

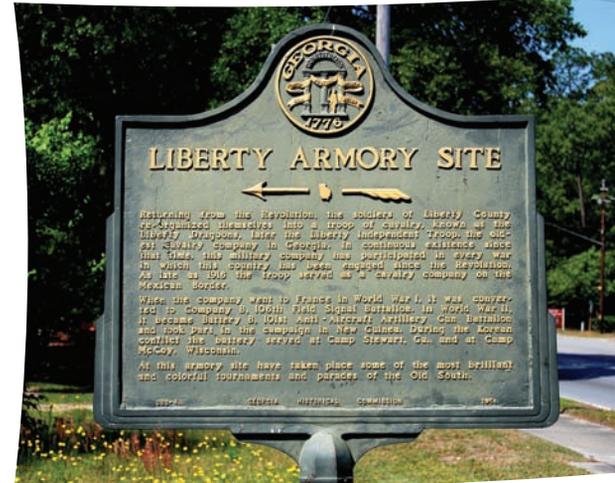


HINESVILLE

GEORGIA



"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"



On The Cover

The photographs on the cover are of various historical markers located throughout the City of Hinesville. These historical markers, as well as others, are featured on page 10.

Top Left - Charlton Hines House

Top Center - Bradwell Park

Top Right - Liberty Armory Site

Bottom Left - First United Methodist Church

Bottom Right - Bradwell Institute

Below

The Hinesville gateway signs serve as an official welcome to our city. They can be found at the city limits on General Screven Way and E.G. Miles Parkway to remind you that we desire to be your “Home for a Day or a Lifetime”.



REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF HINESVILLE

The City of Hinesville continuously strives to provide citizens information about their city. As part of that effort, we have proudly published our Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) or "Citizens Report" since Fiscal Year 2006. Throughout this report, you will find information about the elected officials, services and financial condition of your city.

The financial information contained within this report is extracted for the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). In order to provide a comprehensive condensed overview, financial statements are presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Further, city funds, which are presented within the Financial Condition and Reporting section, disclose the appropriate fund in which the detail was derived. Component units are not presented in this report.

For the past four years, the City's CAFR was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of only one year. We believe that our current CAFR continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we have submitted it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

You may obtain a copy of the CAFR on our website at www.cityofhinesville.org or by contacting the Finance Department at (912) 876-3564.



Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

PRESENTED TO

City of Hinesville
Georgia

for the Fiscal Year Ended
October 31, 2008




President
Jeffrey L. Ewer
Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the City of Hinesville for its Citizens Report for the Fiscal year ended October 31, 2008. The award is a prestigious national honor recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports. The published reports must reflect the program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Fellow Citizens,

On behalf of the Hinesville City Council, I am pleased to present the fourth "Popular Annual Financial Report" to the City of Hinesville. This report provides you with an overview of the current financial condition of the city and a report of significant ongoing and future activities affecting our city.

The City of Hinesville is financially and fiscally in excellent condition. In these tough economic times, our city has done several things to remain fiscally responsible. Our city has not raised taxes or other fees. We have not purchased some equipment and delayed hiring of personnel, but we have not cut services. As always, we continue to look for new ways to add to the quality of life through the most fiscally conservative means.

As a result of these actions, we have accomplished several things:

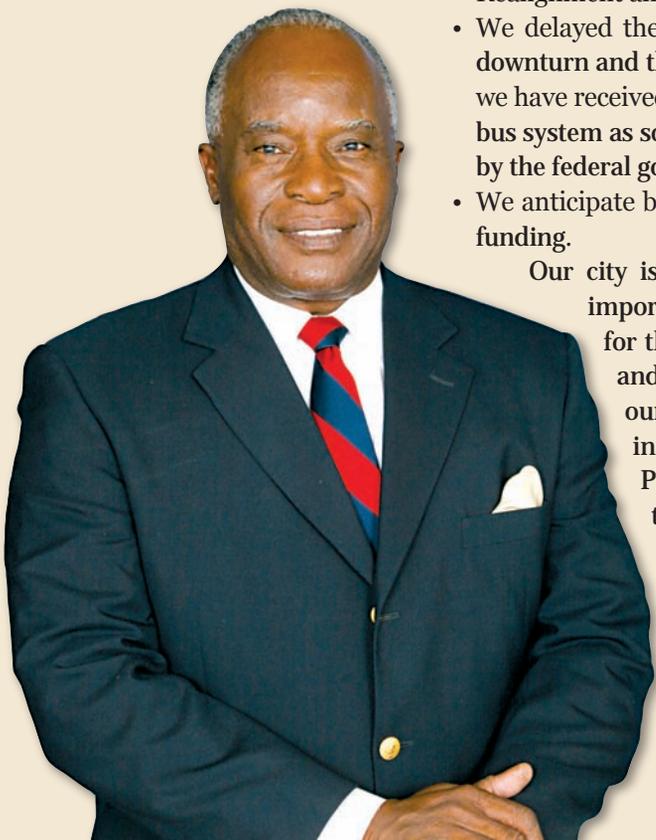
- Businesses have continued to open in our city even though significant numbers of troops are deployed.
- Our unemployment rates in the city and the county remain below state and national averages.
- We have operational reserves sufficient to cover approximately 2 months of operational expenses on hand.
- The City's General Fund revenue (our income) has increased by 20% from five years ago while the property tax millage rate has been decreased by 8.5%.
- The property tax millage has been constant at 11.30 mills until 2006, when the rate was reduced by .40 of a mill to 10.90 mills, the millage rate was reduced again in 2007 to 9.50 mills and remains the same.
- General Fund operational expenses have also increased by 37% during the same period.
- Both the growth in the property tax digest from new construction and increases in the sales tax receipts from increased retail sales have allowed the City to maintain its economic balance between revenue and expenses without increasing the property tax millage rates.

Even though our city lost the brigade that was to be stationed at Fort Stewart, we are still growing in the city as well as the county. This growth includes significant increases in retail, commercial and industrial activities. In other words, our city is in an enviable position vis-à-vis most cities in the country.

Several projects will take place this year with a focus on improving quality of life for residents of Hinesville:

- Construction is ongoing on the second and third phases of the Memorial Drive Realignment and will be completed in mid-year 2010.
- We delayed the start of our public transportation system because of the economic downturn and the city's need to curtail some spending as mentioned above. However, we have received the capital funds needed to purchase our buses. We will start up our bus system as soon as the city can provide our share of the operational funds required by the federal government.
- We anticipate beginning our transportation services after our mid-year review of city funding.

Our city is one of Georgia's most vibrant and progressive cities. Hinesville's importance to our region, state and nation is vital and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. As our city grows, we will face some challenges and opportunities that must be addressed to ensure the future health of our community. Therefore, it is vitally important for us to obtain your insights and recommendations regarding ways to improve our City. Please provide us with your constructive suggestions and comments so that we can more effectively address both our current programs and future opportunities. Thank you for the privilege of serving Hinesville.



Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Thomas Jr." in a cursive script.

James Thomas Jr.
Mayor

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

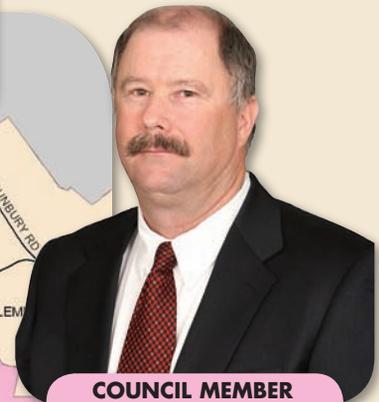
*The City Council meets
the 1st and 3rd Thursday
of each month
at 3:00 p.m.*



**COUNCIL MEMBER
DAVID ANDERSON, SR.
DISTRICT 3**



**MAYOR PRO-TEM
CHARLES FRASIER
DISTRICT 1**



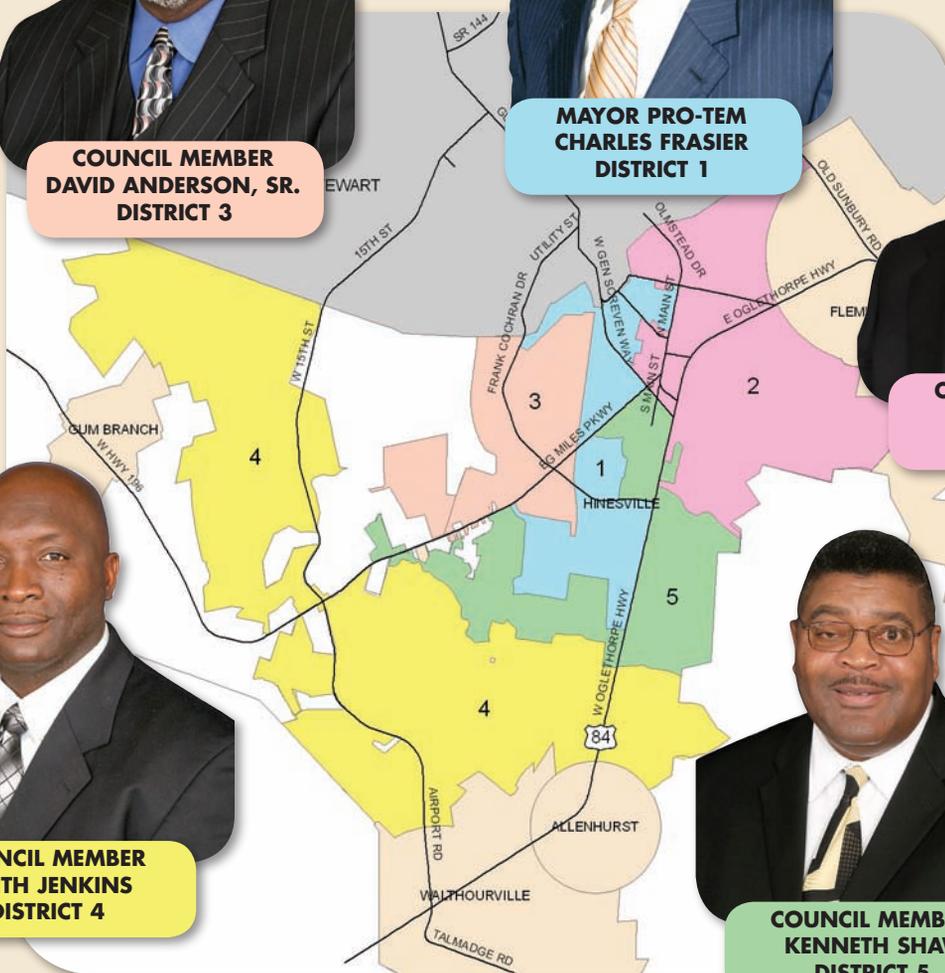
**COUNCIL MEMBER
BOBBY RYON
DISTRICT 2**



**COUNCIL MEMBER
KEITH JENKINS
DISTRICT 4**



**COUNCIL MEMBER
KENNETH SHAW
DISTRICT 5**



MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Dear Reader,

Overall, 2009 was an extraordinary year for Hinesville in many ways. We experienced both good and not so good times. New businesses opening as well as completing and starting roadway projects are examples of the good experiences. Unfortunately, we had to endure another troop deployment. All of these experiences, however, are the way of life in Hinesville. The best news is that your City continues to remain in a sound financial position, and considering the economic times we are experiencing, that is great news indeed.

As you read through the information contained in this report, keep in mind the difficulties other communities are experiencing such as employees being furloughed and laid off and services being reduced or eliminated. We have been able to weather that storm because of a number of reasons, one of which is that you have a group of dedicated city employees that are committed to providing city services in an efficient manner.

The new City Hall that will begin construction in 2010 is just one of the ways we will be able to provide efficient services. The new building will house all City of Hinesville offices in a central location so that residents may come to one place to have their needs served. This project is expected to be completed in 2011.

In the meantime, City Hall offices will relocate to the second floor of the Hinesville Police Department. During this time, please be patient as we make the necessary move while construction is completed on the City Hall building. More information about the relocation of Hinesville City Hall and the construction of the new Hinesville City Hall is contained in this report.

Also, the City of Hinesville has adopted a new brand that will be used to promote the efficient services and responsive government that we strive to provide to the residents of Hinesville. Although we will maintain our city seal for official purposes, the new logo, tagline, and website will lend a helping hand to providing sound communication from the City of Hinesville to various publics.

Please take the time to review the information provided then take advantage of our new website at www.cityofhinesville.org to provide us feedback or to ask questions concerning anything for which you need further information.



Best wishes and warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Edwards". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Billy Edwards
City Manager

HINESVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The City of Hinesville established the Downtown Development Authority in 2004 to facilitate revitalization of the downtown district. The Hinesville Downtown Development Authority (HDDA) takes a comprehensive approach to downtown development through activities and projects encompassing the essential components of a successful downtown district: property and business development, heritage preservation, promotion of the downtown district, and beautification. This on-going, comprehensive approach extends to "New Town" development concepts for the adjacent corridors within the downtown district as well as encouraging compatible development in the historic core.

HDDA continually seeks local, regional, state, and federal incentive programs to assist property and business owners in financing projects consistent with our desire to revitalize the downtown district. Current programs include:

Job Tax credits: The State of Georgia's New Job Tax Credit program is designed to encourage business owners to locate new businesses or expand their current locations, resulting in job creation. A majority of Hinesville's Downtown District has received a Military Zone designation that loosens eligibility restrictions and maximizes benefits. All businesses in the designated area creating a minimum of just two new, full-time jobs may qualify for a credit of \$3,500/per job for 5 years.

HDDA Façade Rehabilitation Grant: Local matching grant program for facade rehabilitation improvements of commercial buildings within Hinesville Downtown Redevelopment Area. The Façade Grant reimburses 50% of pre-approved eligible project costs, not to exceed \$2,500 grant total.

Low Interest Loan Programs: A variety of low



The properties on this page have benefited from HDDA Incentive Programs and Services.

The Historic "Old Railroad Depot"

202 Gause Street

before & after pics



Realty Executives Liberty

401 South Main Street

before & after pics



interest loan programs are available for business and property owners ranging from smaller loans amounts up to \$250,000. Typical projects include property acquisition, expansion and rehabilitation of existing structures, and new construction. A business assistance appointment with HDDA staff is encouraged to discuss individual eligibility.

Historic Tax Credits: Federal historic preservation tax incentives program is jointly administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Department of the Treasury, in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in each State providing 20% and 10% tax credit of eligible preservation activity.

Design Assistance: Design assistance includes staff assistance with the understanding of local ordinances, downtown design guidelines, and assistance with initial project conceptual rendering.

The Hinesville Downtown Development Authority's mission is to create a sustainable, revitalized, and vibrant downtown that is an economic hub while enhancing the quality of life for the community.

DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS

Code Enforcement

The City of Hinesville employs two Code Enforcement Officers whose job is to ensure the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Hinesville. Each officer addresses violations of the City's Code of Ordinances by way of complaints and inquiries. On average, Code Enforcement receives 60-70 new complaints/inquiries per month from the general public, City officials, and other agencies.

Both Officers are active members of the Georgia Association of Code Enforcement (GACE) and must maintain proper certification. Other memberships, certification, and/or training include International Code Council (ICC), Building Officials' Association of Georgia (BOAG), and Coastal Georgia Inspectors Association (CGIA).

The most common violations are:

- Temporary signs (yard sale signs, realtor signs, etc.)
- Residential parking restrictions (parking on the front lawn, commercial vehicles & recreational vehicles/equipment)
- Inoperable vehicles
- Overgrown property
- Tenants' rights

Each complaint is investigated and photographed with all contacts and actions well documented. Contacts are made verbally or in writing by way of door knockers and/or certified letters. Most tenants/owners comply without legal action. Code Enforcement has the authority to issue citations, court summons and request warrants, if needed.

Code Enforcement Officers also serve as Field Agents for the Business License Department to ensure that home-based businesses and transient merchants are licensed and meet specific local and state regulations. In addition,

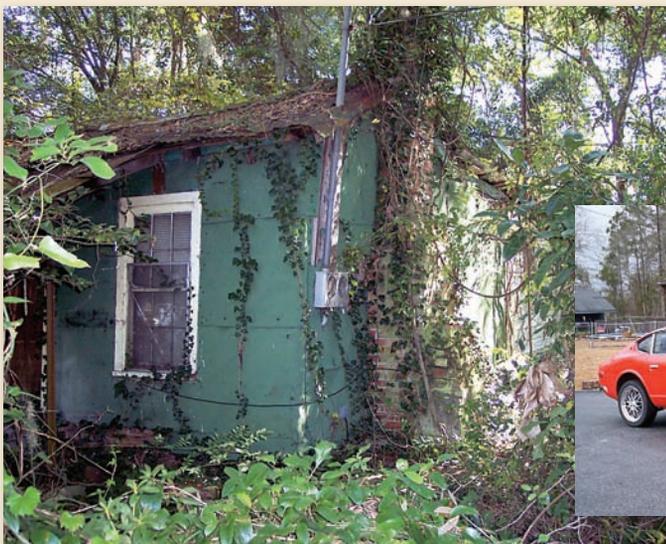


they verify charitable and/or non-profit events have proper permits.

In an effort to educate the public, the following brochures are available online at www.cityofhinesville.org as well as in the Inspections Department brochure racks:

- Abandoned Buildings
- Buyer Beware
- Inoperable Vehicles
- Temporary Signs
- Tenants' Rights

To view the City Ordinances in its entirety, go to www.cityofhinesville.org or www.municode.com. To make inquiries or file a complaint, please contact Code Enforcement at (912) 876-4147/4148 or at the City's Inspections Department at 115 East M. L. King Jr. Drive Hinesville, GA 31313.



The Street Department is responsible for the maintenance of all city owned rights-of-way. Maintenance includes but is not limited to the following:

Mowing: From April to September of each year the maintenance of the city's primary thoroughfares begins. The primary routes are General Screven, General Stewart, Oglethorpe Highway, E. G. Miles Parkway, and Frank Cochran Drive. Mowing along these streets is done on a weekly basis. Equipment used for this task includes riding lawn mowers, along with side arm and bush hog tractors. Other rights-of-way (secondary routes) are mowed on a less frequent basis (usually once a month).

Litter Control: Litter is picked up and disposed of prior to mowing

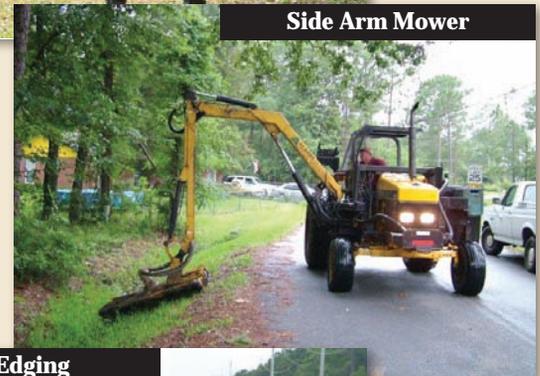
Curb Edging: Curbing along the primary routes are edged once a month.

Storm Drain (lids and inlets): Storm drain lids (concrete covers) and inlets along the primary routes are edged once a month.

Sidewalk Maintenance: Sidewalks along the primary routes are edged once every 3-4 weeks.

Weed Eating: Weed Eating along the primary routes is performed once every 3-4 weeks.

The Sanitation Department is located at 613 E.G. Miles Parkway. Gary Gilliard is the Project Manager and the office phone number is (912) 876-8216.



HINESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Resource Officer Program

The Hinesville Police Department has three School Resource Officers (SRO) working in Liberty County Schools in the city as part of a cooperative effort between the school system and law enforcement agencies. Corporal Mike Shaver and Officer Angela Reynolds are assigned to Bradwell Institute and Officer David Guy to Snelson Golden Middle School. These officers work in the schools to provide law enforcement and police services to the school and areas around the school. SROs establish and maintain a close partnership with the school administrators and teachers in an effort to provide a safe school environment for the students. Officers assigned to the schools have contact with a majority of students in the school, serving at times as police officer, teacher, peer counselor and mediator. In addition to their regular duties as SROs, Cpl. Shaver and Officer Guy also serve as D.A.R.E. instructors in the city's elementary and middle schools. The D.A.R.E. program offers classroom instruction that gives students the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence and make good decisions in high-stakes peer-pressure environments.

The School Resource Officer is first and foremost a law enforcement officer. Each officer works to promote the police profession and be a positive role model for students, increasing the visibility and accessibility of police to the school community. The officers work to prevent juvenile delinquency and criminal acts through close contact and positive relationships with students. Officers enforce federal, state and local criminal laws and ordinances, and assist school officials with the enforcement of Board of Education policies and regulations regarding student conduct. They investigate illegal activity and take law enforcement action as necessary and, as soon as practical, make the school principal aware of those actions. The SROs also assist with providing security for special after-



school and weekend events or functions such as dances and sporting events.

Serving as a law-related educator and being invited into a classroom as a guest speaker gives the SRO opportunities to interact with the students and discuss issues designed to promote responsible citizenship and give the students a better idea of how our legal system works. SROs work to educate students on the consequences of unacceptable behavior both in the school and in the community. He or she may develop programs to educate students in crime prevention and personal safety. Teachers and SROs can create lessons that compliment the school curriculum in almost every subject area. Crises and emergency training may be offered to faculty and staff and informational presentations may be given to parent groups.

The School Resource Officer may also serve as a peer counselor and mediator. In this capacity, officers assist in conflict resolution and work with guidance counselors and other student support staff to assist students and to provide services to students involved in situations where referrals to service agencies are necessary. The SROs are often called upon to help resolve problems or conflicts that are not necessarily criminal matters. Many times the SRO will simply act as another caring adult in the school when a student needs someone to talk to about problems they are experiencing.

The City of Hinesville Police Department and Liberty County School System administrators have continued to support the SRO program (as well as the D.A.R.E. Program presented by the SROs) as a positive influence on the lives of children and in the belief that it does make a difference in their development as good citizens. From the police department's perspective, having officers in the schools is a winning proposition; the program frees up manpower on the street, improves the image of the police department in the eyes of students and helps maintain a positive relationship with the school system.



Help Us Help You Handle Trash

Reduce - Reuse

- Donate usable clothing, furniture and appliances to Goodwill.
- Leave grass clippings on lawn - they add nutrients to your grass.
- Compost or use leaves for mulch.

Call your County Extension Office for more information.

Recycle

The following items can be separated for recycling and dropped off at one of the four convenient Hinesville Locations:

- Newspaper and inserts that came with the paper
- Clear or green plastic soda bottles
- Magazines (glossy only)
- Milk jugs
- Corrugated card board boxes
- Mixed plastics (please rinse)
- Clear, green, or brown glass containers
- Aluminum or tin cans
- Used Motor Oil (take to public works department)



not sure of your pick-up day. This service begins at 6:00am each day. The following items should be placed curbside.

- Polycart
- Yard Waste
- Junk/Other Trash
- White Goods

Convenient Centers

- Sandy Run Drive across from Badcock Home Furnishings
- Highway 84 at Sequoia Circle
- Highway 196 at Liberty County Training Center
- Liberty Street next to Hinesville Fire Department

HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE: Only a city issued container will be collected. Customers requiring additional carts should either recycle (see above) or contact City Hall at (912) 876-3564 for an additional container.

YARD WASTE: Place debris generated from yard clean up (leaves, limbs, grass clippings, etc.) next to curbside. Yard Waste does not have to be bagged but must be free of other debris (cans, bottle, etc.).

OTHER TRASH/JUNK: Old home furnishings, bicycles, etc. will be collected on your collection day.

WHITE GOODS: Old appliances will be collected upon request or on your collection day.

For more information, please call the public works office during regular business hours at (912) 876-8216.

Properly Placing "WHAT'S LEFT" at the Curb

The goal of OMI Sanitation Services for The City of Hinesville is to provide you, our customers, with the best possible service, economically and in response to the latest environmental regulations. Residential customers will receive curbside service once a week. Call OMI at (912) 876-8216 if you are



HISTORICAL MARKERS

Nationally, historical markers are placed wherever significant events occurred. The City of Hinesville is home to many historical markers that give local details about historical events that occurred in our city. The Georgia Historical Society manages the Historical Marker program for the State of Georgia and has designated 11 historical markers in the City of Hinesville. You should visit all of them!



Bradwell Park Courthouse Square

Bradwell Park was built in 1974 in memory of Samuel Dowse Bradwell founder of Bradwell Institute. It was built by the City of Hinesville with assistance from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and The Liberty County Garden Club. *(photo on left)*

Bradwell Institute 100 Pafford Street

Samuel Dowse Bradwell reopened the Hinesville Academy in 1870 and renamed it Bradwell Institute in honor of his father, James Sharpe Bradwell, who was the original principal of Hinesville Academy. Today, Bradwell Institute is a public comprehensive high school. *(photo on cover)*

Fort Morris Cannon Liberty County Courthouse

The Fort Morris Cannon was part of the armament of historic Fort Morris at Sunbury during the American Revolution. This cannon, which was excavated at the site of the ruins of the famous Revolutionary fortification in 1940, stands at the Liberty County Courthouse as a reminder of America's hard-won struggle to achieve independence. *(photo below)*



Liberty County Courthouse Commerce and Midway Streets

Liberty County, an original county, was created by the Constitution of Feb. 5, 1777, from Creek Cession of May 20, 1733. The theatre of many important events during the Revolution, Liberty County was named for American Independence. *(photo above)*

Liberty Armory Site 101st Coast Artillery Drive off Oglethorpe Highway

Returning from the Revolution, the soldiers of Liberty County reorganized themselves into a troop of cavalry, known as the Liberty Dragoons, later the Liberty Independent Troop, and the oldest cavalry company in Georgia. In continuous existence since that time, this military company has participated in every war in which this country has been engaged since the Revolution. Some of the most brilliant and colorful tournaments and parades of the Old South have taken place at this armory site. *(photo on cover)*

Charlton- Hines House 101 East Court Street

The Charlton Hines House was one of the first homes built in Hinesville. The city of Hinesville was named for Hines, who served as Liberty County's state senator in the early 1800's. *(photo on cover)*

First United Methodist Church

Corner of Main Street and Central Avenue

The year 1837 marked the founding of Hinesville and the establishment of the Hinesville Methodist Church. For 100 years, this was the only church in Hinesville. *(photo on cover)*

Old Liberty County Jail

302 South Main Street

The City of Hinesville takes great pride in promoting one of Coastal Georgia's finest historic resources, the Liberty County Old Jail. The old jail was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. It was completed in 1892 and remained the primary jail in Liberty County until 1979. *(photo on left)*



County Old Jail. The old jail was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. It was completed in 1892 and remained the primary jail in Liberty County until 1979. *(photo on left)*

Harrison Family Cemetery

Sherwood Drive

Although the gravestones have been destroyed by weathering and vandalism, it is believed that about a dozen people are buried in this family cemetery. William Harrison served as operator of one of the earliest mercantile stores in Hinesville, the Hinesville postmaster and Liberty county treasurer. He died March 30, 1883 and his wife, Sarah and six surviving children, heirs at law of the late William Harrison, agreed that part of the proceeds from collectible notes and accounts should be used for the purpose of erecting stones at the grave of William Harrison (deceased) and putting up a substantial enclosure around the family cemetery. *(photo below)*



Bacon Fraser House

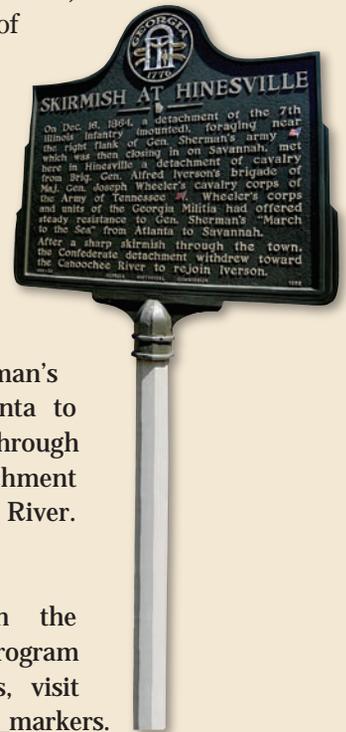
208 East Court Street

The Bacon-Fraser House was built on a 23 acre tract situated on the eastern boundary of the town of Hinesville in 1839 by Mary Jane Bacon, widow of Major John Bacon. The house has been owned and lived in by their heirs until the present time. The architecture is 'plantation plain style' and its workmanship reflects the work of the best craftsmen of the day. *(photo above)*

Skirmish at Hinesville

Corner of Ryon Avenue and Oglethorpe Highway

On Dec. 16, 1864, a detachment of the 7th Illinois Infantry (mounted) foraging near the right flank of General Sherman's army met a detachment of cavalry from Brigadier General Alfred Iverson's brigade of Major General Joseph Wheeler's cavalry corps of the Army of Tennessee in Hinesville. Wheeler's corps and units of the Georgia Militia had offered steady resistance to General Sherman's "March to the Sea" from Atlanta to Savannah. After a sharp skirmish through the town, the Confederate detachment withdrew toward the Canoochee River to rejoin Iverson. *(photo on right)*



For more information on the Georgia Historical Marker program and on the application process, visit www.georgiahistory.com/historic_markers.

FINANCIAL REVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2009

The Financial Review section is designed to provide information on the financial health and stability of the City of Hinesville. This information should provide the reader with an increased level of understanding of how available resources are utilized to provide services. The following charts summarize the City's largest sources of revenues ("Where the Money Came From") and expenses ("Where the Money Went") for the government as a whole.

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM . . .

	Fiscal Year 2008	Fiscal Year 2009
Property Taxes	\$ 5,460,398	\$ 5,649,510
Sales Taxes	4,026,816	3,930,649
Franchise Taxes	1,367,164	1,589,862
Insurance Premium Tax	1,700,986	1,685,027
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes	324,060	371,740
Hotel/Motel Tax	206,694	246,512
Other General Revenue	67,646	79,713
Total General Revenue	\$ 13,153,764	\$ 13,553,013
Charges for Services	13,519,791	12,555,035
Operating Grants	1,963,488	1,264,948
Capital Grants and Contributions	2,876,760	3,344,072
Total Program Revenue	\$ 18,360,039	\$ 17,164,055
Other Income	130,921	113,573
Investment Earnings	258,789	266,094
Transfers	-	-
Total Other Income and Transfers	\$ 389,710	\$ 379,667
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 31,903,513	\$ 31,096,735

Definitions of Key Terms

General Revenue: All revenue that is not required to be reported as program revenue. All taxes, even those that are levied for specific purpose, are general revenues and should be reported by type of tax.

Program Revenue: Revenue derived directly from the program itself or from parties outside the City's taxpayers or citizenry, as a whole. Program revenues reduce the net cost of the function to be financed from the City's general revenues.

WHERE THE MONEY WENT . . .

	Fiscal Year 2008	Fiscal Year 2009
General Government	\$ 2,071,081	\$ 2,094,334
Judicial	352,712	368,461
Public Safety	9,027,601	9,761,982
Public Works	2,476,765	2,665,112
Housing and Development	3,198,315	2,468,991
Health and Welfare	526,306	617,340
Culture and Recreation	880,562	801,662
Interest and Fiscal Charges	67,529	53,893
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 18,600,871	\$ 18,831,775
Water and Sewer	8,128,043	9,205,371
Sanitation	2,220,636	2,166,292
Stormwater Utility	1,027,258	1,057,459
Total Business-type Activities	\$ 11,375,937	\$ 12,429,122
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 29,976,808	\$ 31,260,897
Change in Net Assets	1,705,065	(164,162)
Net Assets - Beginning	\$ 62,113,900	\$ 63,818,965
Net Assets - Ending	\$ 63,818,965	\$ 63,654,803

Definitions of Key Terms (continued)

Governmental Activities: Activities generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

Business-Type Activities: One of two classes of activities reported in the government-wide financial statements. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. These activities are normally reported in enterprise funds. The City currently has three business-type funds.

Net Assets: Refers to the difference between assets and liabilities of the City as a whole. Net assets may be shown in the following three major categories:

1. Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt: The component of net assets that consists of capital assets less both the accumulated depreciation and the outstanding balance of debt attributable to the acquisition of those assets.
2. Net Assets-Restricted: The component of net assets that consists of assets with constraints placed on their use by either external parties or through enabling legislation.
3. Net Assets-Unrestricted: The remaining balance of net assets not reported under the other two categories of net assets.

FINANCIAL REVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2009

The total net assets of the City are categorized. The largest portion of net assets (\$52,307,870 or 82%) is invested in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, infrastructure, machinery and equipment) less any related outstanding debt used to acquire these assets. An additional portion of the City's net assets (\$1,022,230 or 2%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. All of the City's restricted net assets are restricted for the repayment of the water and sewer fund revenue bond debt. The remaining portion of the City's net assets (\$10,324,703 or 16%) is unrestricted net assets and may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.



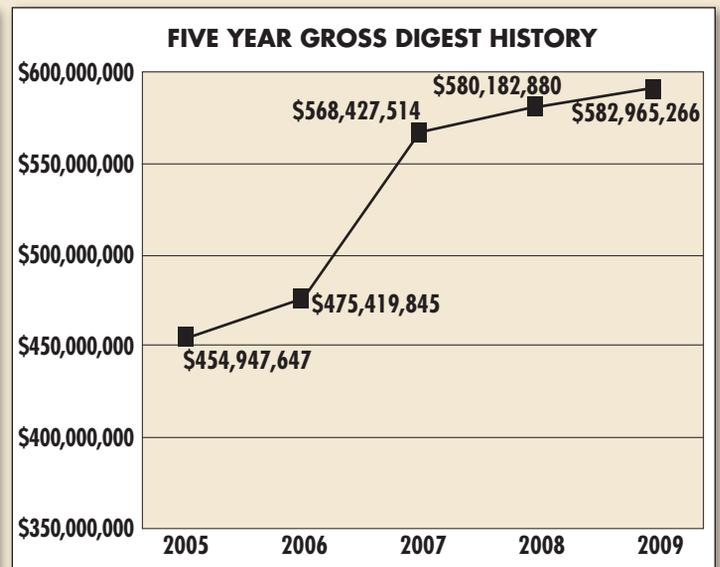
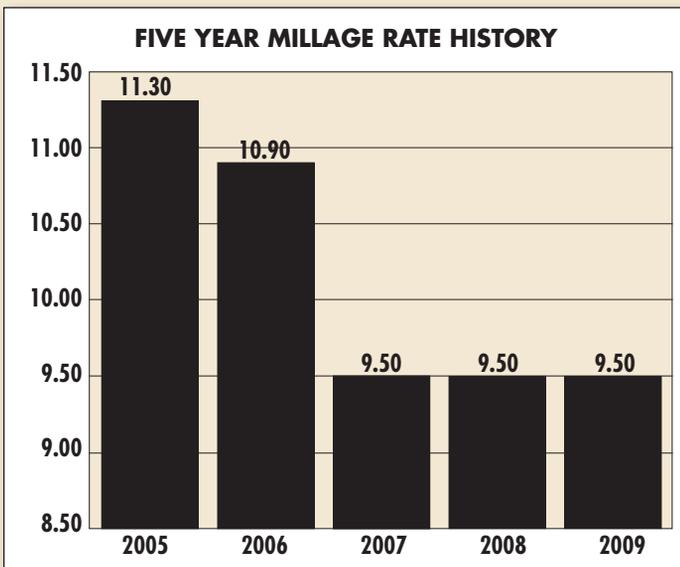
Property Tax Breakdown

The illustration to the left depicts how each one dollar of property tax revenue collected is distributed to the various taxing entities. The City of Hinesville receives 22¢ of each \$1.00 collected from taxpayers in the City.

Property Taxes

Property tax is the City's single largest source of revenue. The graph bottom left, shows the City's Millage Rate history for the past five years. The City's millage rate remained level at 11.30 mills from 1997 to 2005. In 2006, the City decreased the millage rate to 10.90 mills. In 2007 the City again decreased the rate to 9.5 mills. It has stayed consistent at 9.5 again for 2009.

The graph at the bottom right tracks the change in the tax digest over the past five years.



HINESVILLE CITY HALL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The City of Hinesville began construction on the new Hinesville City Hall in May 2010. Several changes will take place until the project is complete. Please use this list of FAQs to help make this transition an easy one for you.

Q: Where will City Hall offices be located?

A: City Hall offices will be temporarily relocated to the second floor of the Hinesville Police Department located at 123 East M.L. King, Jr. Drive, which is adjacent to Hinesville City Hall. Residents will have access to City Hall offices through a designated elevator in the HPD lobby to handle business such as building permits, employment applications, records requests, business licenses, etc.

Q: What Hinesville City Hall offices will be temporarily relocated to the Hinesville Police Department?

A: City Manager's Office, Mayor's Office and the City Clerk's Office. Also, the Community Development, Finance, Inspections/ G.I.S., Human Resources, Public Relations and Water departments.

Q: How can I pay my water bill?

A: We strongly encourage paying through the following means: mail, online at the City of Hinesville website, delivery to drop boxes, or kiosk in the Hinesville Police Department lobby. Although we encourage alternative methods of payment, water bills can also be paid in person at the water counter in the HPD lobby or the Fort Stewart office located at the Soldier Service Center, Building 253 at 55 Pony Soldier Avenue. The City no longer has a drive-thru service window.

Q: Where are drop boxes located for water payments?

A: We have 2 drop boxes for payments. One is in front of the Hinesville Police Department on East M.L. King, Jr. Drive and the other is at our Fort Stewart office located at the Soldier Service Center, Building 253 at 55 Pony Soldier Avenue.

Q: What is a kiosk?

A: A kiosk is a computer terminal that gives a person access to a service such as payments and information. The kiosk in the Hinesville Police Department lobby is available for customers to pay water bills and fines with a credit or debit card. Check or cash will not be accepted at the kiosk. Customers will need to have their Customer Number and PIN or the Invoice Number from the most recent water bill to make water payments at the kiosk.

Q: Where will council meetings be held?

A: City of Hinesville Council Meetings will be held the first and third Thursday of each month at 3:00 p.m. in the City of Hinesville Municipal Courtroom located in the Hinesville Police Department.

Q: How will I obtain a building permit?

A: Visit the City of Hinesville website at www.cityofhinesville.org to obtain a permit or call (912) 876-4147 for more information. All permits will be accepted in the Department of Inspections temporarily located at the Hinesville Police Department on the second floor.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hinesville Fire Department issues burn permits to the residents of the City of Hinesville, on a daily basis depending on the various conditions required by Georgia Forestry. Some of the conditions that factor into whether burn permits are issued are projected humidity, wind and other weather related conditions.

If you live in the city limits of Hinesville and would like to obtain a burn permit, we suggest that you first call the Hinesville Fire Department at (912) 876-4143 to see if permits are being issued on that day. If permits are being issued, you must come to the fire department in order to pick the permit up. The permit is required to be in the person's possession on site while conducting any type of burning. There are no costs involved in obtaining a burn permit.

No person may burn or cause to be burned, any trash, field, yard, paper, trees, leaves, or lumber, without a burn permit. Hazardous conditions may not be created by the burning, such as a smoke violation or other nuisance. Burning is limited to piles no higher than four feet and no longer than eight feet. Neither tree limbs over four inches in diameter and two feet in length nor any tree stumps may be burned. Gasoline, diesel fuel, or kerosene may not be used to ignite a fire. Fires are permitted to be used for cooking of food, provided; no smoke violation or other nuisance is created.

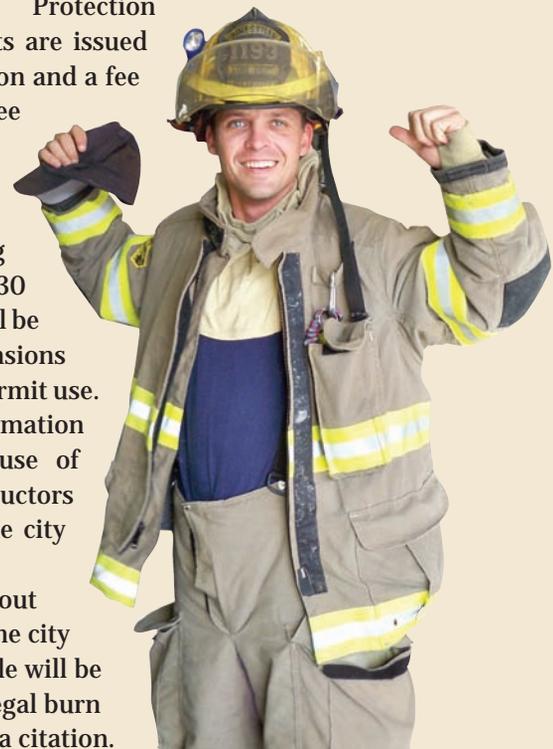
If you have yard debris such as leaves, twigs, pine straw, etc that you need to dispose of and cannot obtain a burn permit, the City of Hinesville Public Works Department does offer pick up. You can contact them at (912) 876-8216 for more information.

Contractors performing land clearing operations inside the city limits of Hinesville must possess a written permit issued by the city Fire Marshal. All burning operations must be conducted using an Air Curtain Destructor placed at a pit. This pit must be at least 300 ft. from any inhabitable



structure. Air Curtain Destructors must be able to pass an even, non turbulent flow of air across the top of the pit. Air Curtain Destructors with an air duct manifold must be free from alteration, dents, bends, or holes and capable of delivering a non turbulent flow of air across the top of the pit will not be allowed. The Hinesville Fire Department uses the most current guides and procedures for operating an Air Curtain Destructor published by the North Georgia Region Environmental Protection Division. Permits are issued after the inspection and a fee is collected. The fee for all PIT burns is \$250.00 per pit for 30 days. If a new pit is dug during those 30 days a new fee will be required. Extensions are allowed by permit use. For more information concerning the use of Air Curtain Destructors please contact the city Fire Marshal.

Burning without a permit within the city limits of Hinesville will be considered an illegal burn and can result in a citation.



The Hinesville Public Utilities Department performs tasks related to the City's drinking water and sanitary sewer. Those tasks include the following operations and maintenance departments: Water Treatment, Water Distribution, Wastewater Collection, Wastewater Treatment (two facilities), Re-use Water Distribution, Meter Reading, Utility Maintenance, and Inflow & Infiltration Inspections. These tasks are completed by a staff of 37 full-time employees.

The City of Hinesville's sanitary sewer system consists of approximately 160 miles of gravity flow sewer lines. This network of piping conveys the wastewater from the residences and businesses within the City to the wastewater treatment facilities. To ensure these lines are able to serve the citizens of the City, it is important that they are kept clear of obstructions.

One thing that causes the greatest problems within the sewer system is grease. Fats, oils, and greases are not just bad for your arteries and your waistline; they are bad for sewers, too!! As you may know, sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. An increasingly common cause of overflows and backups is sewer pipes blocked by GREASE. Grease commonly enters residential sewer systems through household drains.

The City of Hinesville needs the help of all its residents to keep our sewer system running properly and to keep your residential service lines clear. You can help avoid sewer overflows, backups, and repeated maintenance problems by following a few simple guidelines.

What you can do to help?

The easiest way to solve the grease problem and help

prevent overflows of raw sewage into your homes or the environment is to keep this material out of the sewer system in the first place. There are several ways to do this.

- NEVER pour grease down sink or tub drains, garbage disposals, or into toilets.
- Scrape grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, grills and cooking surfaces into a can or the trash for disposal.
- Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and empty the drain baskets/strainers into the trash for disposal.

There are many other things that can cause sewer backups. Here are several things to consider helping prevent sewer backups at your home or business:

- Do not plant trees and shrubs over the private building sewer. The roots of trees will seek out the joints of the sanitary sewer and eventually clog the pipe.
- Do not put large amounts of vegetable waste, such as pea pods and tomato skins, through the garbage disposal at one time. Even though these materials will go through the garbage disposal, they may clog the private building/house sewer. This also applies to grease and paint, which will build up in the building/house sewer over a period of time eventually causing a blockage.

The City of Hinesville monitors and cleans the sewer system on routine schedules. This helps minimize the chance of sewer blockages and interruptions in your service. This type work requires specialized equipment including a jet truck. This truck uses water under high pressure to clean lines. Below is a photograph one of the City's two jet trucks.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Community Development Department is to seek and secure funding from public and private grant sources to help facilitate the strategic goals of the City of Hinesville. In the past four years, more than \$4.5 million has been secured for various projects.

Emergency Assistance

The Next Step Program offers rent, utility, and other shelter assistance to persons facing economic hardships in order to prevent service interruption or homelessness.

Funding for emergency assistance programs is provided by the Department of Community Affairs Emergency Shelter Grant and United Way Emergency Food and Shelter Grant.



Funding opportunities for emergency assistance and transitional housing are explored frequently. Additional resources may reduce expenses, expand existing programs, or introduce new initiatives.

The City is spearheading improvement in the continuum of care for homeless and potentially homeless persons. Surveys are conducted periodically to gauge needs, assistance provided, and gaps in service. When deficiencies are noted, attention is turned to filling the void. The priority needs of the population changes over time; therefore the services provided must be adjusted in order to adequately serve those who may benefit the greatest.

The Next Step Program began in 1999 as a pilot grant and has evolved into a division of the Community Development Department which focuses on homeless prevention

Transitional Housing

Fifteen (15) transitional housing units are available which provide up to a twenty-four (24) month stay. During this period, participants are guided by a self-sufficiency plan that outlines responsibilities and sets attainable goals for the duration of the program.



A focus on the future is encouraged through Life Skills sessions and Financial Literacy courses which are required for all clients.

Five (5) units are furnished solely by the City of Hinesville and ten (10) with funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development Supportive Housing Program.

Initiatives

Representatives from the City of Hinesville are actively involved in various focus groups which periodically assess needs of the at-risk population and services available via local agencies in order to improve the continuum of care.

The Mayor and Council are very involved in evaluating the needs of the community and providing findings to the Community Development Department. This information is used to adjust current services, strengthen partnerships, and research available grant opportunities.

Accessing Assistance

Assistance is provided on a first come, first serve basis as funds are available. Persons in need of assistance can obtain information regarding qualifications and current funding status by contacting the Next Step Office. (See Other Frequently Called Numbers on the City of Hinesville Contact Information Page.)

In order to provide individual attention, intake is provided by appointment only. Some services require a referral from an outside agency that can verify the current situation. When accessing services, be prepared to provide personal information and rest assured that it will be kept confidential.



Twelve affordable townhomes have been completed through the Azalea Street Redevelopment project and are ready for purchase! The townhomes are available for first time home buyers who qualify for the Georgia Dream Homeownership Program offered through the Department of Community Affairs. Contact the City of Hinesville Community Development Department for more information at (912) 876-3164.



The Irene B. Thomas Park is the newest city park complete with picnic table seating for 50, restrooms, kitchen, and a charcoal grill is also available. The facilities are available for use through the Liberty County Recreation Department. The park is available to the public. It is located on Sharon Street, right behind the Dug Out Sports Bar on E.G. Miles Parkway, with an adjacent pond and fishing available.



The Hinesville Fire Department has a fire station located in the water tower on Airport Road. Fire Station No. 2 opened in September 2004. The three-story fire station houses trucks and equipment on the first floor with beds, a kitchen and rest area for firefighters on the second floor. A bonus third floor serves as a training room with seating capacity for 55. This dual use facility has earned the City of Hinesville a Trendsetter award as a 2006 City of Excellence.



The City of Hinesville officially established a sister city relationship with the City of Yichun in China. The agreement was formalized December 7, 2009, and will mark the beginning of great economic and cultural exchanges between the two cities.

The Memorial Drive realignment project incorporated a fitness and leisure activity route with beautiful sidewalks and plantings. It is the perfect place to enjoy the 1.4 miles route and discover downtown Hinesville.



Fort Stewart is home to the 3rd Infantry Division and great history. Visit the Fort Stewart Museum to see displays of military equipment from World War II, Vietnam, Korea, Desert Storm and present-day military activities or contact the Fort Stewart Museum curator to schedule a personal or tour group visit. The museum is located at Building T904, 2022 Frank Cochran Drive, Fort Stewart, GA 31314 or call (912) 767-7885.

LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS FOR HINESVILLE

Senate



**Senator Earl "Buddy" Carter
(District 1)**

302-B Coverdell Legislative
Office Building
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-5109
(404) 657- 3217 Fax

Home Address

406 Purple Finch Drive
Pooler, GA 31322
(912) 748-1414 Office
(912) 748-6470 Fax
(912) 654-5149 Cell
(912) 748-6470 Home



**Senator Tommie Williams
(District 19)**

321 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-0089
(404) 463-5220 Fax

Home Address

148 Williams Ave
Lyons, GA 30436
(912) 526-7444 Office
(912) 526-8730 Home

House of Representatives



Rep. James Ronald Stephens (District 164)

228 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-5099
(404) 656-6897 Fax
E-mail quickrxdr@gmail.com

Home Address

45 Cove Drive
Savannah, GA 31419
(912) 964-0061 Home
(912) 966-5665 Office
(912) 364-3699 Fax



Rep. Al Williams (District 165)

511 Coverdell Legislative
Office Building
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-6372
(404) 656-0238
E-mail al.williams@house.ga.gov

Home Address

9041 East Oglethorpe Highway
Midway, GA 31320
(912) 977-5600 Office
(912) 368-4982 Fax
(912) 270-2327 Cell



Rep. Terry Barnard (District 166)

401 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-5138
(404) 463-2044

Home Address

785 Highway 196 East
Glennville, GA 30427
(866) 606-6956 Home

CITY OF HINESVILLE CONTACT INFORMATION



CITY OF HINESVILLE

City Hall (Direct Line)	912-876-3564	Downtown Development Authority	912-877-4332
Hearing Impaired City Hall	912-876-4229	Finance Department	912-876-3564
Mayor's Office	912-876-3564	Fire Department	912-876-4143
City Council	912-876-3564	Police Department	912-368-8211
Administration	912-876-3564	Human Resources	912-876-3564
Business License	912-876-3564	Municipal Court	912-368-8206
City Clerk	912-876-3564	Planning & Zoning Office	912-408-2030
Department of Community Development	912-876-3164	Public Relations	912-876-3564
Department of Inspections	912-876-4147	Public Works Department	912-876-8216
		Water Department	912-876-3564

OTHER FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Animal Control	912-876-9191	Next Step	912-876-6573
Birth Certificates/ Marriage License/Gun Permits	912-876-3635	Passports	912-876-3625
Board of Education	912-876-2161	Public Health Department	912-876-2173
Driver's License	912-370-2604	Social Security Administration (Savannah)	800-772-1213
Emergency Management Agency	912-368-2201	Soil Testing (County Extension Service)	912-876-2133
Georgia Department of Labor	912-370-2595	Vehicle Registration & Car Tags	912-876-3389
Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission	912-408-2030	Voter's Registration	912-876-3310

Hinesville

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"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"

The City of Hinesville recently celebrated the adoption of a new brand. As of April 21, 2010, Hinesville will be identified by a new logo, slogan and website. Be on the lookout this year for the new applications of the City of Hinesville brand and check out the new website features!

New website features include:

- City calendar
- Photo gallery
- News Flash/Public Notices
- Bid postings
- And More.

Also, follow us on Twitter (@HinesvilleGA) or become a fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/HinesvilleGA).

City of Hinesville Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the highest quality of life, nurture a strong business community, and maintain efficient government for the residents of Hinesville.

City of Hinesville Vision Statement

Our vision is to be the coastal "southern living" community of choice in Georgia for a day or a lifetime. We are committed to serving our residents with superior organization that demonstrates excellence, responsiveness and efficiency.



www.CityOfHinesville.org