019 Volunteer of the Year during December's City of Powder Springs Volunteer Reception! Rhodes is pictured with Mayor Al Thurman.

As president of the Powder Springs Business Group, Rhodes took the initiative to make the city's 4th of July Celebration an outstanding success. Her nomination was also based on her dedication to the city the past few years helping it become a destination.

Also nominated were: **Raja Antone (P&Z), Betty Burr (Senior Center), Robin Glover (Arts Commission), Nancy Hudson (Keep PS Beautiful), David McCarl (PS Youth Foundation), San Miller (SC Arts Alliance), Arleigh Ordoyne (7 Springs Museum), Susan Smelser (DDA) and Barbara Whitsett (Serving Our Seniors).**



Your SPLOST, Grant Dollars at Work



Resurfaced roads, erosion control and more are the focus of several projects across the city.

Under the city's LMIG (Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant) Resurfacing program, \$216,252 is being spent to repave portions of several roads across the city — Lindley Road, Piper Court, Springtide Lane, and Stallion Court. Funding for the LMIG project comes from a \$166,348 LMIG grant along with a city match of \$49,094.

The LMIG Resurfacing is nearing completion and hopes to wrap up at the beginning of February 2020.

The city expended more than \$258,000 on stormwater repairs and maintenance, including nearly \$101,870 for stormwater repairs on Springs Industrial Drive, \$85,858 for work at Ten Oaks Court SW, nearly \$16,000 in the Powder Bay neighborhood, \$15,543 for pipe repair at Dillard

Street, and \$4,560 for a stormwater catch basin on Florence Road.

Other projects of note, which are being funded in part by the revenues to the city from the county's 1% Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, include:

- Following completion of residential buildout in the Cameron Springs subdivision after years of being dormant, roadway paving was completed in November 2019.
- Improvements on Powder Springs Road to realign Flint Hill and Pinegrove Road with a full signalized intersection began in 2019 and is expected to be completed spring 2020.
- Broad Street Utility Improvements Project was completed this winter, and the streetscape improvements of paving, lighting and landscaping should be completed spring 2020.
- Parking improvements in the downtown commenced in November to add parking spaces on Jackson Way and to create a parking lot on Hotel Avenue behind The Suite. Additional parking will be added in 2020.



What Events Will You Attend?

The upcoming year is filled with fun and festive happenings all over the city! Keep this calendar close by to know everything we have scheduled to date from Parks programs to special events, summer camps and movie nights! We have all of our yearly events and have added several new ones for 2020! To stay in the know about all of our programs and events check the website and social media often!

2020 Special Event Calendar

Bridal Expo	Feb. 23
Pick It Up Powder Springs (Spring)	April 18
Spring Chicken 5K Run/Festival	April 25
National Day of Prayer	May 5
Park Grand Opening	May 15
Bringing the Sea to the Springs Festival	May 15- May 17
Memorial Day	May 25
Family Movie Night	May 28
Bark in the Park	June 6
Family Movie Night	June 11
Juneteenth Celebration	June 20
Summer Camp Session 1	June 15-18
Summer Camp Session 2	June 22-25
Family Movie Night	June 25
Fourth of July	July 4
Summer Concert Series	July 18
Family Movie Night	July 23
Summer Concert Series	Aug. 15
Summer Concert Series	Sept. 12
Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series	Sept. 14
Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series	Sept. 21
Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series	Sept. 28
Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series	Oct. 5
National Night Out	Oct. 6
Spooktacular Chase	Oct. 17
Fall Festival	Oct. TBD
Pick It Up Powder Springs (Fall)	Oct. 26
Veteran's Day	Nov. 11
Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting	Dec. 4
Reindeer Games & Santa Village	Dec. 5



Pocket Parks a Neighborhood Asset!

It's been a big year for Powder Springs Parks! In August of 2019 our Disc Golf Course opened on Hopkins Rd. Parks and recreation worked together with Cobb County Disc Golf Club to make opening day a great success with many community members joining in the fun including Mayor Thurman and Council Members Bordelon and Lust!

In addition to this park we also opened a new pocket park in Lancer Subdivision consisting of a sand volleyball court, tetherball, gravel walking path, and picnic table area.

Finally, Butner Street Park benefitted from repairs.

Did You Know...

Over 40 events were held in the Vaughn Cultural Arts Center (CAC) in 2019, including the SCAA National Juried Arts Show!

There were numerous Fine Arts camps, several theatrical productions, comedy acts and concerts.

The CAC is managed by NuStar Maker owner Carnita Jones. The city contracted with NuStar Maker for the 2019 calendar year.

Downtown Park's Grand Opening & Inaugural Concert Series Scheduled

Powder Springs' new \$3.7-million downtown park will replace this spring the city's old town square, with multiple events already on the books to entertain visitors through the summer.

Designed by TSW Planners & Architects with JHC Corporation as the contractor, construction began in 2019 on the park, which is being funded primarily with bond revenues. The city worked with downtown businesses in meeting parking concerns, assigning an officer each week to help customers across the street, and developing parking improvements totaling nearly \$400,000.

A name for the park has yet to be determined, with public input on several suggested names to be taken into consideration.

Once complete, the park will feature a lighted outdoor pedestrian mall, live performance stage, parking, and unique features including a children's play area, shade landscaping and water sculpture.

The amphitheater is set to bear the name of Hardy Family Automotive Group, under a three-year naming rights agreement.

First on the calendar at the amphitheater and park will be the downtown park's grand opening celebration set for the weekend of May 15-17.

The grand opening will feature a musical act, which will serve as the first of four concerts to be held at the park. Future performances have been scheduled for July 18, Aug. 15 and Sept. 12. RCS Productions will also book a performer for a concert to be held spring 2021, as part of the approved contract.

Reindeer Run and Santa Village Transformation



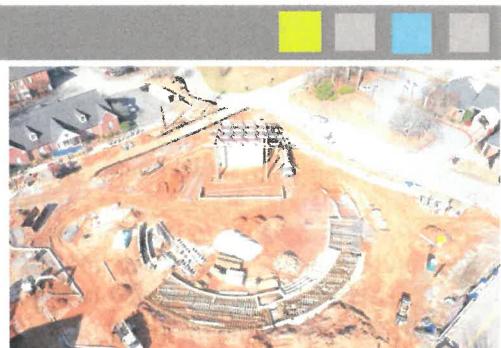
This year's Reindeer Run underwent a transformation from 5k Fun Run to Family Oriented Reindeer Games. We had greater attendance than ever before and raised close to \$1500 for families in need in our community!

The event took place on the Wildhorse Trail with "activity challenges" and Santa Village crafts for children to complete on their quest to find Santa's "missing" reindeer. Of course at the end of the trail everyone had a chance to meet Santa!

Arts & Culture: Wedding Expo Returns in 2020



The city's amenities include the spacious Ford Center Reception Hall, where the third-annual Bridal Expo was presented by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission in February 2019. The "perfect wedding" event was designed to bring future brides, wedding planners, caterers, bridal shops, florists, DJs and other wedding resources together under one easy-to-rent roof. Last year's attendance included about 100 guests. If you are planning a wedding next year, mark your calendars! The successful Bridal Expo will have an encore performance at the Reception Hall on Feb. 23, 2020.



A "Ghoul'd" Time Was Had By All

Well over 600 guests had a frightfully good time at the city's Fall Festival Trunk-or-Treat held at the Ford Center Campus in October. There were plenty of features, including trunks to visit for treats, The Home Depot Hay Maze, Pumpkin Painting sponsored by Marietta First Church of the Nazarene, crafts at the library and more! This is a yearly event so make plans to attend in 2020!