



HINESVILLE

GEORGIA



"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"





*The pictures on the front cover
and the inside of the front
and back covers were taken at
Bryant Commons.*

*Read more about this beautiful
treasure in our City on page 9.*

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 six 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, 2010



Linda C. Danson
President

Jeffrey L. Esser
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, 2010. 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.

Dear Residents of Hinesville:

Can you imagine a city that continues to grow and provide the perfect setting to work and enjoy life while maintaining a small-town atmosphere? Would you like to enjoy natural green space with an area to go for a walk or have a picnic with your family in the city limits? Is a public park located close to local businesses with space to accommodate community activities something that is appealing to you? What about public safety, access to transportation, and improved roads? What about cultural, civic, and social events to enhance the quality of life in our city?

Just like you, these are also the desires I have for our community — a place where residents can maintain an excellent quality of life by living, working, and entertaining all in the same place. It is my pleasure to present to you the 2011 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). In this



report, you will learn about how the city is working towards completing some new projects as well as information about how to remain safe and become involved in our city life!

This year, I am especially excited to serve as Mayor as our city celebrates its 175th birthday. Throughout the year, we have a variety of activities scheduled to reflect on our rich past and showcase our plans for a prosperous future. On September 12, 2012, the City of Hinesville will celebrate its Dodransbicentennial (175 years) with a community event for all to enjoy. We also hope you will take the time to participate in some of our annual events such as Project Homeless Connect, National Night Out and Farmer's Market. And when you have some time, consider visiting some of the sites and current projects that support our promising future. We hope that your tours of the Memorial Drive District, downtown area, and historic sites will be enough to convince you that we are committed to excellent service and efficient government in all that we do.

Through these economically challenging times for our nation, state, and local governments everywhere, our city has continued to grow and thrive. Through good financial management and sacrifices by our city departments and employees, the City has not furloughed or terminated employees. The economic forecast for our city looks promising and the potential for additional growth is great. Because of its potential for additional economic and social growth, it is a great time to live and work in Hinesville, Georgia.

Hinesville offers what its residents need to thrive in a prosperous, enjoyable atmosphere. We pride ourselves in being a community that you can call home for a day or a lifetime! With all that we have to offer, we hope you take advantage of it all. As always, if we can be of any help to you, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Thomas Jr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor James Thomas, Jr.



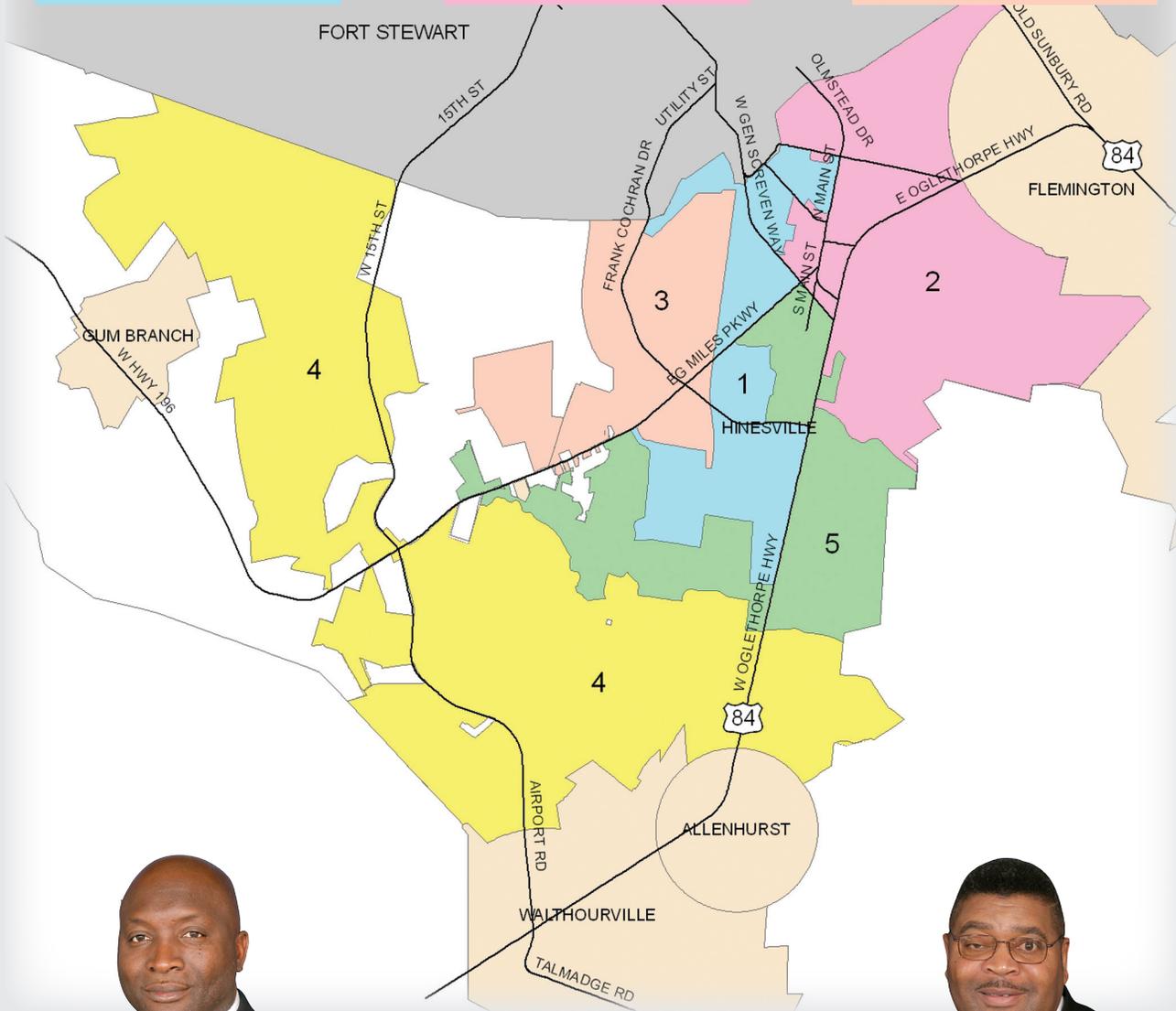
**MAYOR PRO-TEM
CHARLES FRASIER
DISTRICT 1**



**COUNCIL MEMBER
JASON FLOYD
DISTRICT 2**



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



**COUNCIL MEMBER
KEITH JENKINS
DISTRICT 4**

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



**COUNCIL MEMBER
KENNETH SHAW
DISTRICT 5**

Dear Reader,

We've made it through a new year with good times and tough times — and it could not have been done without you! We want to thank our employees for the sacrifices they've made as well as our residents for continuing to support city leadership during this past year. I am assured that through continued commitment to excellence and teamwork, we will all be proud of the progress to come.

In spite of the reduced resources, the city is continuing to provide services and programs that we feel are essential to the quality of life. The City of Hinesville is happy to support a variety of sectors in business, technology, and manufacturing. Even with the downturn of the economy, Hinesville's economy continues to offer job opportunities for residents and investment options for new employers. To encourage economic growth, the City provides a Community Development Block Grant, which includes funding for economic development, infrastructure improvements, housing improvement projects, public facilities, and building maintenance. We have a comprehensive urban redevelopment plan and a downtown redevelopment plan for the city that call for new mixed-use, residential, and commercial development.

Some current and future plans for the city include a new Public Works facility; Veterans Parkway (formerly Frank Cochran Drive) widening; Bryant Commons development; Jacks Hill Road improvements; ADA ramps for US 84, SR 119; Central Avenue/Memorial Drive Phase IV; Armstrong Atlantic State University downtown Hinesville campus; Westside annexation; and upgrade to the Waste Water Treatment Plant at Fort Stewart. We hope that you will experience positive growth and use of these projects as we work to improve the quality of life for our residents and workers in the city.

This year city employees have also been busy working on ways to improve services to you. We are happy to report that our police department was recertified under the State Certification Program; our fire department was recognized as a regional test site for the Georgia Certifications and National Professional Qualification Certifications; our finance department was awarded the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada; our water quality met state and federal regulations for safety; and the city was listed as having the fourth fastest personal income growth rate in the nation according to the 2010 Census. We have a lot to be proud of!

As the city continues to move forward, we want you to be part of that journey. Please continue to stay in touch via our website, social media sites, or visit the office. We are available by phone, email, mail, and in person to serve you. Remember, this is your city and we want you to experience all we have to offer.

Sincerely,



Billy Edwards



The Community Development Department pursues funding from public and private grant sources to help facilitate the strategic goals of the City of Hinesville. The CDBG Sub-recipient Program is just one of the several programs funded by dollars secured for various projects that benefit our community.

CDBG Sub-recipient Program

The City of Hinesville is funded annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as an Entitlement Community. The Mayor and Council often elect to allot the maximum, 15% of the award, to public service agencies in order to further existing programs. These funds are available to local, non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status through a competitive application process.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are awarded to the City of Hinesville (the recipient) and may be sub-awarded to other organizations (the sub-recipient) to offer public services, providing that the activities meet a HUD national objective:

- Provide benefit to low- and moderate-income persons
- Prevent or eliminate slum or blight
- Meet community needs in a declared emergency

Over the past seven years, \$217,144 has been sub-granted to local agencies to assist in providing much needed services to the citizens of Hinesville such as homeless prevention, youth mentoring, indigent transportation, and child welfare.

Average awards are \$8,042 and depend on proposed activities, the number of qualified applications submitted, and the total funding received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Accessing Funding

The solicitation process is conducted annually with pre-applications due in February, a mandatory workshop hosted in March, and applications due in April. Award notifications are typically made in June as the program year begins July 1. Funding availability is announced in the Coastal Courier and on the City website.



The Senior Citizen Center is a sub-recipient of CDBG funds.

Organizations must exhibit adequate organizational and financial capacity in both the pre-application and application to be considered for funding. The CDBG Sub-recipient program is a reimbursement grant. As such, the organization must have a solid financial base in order to incur expenses upfront and receive payment for approved costs on a quarterly basis.

The workshop is designed to provide information regarding requirements of the program as well as allow the opportunity for interested organizations to objectively assess agency aptitude alongside grant requirements before moving forward with making application. A hands-on tutorial is conducted to familiarize the agency with all document completion.

Program Partnership

This program requires a year-long commitment that is detailed in a project funding agreement which establishes measurable goals. Progress towards these goals are monitored by the Community Development Department on a quarterly basis and, in turn, reported to HUD. Satisfactory performance throughout the program year is required to maintain access to funding.

A balanced partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Community Development Department, and public services agencies is required to continually facilitate this type of program. This combined effort and dedication results in providing financial support of vital services offered to the residents of Hinesville.

Beware of Unlicensed Contractors!

If you are planning a home improvement project such as a room addition, a deck, a new bathroom, a garage, or converting an existing garage or carport to habitable spaces, you will probably need to hire a building contractor, and it's not an easy task.

There is no shortage of building contractor horror stories. Almost everyone has heard tales of damage, scams, shoddy workmanship, and builders who disappear in the middle of a project. In fact, except for auto repair shops and car dealerships, no other industry has generated as many complaints, according to the Council of Better Business Bureaus. It would seem that finding a reliable and qualified contractor is not an easy task. You can put the odds on your side, by making sure you hire only licensed contractors.

While licensing isn't necessarily a measure of competence, it does imply a certain level of professionalism and suggests that the contractor is committed to his or her job. More significantly, licensing can protect you from a number of potential problems, such as the following:

Unlicensed usually means uninsured

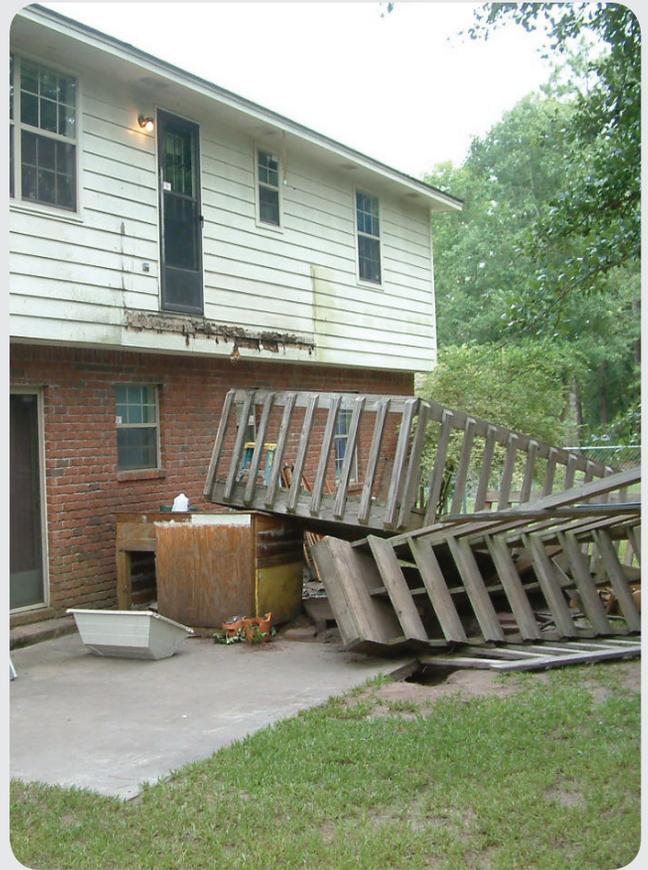
If you use a contractor who is uninsured, it means the contractor has no way of reimbursing you for any property damage he or she causes. This means you end up paying the price. Likewise, if contractor carelessness leads to injury or damage to someone else's property, the problem is likely to become yours.

No coverage under homeowner's policy

Some homeowners believe it is safe to use an uninsured contractor, assuming that any damages incurred would be covered under their own insurance policies. However, this isn't the case. Most homeowner policies require that any work to the property be done by licensed contractors; coverage is often specifically excluded for damages caused by "bootleg" contractors.

Noncompliance with building codes

Most building projects, even minor ones, usually require permits and inspections. Unlicensed contractors are often unfamiliar with the applicable building codes and are unable to obtain permits. If your project isn't permitted or doesn't comply with building and zoning codes, you may and probably



will be ordered to remove or repair the job. Even if a building inspector doesn't "catch" your code violation right away.

Poor quality of work

Not all unlicensed contractors do poor quality work. And not all poor quality work is done by unlicensed contractors. However, as a rule, if there's shoddy work to be done, it's usually done by unlicensed contractors. Because unlicensed contractors aren't subject to meeting specific standards, they are often untrained, less experienced, and unqualified to do certain types of work. Sloppy work by an unlicensed contractor could have serious ramifications. If it's not structurally sound, if it's not wired properly, obviously you could face major consequences at some point.

Con artists

Con artists posing as qualified contractors, often targeting the elderly, have made national news. Even so, unwary homeowners continue to be taken in by these pseudo contractors, who often promise low prices or use scare tactics to close the deal. The homeowner typically ends up with either an incomplete or a low-quality improvement project – and – several hundred or even thousands of dollars less.



13 Steps to Hiring a Contractor

1. Seek a referral from someone you know who is happy with his or her contractor's work.
2. Solicit bids from at least 3 contractors.
3. Be wary of proposals that are much lower than any other proposals.
4. Contact the Better Business Bureau to check out any contractors that submit bids.
5. Insist on a written contract that outlines your entire agreement, including starting & completion dates.
6. Have an attorney review any documents before you sign them, including contracts, warranties and plans.
7. Make sure there are no blank spaces on anything you sign.
8. Insist upon a written warranty on all materials and work.
9. Insure that contractor gets all building permits and variances before starting the project, and identify the contractor on the applications.
10. Inspect all work before signing a completion certificate.
11. Withhold final payment until the entire project is finished and inspected.
12. Get a contractor's affidavit that all subcontractors and material suppliers have been paid before making final payment.
13. Report any misrepresentations, shoddy work, failure to honor contracts, unlicensed contractors, or other problems to the appropriate licensing board.

Warning signs

Even when a license is required, there is no guarantee that every contractor you encounter will actually have a license. It is essentially up to you to protect yourself. You should be diligent in your screening process. There are a number of "red flags" you should watch for:

- Unsolicited phone calls or visits
- High-pressure sales pitches or scare tactics
- Large down payments
- No verifiable address and phone number
- Unwillingness to give you a price
- Unwillingness to sign a written contract
- Insurance or licensing information you cannot verify
- Don't rely on a handshake





Training Mission:
"To develop certified Firefighters who can deliver desired results rapidly and safely on the fire ground."

Left to right:
Assistant Chief Larry Urban, Captain Kris Johanson and Chief T. Lamar Cook.

Hinesville firefighters continuously train throughout the year in preparation for emergency calls to save property and possibly lives. Now, firefighters have the ability to conduct those trainings closer to home.

Firefighters are required to receive annual training for different reasons. Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training (GFSTC) requires that each member receive at least 24 hours of training to maintain their certification. Insurance Services Offices (ISO) requires each member to receive at least 240 hours of training each year to maintain the Public Protection Classification rating which is given to a fire department grading their ability to provide fire protection to their community.

With all of the required training, it can be a costly venture for the taxpayers to maintain an efficient, effective fire department. To this end, the Hinesville Fire Department has sought out means to provide training that will reduce the cost to citizens and still deliver the high level of service that is expected.

In 2011, the Hinesville Fire Department achieved two certifications that will greatly reduce the training costs. The fire department was recognized as a regional test site for Georgia Certifications and National Professional Qualifications Certifications by GFSTC and a regional training academy by the Georgia Fire Academy (GFA).

These certifications provide an opportunity for Hinesville firefighters to receive Georgia certifications, national certifications, and training locally instead of sending its members to the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) in Forsyth, GA. In addition to our community, it allows surrounding communities to save money as well by sending their employees to Hinesville, as many of those communities cannot afford to send their personnel to the GPSTC.

The department was selected as a Regional Test Site by applying with GFSTC. The department was then evaluated based on involvement in testing practices by going to surrounding areas to assist in State delivered tests. The department is now one of 14 test sites in the state serving neighboring fire departments in the 19 counties that make up the South Georgia region.

It was selected as a Regional Training Academy by requesting the status with GFA. The process required members interning at GPSTC to receive status as instructors in more than 25 classes that are offered through the department. These classes are available to anyone in the State of Georgia and have been attended by Firefighters from as far away as Cobb County in north Georgia.

These achievements are a credit to the dedication of the Hinesville Fire Department for providing the highest level of service possible.

Thanks to the Glenn E. and Trudy F. Bryant Foundation, the residents of Hinesville will soon have a local venue to enjoy leisure activities and the outdoors. In 2010, the Bryant Foundation offered a long-term lease for the 150+ acre property to be used for leisure activities and public use. The property located at 438 West Oglethorpe Highway in downtown Hinesville will be known as “Bryant Commons”.



Currently, it serves as the site of the ITPA Telephony Museum and is rented as a meeting space and event facility under the management of the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority (HDDA). The City of Hinesville has teamed up with the Glenn E. and Trudy F. Bryant Foundation, HDDA, and the International Telephone Pioneers Association (ITPA) to create an area we can all enjoy with our families, friends, and visitors to our community for many years. Whether you need a venue for a public event or a nice area for outdoor leisure activities such as musical concerts, exercise, nature observation, family reunions, weddings, and much more, Bryant Commons will serve all of us in one way or another!

Features

- More than 7 acres of Open Space/Lawns
- 15-Acre Water Feature
- Main Entrance Gate
- Rose Garden in memory of Glenn E. and Trudy F. Bryant
- Parking
- Amphitheatre
- Open Air Pavilion
- Meeting Center with Kitchen

Two projects have begun on the property for which funding has been allocated. First, the Bryant Com-

mons Detention Pond which captures, detains, and treats storm water from much of the downtown Hinesville area was completed January 2012. The original estimated cost was \$46 million but the final bid for the project was \$15 million. The City obtained a GEFA loan with 10% principal forgiveness to complete the project. In addition to being a great water feature for the property, we expect it to alleviate downstream flooding problems and improve water quality.

Second, the Bryant Commons Amphitheatre will be completed July 2012 using funds from a \$500,000 OneGeorgia grant. This phase of the project includes a stage, grassed seating, electrical connections, site accommodations such as sidewalks and fencing, as well as accommodations for future growth.

Bryant Commons will be a work in progress contingent upon funding as it becomes available. One thing you can be assured of is that the development will be something that residents will be proud to be part of our community! We look forward to finding new ways to continue serving you.



PLAY IT SAFE: Don't underestimate floods!

In spite of our proximity to the coast, many residents do not consider the likelihood of flooding in our city. However, it can happen! There are several sources of flooding in our city, and our goal at the City of Hinesville is to ensure that you are safe from the potential damages of flooding. Even if your property is not in a floodplain, you still need to protect yourself and be aware of flood hazards in our community.

Local Flood Hazard

Education and awareness are the first steps in protecting yourself. Check your flood hazard by viewing flood maps and flood protection references available in the Department of Inspections and Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission (LCPC) offices. These offices can provide you with depth of flooding, past flood problems in the area, and copies of elevation certificates for your property.

If requested, the Public Works Department will visit a property to review its flood problem and explain ways to stop flooding or prevent flood damage. Call Public Works at (912) 876-8216. There is no fee for these services.

If you are in a floodplain or have had flooding issues, drainage, or sewer backup problems or would like information about local flood hazard maps and permit requirements, please use the resources provided by the City of Hinesville to assist you by calling or visiting the Department of Inspections.

Do your part

Even if you are not in a floodplain, there may still be some risk so become informed anyway. Drainage maintenance is everyone's responsibility to ensure we are all protecting our community from the damages



of flooding. Dumping in our ditches and streams is a violation of City Code of Ordinances Part II, Section 6-61 (Drainage, Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control). Here is what you can do to help:

- Do not dump or throw anything into ditches or streams as this can plug the channels that carry water away. Any amount of debris can contribute to flooding.
- If your property is next to a ditch or stream, keep the banks clear of brush and debris.
- If you see someone dumping into a ditch or stream, then contact Hinesville Code Enforcement at (912) 876-4147. Also, report any blockages such as downed trees you may see in a ditch or stream.
- Always check with the Department of Inspections before you build, alter, regrade, or fill on your property. A permit may be needed to ensure that projects do not cause problems and contributed to flooding.
- Learn more in the following sections about floodproofing, flood insurance, the local flood warning system, and flood safety.

Floodproofing

You can protect a structure from flood damage by regarding your lot or building a small floodwall or earthen berm. Another approach is to make your walls waterproof and place watertight closures over the doorways. A third approach is to raise the house above flood levels.

Many houses also have sewers that back up during heavy rains. A plug or standpipe can prevent this if the water doesn't get higher than 2 feet deep. Talk to a plumber about overhead sewers or a backup valve for deeper sewer backup flooding.

Flood Insurance

If you don't have flood insurance, talk to your agent. The City of Hinesville participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which makes federally backed flood insurance available for all eligible buildings, whether they are in a flood plain or not. Flood insurance covers direct losses caused by surface flooding and local drainage problems.

If you are covered, check to see if the building coverage is adequate and make sure you have contents coverage.

Flood Warning

The City of Hinesville works closely with the Liberty County Emergency Management Agency to share information about flood warnings as well as keep our community safe during emergency situations. In the event a flood warning is issued, you will be notified in the following manners:

- Local television
- Local radio
- City of Hinesville website
- City of Hinesville Facebook fan page
- City of Hinesville Twitter feed

To sign-up for emergency alert information from the City of Hinesville via SMS text messages to your mobile phone or email messages, visit www.cityofhinesville.org and click on the "Notify Me Signup" button.

Flood Safety

Before the flood...

- Purchase flood insurance.
- List all your personal property.
- Keep your policy and your list of personal property in a safe place.
- Learn the safest route from your home or place of business to a high, safe ground.

If the flood comes...

- Keep a battery-operated radio tuned to a local station and follow all instructions.
- Turn off all utilities at the main switch, if time permits.
- Move valuable contents to a higher level, if time permits.
- Avoid already flooded areas. Do not attempt to cross any stretch of flood waters on foot if the water is above your knees.
- Do not drive where water is over the roads. In floods, cars can become coffins!

- If by mistake you find yourself driving in water and the car stalls, get out of the car and climb to high ground immediately.
- If you are caught in the house, move to the second floor and/or, if necessary, the roof. Wait for help; do not try to swim to safety.

After the flood...

- Call your insurance agent or broker.
- Have your insurance policy and your list of possessions to simplify the adjuster's work.
- Be sure that the structure is not in danger of collapsing before you enter.
- Open windows and doors to let air circulate.
- Do not strike a match or use a flame when you enter the structure.
- Begin clean-up as soon as possible.
- Make any temporary repairs necessary to stop further losses from the elements or from looting.

Substantial improvement/damage

The NFIP requires that if the cost of reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must be brought up to the same standards (e.g. a residence damaged so that the cost of repairs equals or exceeds 50% of the building's value before it was damaged must be elevated above the base flood elevation).

Improvement requirements and procedures as well as information on enforcement can be found in City of Hinesville Code of Ordinances, Part II, Sec. 5-276 or contacting the Hinesville Department of Inspections.



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...		
	FY 2010	FY 2011
Property Taxes	\$ 5,634,947	\$ 5,665,529
Sales Taxes	4,068,635	4,347,383
Franchise Taxes	1,522,454	1,561,577
Insurance Premium Tax	1,636,056	1,568,336
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes	335,268	368,943
Hotel/Motel Tax	209,789	223,179
Other General Revenue	75,499	81,409
Total General Revenue	\$ 13,482,648	\$ 13,816,356
Charges for Services	12,591,632	13,071,805
Operating Grants	1,731,085	1,762,492
Capital Grants and Contributions	29,525,901	10,548,434
Total Program Revenues	\$ 43,848,618	\$ 25,382,731
Other Income	187,137	192,796
Investment Earnings	114,744	43,417
Transfers	-	-
Total Other Income and Transfers	\$ 301,881	\$ 236,213
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 57,633,147	\$ 39,435,300

Where the Money Went...		
	FY 2010	FY 2011
General Government	\$ 2,483,187	\$ 2,429,215
Judicial	415,532	426,155
Public Safety	10,238,143	11,321,340
Public Works	2,761,761	2,875,882
Housing and Development	3,466,832	1,979,711
Health and Welfare	574,305	625,795
Culture and Recreation	826,155	889,866
Interest and Fiscal Charges	140,367	407,888
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 20,906,282	\$ 20,955,852
Water and Sewer	9,105,367	9,268,587
Sanitation	2,386,351	2,516,038
Stormwater Utility	939,821	1,054,997
Transit	208,507	1,750,776
Total Business-type Activities	\$ 12,640,046	\$ 14,590,398
TOTAL EXPENSES	33,546,328	35,546,250
Change in Net Assets	23,720,837	3,981,882
Net Assets-Beginning	62,794,726	86,515,563
Net Assets - Ending	\$ 86,515,563	\$ 90,497,445

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.

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.

Governmental Activities

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

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:

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.

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.

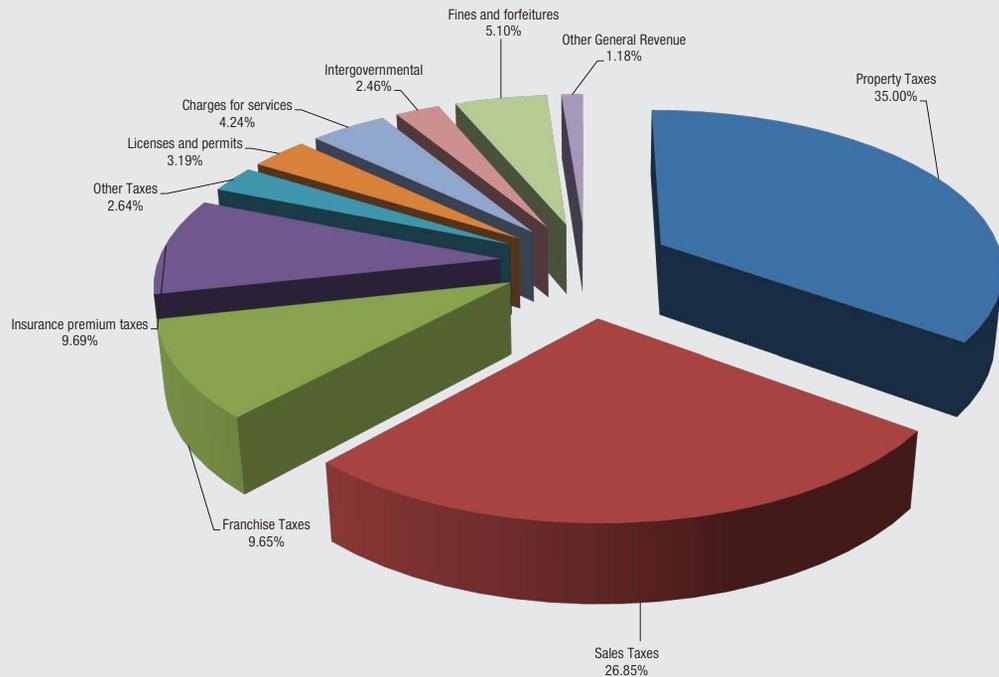
Net Assets-Unrestricted

The remaining balance of net assets not reports under the other two categories of net assets.

The total net assets of the City are categorized. The largest portion of net assets (\$81,295,238) 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 (\$1,342,048) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining portion of the City’s net assets (\$7,860,160) is unrestricted net assets and may be used to meet the City’s ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

General Fund Fiscal Year 2011 Revenues

The General Fund reflects the majority of the financial activity of departments within City government. Taxes, user fees and transfers from other City departments make up the majority of funding sources.



As seen in the chart above, property taxes and sales taxes combined make up over 60% of the City’s General Fund Revenue. Below is a brief description of the City’s revenue sources by category.

Property Taxes

Taxes collected from property owners based upon an assessed valuation and tax rate. The dollar amount received is to be used to fund governmental services and debt service on voter approved general obligation bonds.

Sales and Use Taxes

Taxes imposed on the purchase, sale, rental, storage, use or consumption of tangible personal property and related services and are subject to voter approval. Specifically represents the city’s portion of the 1% sales and use tax collected.

Insurance Premium Taxes

Taxes levied based on the gross direct premiums collected by all insurance companies doing business in the City.

Franchise Taxes

Taxes imposed on corporations or business for using public property for private purposes.

Fines, forfeitures and fees

Revenue derived from fines and penalties imposed for the commission of statutory offences, violation of lawful administrative rules and regulations, for the neglect of official duty, etc.

Charges for services

Fees collected for general government services.

Intergovernmental

Revenue from other governments in the form of operating grants, shared revenues, etc.

License and permits

Fees collected for the issuance of licenses and permits by the city. One of the large components included in this is business licenses.

Other general revenue

Other revenue received from sale of surplus, investments, or not otherwise classified.

As shown on the revenue chart on page 13, property taxes represent the City’s largest single source of revenue. The City does strive to keep the City portion of property taxes down by keeping the City’s millage rate down.

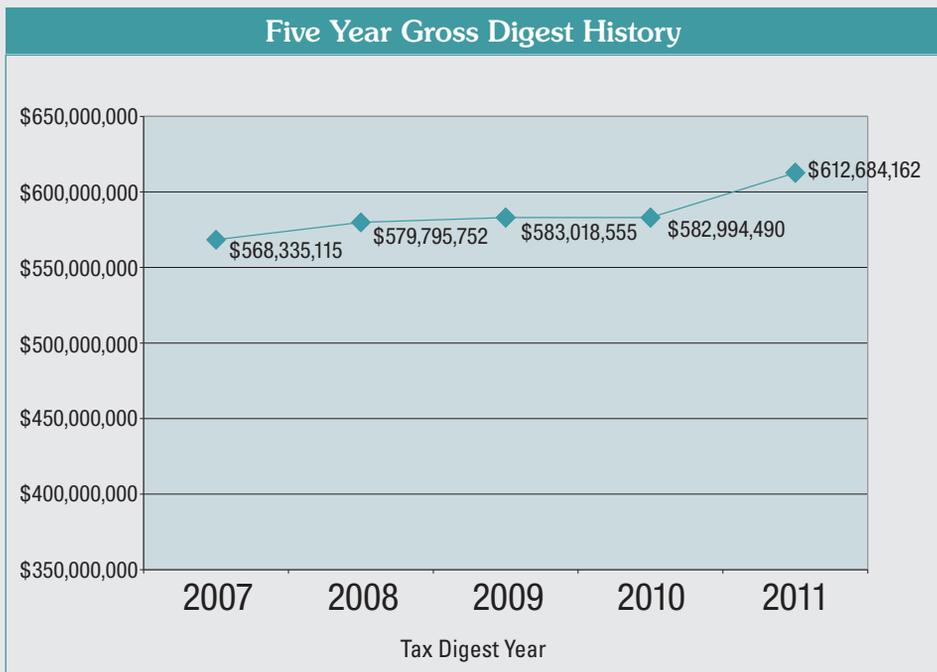
From digest years 1997 through 2005, the City’s millage rate was 11.30 mills. In 2006, the City decreased the millage rate to 10.90 mills. The millage rate was decreased again in 2007 to 9.50 mills. From 2007 to 2011, the millage rate has remained at 9.50 mills.

Property Taxes



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 Tax Digest

The graph to the left tracks the change in the tax digest over the past five years.

Mission Statement:

“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.”

Vision Statement:

“Our vision is to create a community proud of its small town charm with big city amenities; progress and preservation work together to create an attractive livable city center and a thriving, diverse market place where all are welcomed to gather and celebrate our unique heritage and patriotism.”

The Hinesville Downtown Development Authority (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:

New Jobs Tax Credit

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 new job created 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 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, new construction, and energy efficiency improvements. 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, incentives counseling, and assistance with initial project conceptual rendering.

Contact Information:

Hinesville Downtown Development Authority
302 S. Main Street, Located in the Historic
“Old Liberty County Jail”

Mailing address: 115 East M. L. King Jr. Drive
Hinesville, GA 31313

Phone: (912) 877-4332

Fax: (912) 877-9132

Website: www.hinesvilledowntown.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/hinesvilledowntown

Email: discoverdowntown@coastalnow.net



Mission Statement:

The mission of the Hinesville Police Department is to provide professional law enforcement services to all citizens of Hinesville. To attain this goal, the Department strives to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner and support the constitutional rights of all persons. The Department recognizes that no law enforcement agency can operate effectively without the support of the citizens it serves. Therefore, we solicit and encourage the cooperation of all citizens in our efforts.

The Hinesville Police Department has an eighteen member Administrative Support Services Division led by Captain Stella Sturla. Staff in this division includes the communication clerks, records section personnel, booking clerk, traffic control officers and building maintenance personnel. Each section in the Administrative Support Services Division is tasked with very different functions to support the Police Department mission while assisting the citizens of Hinesville and other law enforcement agencies.



Communication Clerks

The **Communication Clerks** are likely the first people you see when you visit the police department. The Senior Communication Clerk and four Communication Clerks work in the communication center,

directly to your front left as you enter the Police Department. The Communication Clerks provide a variety of services to the citizens of Hinesville as

well as to police department personnel. Some of the tasks they perform are:

- Answer the multi-line phone system, take messages and or redirect calls
- Monitor radio traffic for officers' status, communicate with officers by radio, run computer checks through the police records management system and check for outstanding warrants
- Upon request, provide department personnel with license checks, tag checks and warrant checks
- Monitor and route incoming messages from national and state computer networks; add and remove information such as missing persons, stolen articles, wanted persons, etc.
- Provide information and assistance to walk-in customers, as well as accept bond and fine payments
- Enter 911 Center call data into the police records management system
- Run computer checks of pawned property, criminal histories and driver histories on the state and national computer networks



Records Technician and Records Clerk

If you have been in an accident or been involved in an incident in Hinesville, you may need a copy of the report the officer

made and will need to see or contact either the **Records Technician** or the **Records Clerk**. Completed and approved reports may be picked up or mailed to requestors. Or, should you need a local record check, the records clerk or technician is the person to help you. In addition to performing local history checks and retrieving accident and incident reports for customers, the Records Technician and the Records Clerk enter data from police reports into the records management system, tracking reports and verifying or correcting for accuracy and completeness as well as filing all initial and supplemental reports. This section is also tasked with preparing and disseminating reports for various local, state and federal criminal justice agencies and officials, defense attorneys, insurance agencies, the media and authorized members of the public.

Booking Clerk

The **Booking Clerk** position was added in late 2009 and given the responsibility of fingerprinting offenders on the electronic Live Scan system and of fingerprinting applicants either on the Live Scan system or by inked impressions. Some of the additional tasks assigned to the booking clerk include:

- Retrieving and printing responses from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the FBI
- Downloading and attaching mug shots to the arrest files in the Police Department's records management system
- Maintaining the department fingerprint files
- Correct and resubmit rejected fingerprint files by contacting and reprinting the applicant or the offender or by fixing clerical errors that caused the transaction to be rejected
- Preparing for and participating in FBI fingerprint audits
- Retrieving fingerprints and mug shots for HPD investigators or other agencies' representatives who request information on persons in our fingerprint files



Traffic Control Officers

If you have driven around Hinesville on a school day, you probably have seen one or more of our eight **Traffic Control Officers**. Not only do the traffic control officers stop traffic to escort children across school crossing zones but they also direct school traffic and school buses into the main traffic flow. These part-time civilian employees direct vehicles to maintain smooth traffic flow in front of schools during drop-off and pick-up hours. You may also see the traffic control officers working special events such as fingerprinting children for crime prevention purposes, working traffic points to direct traffic for

parades and approved 5K running events and directing parking for football games.



Maintenance Workers

The **Maintenance Workers** main responsibility is to keep the building well cleaned and in good repair. This work involves interior and exterior cleaning of the police department building; performing basic plumbing and electrical tasks; stripping, waxing and buffing floors and cleaning carpets; painting interior walls; installing, repairing or replacing locks. The maintenance workers are given other tasks such as rearranging room furniture for regularly scheduled and special events, transporting and/or setting up tables or traffic cones, purchasing janitorial supplies and even washing police vehicles as necessary.

Each section in the Administrative Support Services Division performs tasks which serve the citizens of Hinesville directly or indirectly by aiding in answering requests, solving problems, enhancing citizen safety or offering a pleasant ambience for those come to the Police Department.



Living in lovely coastal Georgia has many advantages, particularly if you live in Hinesville. Mild winters and warm summers provide an environment that gives us a chance to enjoy the outdoors year round. With a rain fall average of 50 inches per year, the local plants and green spaces provide lots of enjoyment for the residents of Hinesville and its many visitors.

However, when the weather gets hot and the conditions are right, the same weather conditions that bring us so much pleasure can also bring us some frustration and pain from our little flying neighbors.

So what do we do?

The City of Hinesville, through its contractor CH2M HILL, developed what is known as a Mosquito Control Management Plan. This plan has specific goals designed to eliminate mosquito populations.



Dr. Rosmarie Kelly, Public Health Entomologist with Georgia Department of Community Health, demonstrates to Liberty County Mosquito Control Director Jack Vereen and Hinesville Licensed Applicator Kenna Graham how to set a light trap. These traps are hung from low limbs and uses dry ice to attract mosquitoes to the trap.

- **Breeding Source Identification**

Simply put, where are the potential breeding grounds located? Mosquitoes like to live and breed in specific environments.

- **Breeding Source Reduction/Eliminate**

Once we know where the potential breeding grounds are located we can work to reduce or eliminate the breeding grounds. This may mean some physical changes to the area.

- **Organism Identification**

Part of the professional training of our staff working in the Parks and Grounds Department is in the identification of mosquitoes in their early stages.

- **Treatment Procedures**

Once we know where they could potentially breed and identify if they are in fact breeding in those locations, we can begin treatment.

So what can you do?

It is simple and generally will not cost you a dime. We have three simple steps:

- Source Reduction!*
- Source Reduction!*
- Source Reduction!*

If you can find and eliminate the environments that create a mosquito habitat, the chances of having mosquitoes in or around your property is greatly reduced.

Some things to eliminate:

- Tree holes with water
- Animal borrows
- Unused tires
- Buckets that fill with rain water
- Empty bottles
- Pool and boat covers
- High grass
- Depressions in your yard that hold water
- Flower pot drain saucers that are outside

Follow up if you are experiencing a mosquito problem

1. Call the Public Works office at 912-876-8216 and report your location and contact number.
2. A licensed technician will respond to your call to discuss the problem and may request permission to enter your property.
3. Following the investigation, the technician may make some recommendations on what you can do to eliminate breeding environments which may exist on your property.
4. If the source of the problem is located off of your property, the technician will identify the appropriate mitigation or treatment plan.

The Hinesville Mosquito Program is a year round program that identifies, eliminates and treats potential breeding grounds. If you would like more information on the mosquito control program and prevention measures please call the Public Works Department at 912-876-8216.

The Municipal Court represents the City of Hinesville's judicial branch of government and provides a forum for individuals charged with violations of traffic, some state law and/or city ordinances. The City of Hinesville's Court is presided over by Judge Gary A. Sinrich. He was appointed by the Mayor and Council in November 1987 and remains neutral and impartial to ensure the fair hearing of each case and to set the direction for how your court is operated.



The court also staffs a Solicitor, Clerk of Court, and 3 Deputy Court Clerks. Cris Schneider was appointed as Municipal Court Solicitor by the Mayor and Council in April 2010. Mary E. Dowd was promoted to Clerk of Court in 1985 after serving as a Records Clerk and as a Deputy Court Clerk for 1 ½ years. The 3 deputy court clerks have a combined experience of 26 years with the Municipal Court.

What does the court staff do?

The court handles cash bonds and manages all court records to include entering the citation data into system, prepare court dockets, issue subpoenas, issue city warrants and bench warrants, process suspension notices to the state for Failure to Appear, record dispositions and submit to Drivers Services in Conyers, submit final dispositions for Criminal Histories to the Georgia Crime Information Center, prepare a certified disposition for charges in our court only, assist the Judge, Solicitor, Attorneys, violators, and other police agencies, and compile monthly reports.

Probation Department

Often the Judge will sentence someone to Probation to complete their case for the court. We also have an in-house Probation Department which is

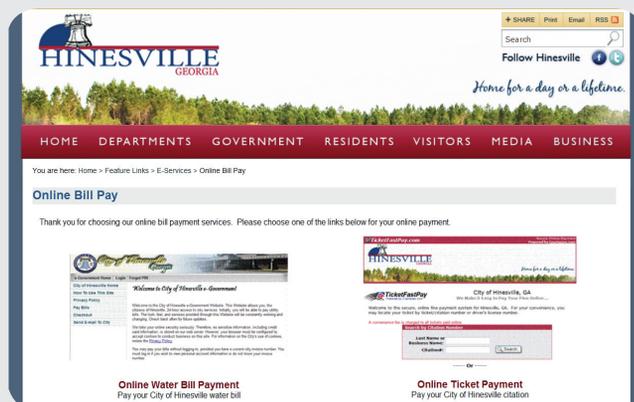
closely connected with the court. It is staffed by 2 probation officers that provide supervision for people sentenced to probation and ensure that they do any court ordered counseling and complete any other programs that the judge may order. Some other duties of the probation officer include case management, collecting fines and probation fees as required by the state, issue warrants for probation violations, and return probationers to court for noncompliance of the Judge's orders.

When someone is placed on probation and is unable to make monthly payments, we have a community service program which consists of litter control within the limits of the City of Hinesville that is monitored by 1 community service supervisor.

The Court is open to the public. You are more than welcome to attend any scheduled court session that is held on Wednesday morning at 8 a.m. We have arraignments the first three Wednesdays of the month and bench trials on the fourth Wednesday. For other FAQ, go to www.cityofhinesville.org/municipalcourt or call (912) 368-8206.

How do I pay a citation?

You may come in to the office to pay Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Method of payments are cash, money order, checks with imprinted information, or MasterCard, Visa or American Express. As of February 17, 2012 we started accepting online payments for citations up until 4 p.m. the day prior to the court date. When you receive a citation, please allow 2 business days then you may pay online by going to www.cityofhinesville.org and clicking on the tab for Online Bill Pay or go to www.TicketFastPay.com. You must enter your last name and citation number or last name and license number.



Senate



Senator
Earl "Buddy" Carter
 (District 1)
 302-B Coverdell Legislative
 Office Building
 Atlanta, GA 30334
 (404) 656-5109
 (404) 463-4161 Fax
 E-mail:
 bcarter331@aol.com

Home Address
 406 Purple Finch Drive
 Pooler, GA 31322
 (912) 748-1414 Office
 (912) 748-4029 Fax



Senator
Tommie Williams
 (District 19)
 321 State Capitol
 Atlanta, GA 30334
 (404) 656-0089
 (404) 463-5220 Fax
 E-mail:
 Tommie@tommiewilliams.com

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

House of Representatives



Rep. James Ronald Stephens
 (District 164)
 226 State Capitol
 Atlanta, GA 30334
 (404) 656-5115
 E-mail:
 quickrxdrugs@yahoo.com

Home Address
 45 Cove Drive
 Savannah, GA 31419
 (912) 964-0061 Home
 (912) 966-5665 Office
 (912) 964-9699 Fax



Rep. Al Williams
 (District 165)
 511 Coverdell Legislative
 Office Building
 Atlanta, GA 30334
 (404) 656-6372
 E-mail: caw@centurytel.net

Home Address
 9041 East Oglethorpe
 Highway
 Midway, GA 31320
 (912) 977-5600 Office
 (912) 368-4982 Fax



Rep. Delvis Dutton
 (District 166)
 504 Coverdell Legislative
 Office Building
 (404) 656-0188 Office
 E-mail:
 delvis@delvisdutton.com
 delvis.dutton@house.ga.gov

Home Address
 P.O. Box 928
 Glennville, GA 30427
 (912) 271-9092 Cell



Contact Information

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	Liberty Transit	912-877-1472
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
Homeless Prevention Program	912-876-6573	Voter's Registration	912-876-3310
Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission	912-408-2030		




HINESVILLE

GEORGIA

"Home for a day or a lifetime"

Celebrating 175 years
(September 12, 1837 - September 12, 2012)

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.



Find us Online!

Website: www.cityofhinesville.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/hinesvillega

or search City of Hinesville

Twitter: @HinesvilleGA

City of Hinesville 2012 Annual Events:

City Council Meetings held 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in the Council Chamber at Hinesville City Hall beginning at 3 p.m. Contact Hinesville City Clerk's Office at (912) 876-3564

Hinesville Military Affairs Committee Meetings held 4th Monday of each month in the Hinesville Police Department Squad Room at 7 p.m. Contact Hinesville Military Affairs Committee at (912) 368-8211

Homebuyer's Education Workshop Date(s) TBD - Contact Hinesville Community Development Department at (912) 876-2015

2012 Safe Kid's Day May 5 - Contact Hinesville Police Department at (912) 876-8211

Project Homeless Connect June 9 - Contact Hinesville Homeless Prevention Program at (912) 876-6573

2012 National Night Out August 2012 (Exact Date TBD) - Contact Hinesville Police Department at (912) 876-8211

Birthday Party at City Hall September 12 - Contact Hinesville Public Relations Office at (912) 876-3564

4th Annual MDA Golf Tournament September 2012 (Exact Date TBD) - Contact Hinesville Fire Department at (912) 876-4143

2012 Homeless and Hunger Awareness Week October 30 thru November 5 - Contact Hinesville Homeless Prevention Program at (912) 876-6573

Geographic Information Systems Day November 14 - Contact GIS at (912) 876-4147

10th Annual Mayor's Thanksgiving Service November 18 - Contact Hinesville Public Relations Office at (912) 876-3564

**Detailed information on Annual City Events can be found on the events calendar at www.cityofhinesville.org.*