



HINESVILLE

GEORGIA



"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"



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City of Hinesville Contact Information

Contact Information

City Hall (Direct Line).....	912-876-3564	Downtown Development Authority.....	912-877-4332
City Hall (Hearing Impaired).....	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 Department.....	912-876-3564
Business License Office.....	912-876-3564	Municipal Court.....	912-368-8206
City Clerk.....	912-876-3564	Planning & Zoning Office.....	912-408-2030
Community Development Department...	912-876-3164	Public Relations Department.....	912-876-3564
Inspections Department.....	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		



Find us Online!

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www.linkedin.com/hinesvillega
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Report to the Citizens of Hinesville

HINESVILLE GEORGIA

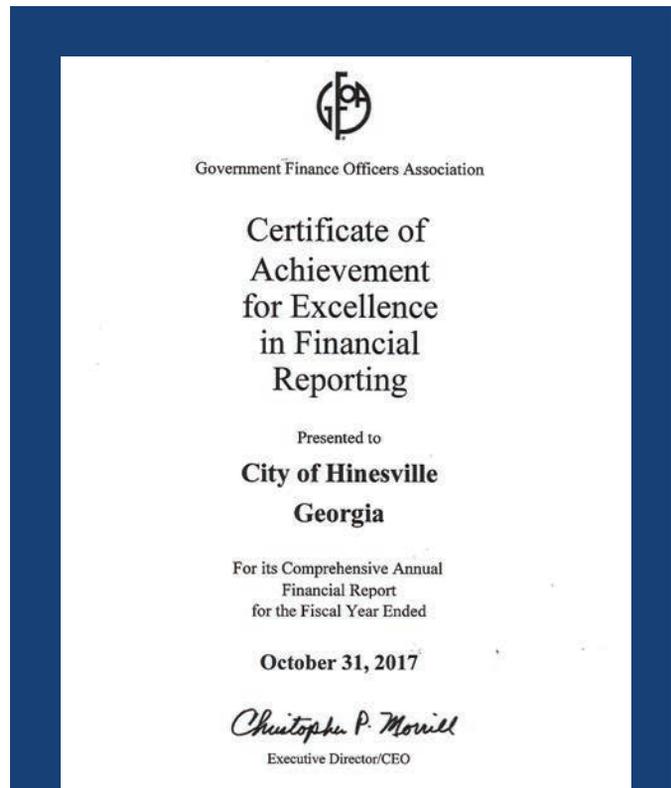
The City of Hinesville continuously strives to provide citizens information about their city. As part of that effort, we have proudly published our Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) or "Citizens Report" since Fiscal Year 2006. Throughout this report, you will find information about the elected officials,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

The financial information contained within this report is extracted from 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 thirteen 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.



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, 2017. 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.

Letter From The Mayor

Dear Friends of Hinesville,

It is my pleasure to present the 2018 Annual Report to you.

I am pleased to report that the City of Hinesville is in sound financial health. The City's fiscal year 2019 General Fund budget is \$19.98 million. This is 0.99 percent higher than our fiscal year 2018 budget, totaling roughly \$197,000. This increase is demonstrative of our City's growth over the last twelve months in the commercial sector – with new businesses comes an increase in sales tax collection.

The City's millage rate has continued its downward trend. As you can see in the financial section of this publication, we decreased it by .05 mills in fiscal year 2018 for a rate of 10.70.

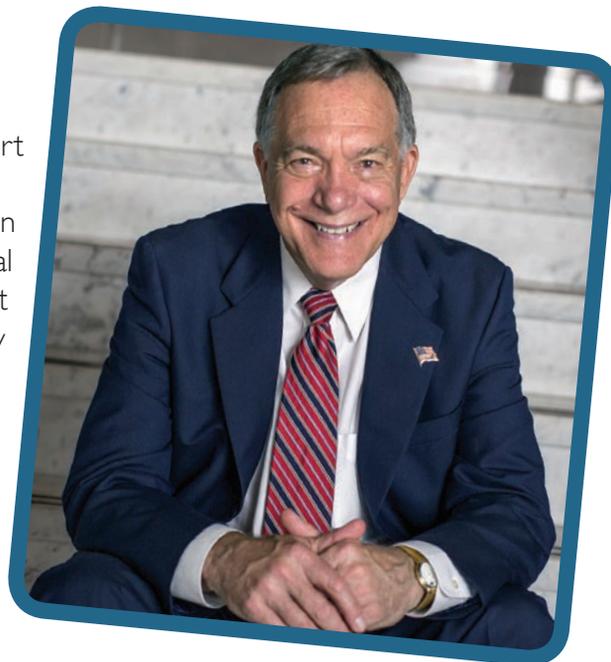
As has been the case in previous years, SPLOST is a major contributing factor to the sound financial state of the City, in addition to our staff's conservative stance on expense management and dedication to strategic planning. Building on the success of our 2018 SPLOST projects, over the last year we have complete projects to support the exponential growth of our city. From upgrades to water towers to the completion of updates to our waste water treatment plant, the year 2018 was one of growth and expansion the infrastructure in Hinesville.

The expansion and growth Hinesville has enjoyed in the last several years, in both commercial activity and population, speaks to the vibrancy of our city and I feel strongly this surge will be reflected in the upcoming 2020 Census. I am grateful to serve as the Mayor of the City of Hinesville and look forward to another prosperous year ahead in 2019.

Sincerely,



Allen Brown
Mayor



Message From The City Manager

Dear Residents and Visitors,

It is with immense pride that I present to you the 13th Popular Annual Financial Report, more commonly referred to as the PAFR. Each year, our Finance Department submits this document to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). I am pleased to report that, for the 12th consecutive year, the City of Hinesville PAFR received the GFOA Popular Annual Financial Report Award for the fiscal year ending on October 31, 2018. This award is presented to those governments that produce high-quality reports designed to provide the general public with readily accessible, easy-to-read information relative to the governmental entity's financial position.

The information contained in this report has been taken from the 2018 Comprehensive Financial Report (CAFR) and serves as a summary of the financial activities and operating results reported. Over the years, our PAFR has transformed into so much more than a financial report. Not only does it give citizens insight into the City's financial health, it highlights how all of our City departments serve you at the highest levels of professionalism and efficiency – something that we pride ourselves on each and every day.

During the fiscal year 2018, our financial position continued to improve as a result of exponential economic growth and development. The City continues to actively recruit and attract businesses and industry; thereby increasing the number of amenities and available jobs in our area, as well as improving quality of life.

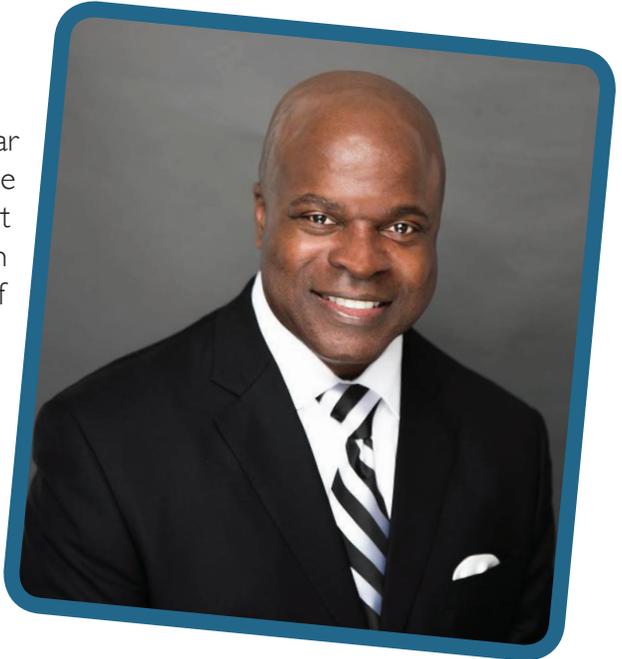
If you would like to review the City's financial documents in greater detail, our annual CAFR is published on our website under the Finance Department page at cityofhinesville.org.

Lastly, I want to express my deepest gratitude to my staff. Without their steadfast dedication to the City of Hinesville and the people who live here, we could not deliver the high quality of services we strive to provide on a daily basis and it is a pleasure to work with and lead them.

Best regards,



Kenneth Howard
Hinesville City Manager



City Council



"It is my humble pleasure to be able to continually serve you and the city that I love. It hasn't been easy, but it has been well worth it! We have made great strides towards strengthening our community, but we still have a lot of work ahead us. If you need me, be assured that I am only a phone call away. As always, to God be the Glory!"

District 1 • Diana F. Reid district1@cityofhinesville.org

"I would like to thank the Citizens of Hinesville for their continued support of the City. The City is proud of the services they provide the Citizens and I hope you enjoy the Annual Financial Report so you can see how your tax dollars are put to work. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as a council member."

District 2 • Jason Floyd district2@cityofhinesville.org





"I am grateful for the opportunity to not only serve the citizens of District 3, but of all of Hinesville. I let the voices of my constituents drive me and I feel confident that my work thus far has been a reflection of that. Together we have accomplished a lot in the various neighborhoods throughout the district and I am honored to represent our district and to be a member of the City's leadership team. Collectively we will continue to work daily making Hinesville a better place for everyone. Thank you for your continued confidence and support."

"A gem is not polished without rubbing nor a person perfect without trials."

District 3 • Vicky Nelson district3@cityofhinesville.org

"Greetings Constituents of District Four, It has been a distinct privilege serving you for over eight years. Our district is diverse and with promising growth for the future, it is my desire to advocate for new development and infrastructure upgrades. This is why I am encouraging you to learn more about SPLOST and various initiatives through things like community meetings. Let's work together to improve our district and our city."

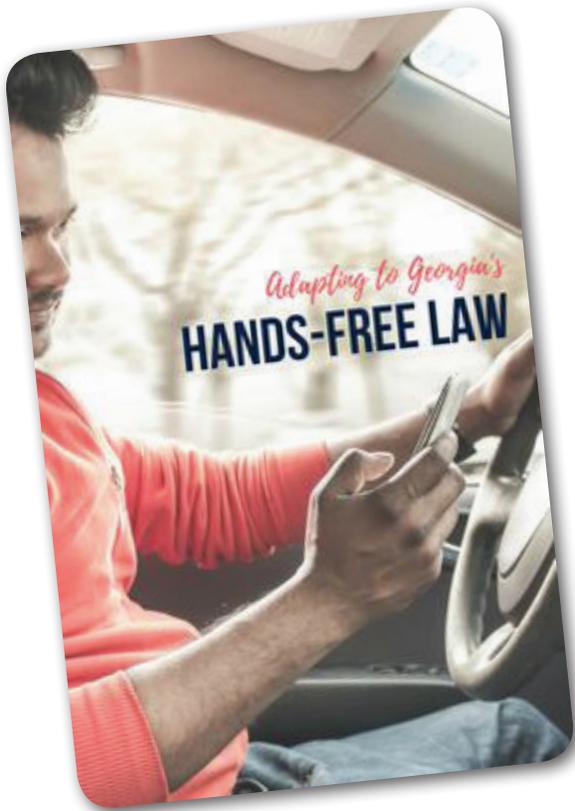
District 4 • Keith Jenkins district4@cityofhinesville.org



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



Municipal Court



The Municipal Court of Hinesville represents the judicial branch of our local government. Currently, the municipal court staff consists of the Presiding Judge, an Associate Judge, a Judge Pro Tem, a Prosecuting Attorney, an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Clerk of Court, two full – time Deputy Court Clerks and a part – time Deputy Court Clerk.

Municipal court is responsible for keeping all

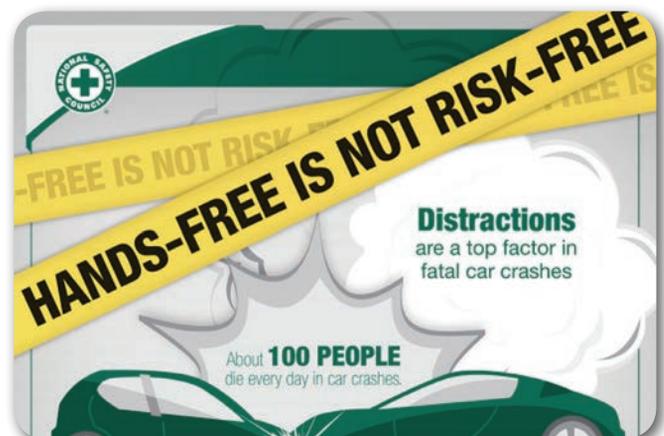
of the court records. The court also must stay informed of any changes to the laws relating to the Municipal Court of Hinesville. One of the newest changes to Georgia law the court must now follow is House Bill 673, which established the “Hands-Free Georgia Act”.

The Hands-Free Law states that a driver cannot have a phone in their hand or use any part of their body to support their phone. Drivers can only use their phones to make or receive calls by using a speakerphone, earpiece, wireless headphone, in – vehicle hands – free audio system or an electronic watch. GPS navigation devices are allowed.

The cost for a first violation is \$50.00 and adds 1 point on the driver’s license. The cost for a second violation is \$100.00 and 2 points on the driver’s license. The cost for a third violation is \$150.00 and 3 points on the driver’s license.

Municipal court is held on Wednesday mornings at 8:00 AM. Arraignments are held on the first three Wednesday’s of the month, with bench trials being held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Municipal court is open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend a court session.

Citations may be paid in person, by mail or online at the cityofhinesville.org. Cash, money orders, checks and credit cards are accepted. The Municipal Court of Hinesville is located at 123 E ML King Jr. Drive. To contact the court, please call 912-368-8206.



City of Hinesville Police Department

Summer means different things to different people: vacation, ice cream, the beach, baseball, backyard barbecues and cookouts.

A community cookout is not a new concept and many law enforcement agencies across the country host community cookouts; a summer event where the community gathers for food and fun outside. However, what makes our cookouts so unique is the fact that you don't need to come to us, we come to you. And we don't just do it once a year; we do it ten times a year. For ten weeks throughout the summer, the Hinesville Police Department's community resource section spends Saturdays loading up the grill, groceries and games and heading to various neighborhoods throughout the city. We bring the food, fun, music and excitement; all you have to do is bring your appetite!

To truly make these events a community affair, the Hinesville Police Department partners with local businesses. One such business is Target Distribution Center in Midway, who generously donated \$3,000 in support of our community cookouts through its community grant program.



Okay, so we're not really cooks and, in all likelihood, we'll never win the national BBQ Championship. However, we are very good at being police officers who care about their community and we will do whatever it takes to win your trust.

So although it may seem like just a cookout, it is actually an opportunity for the police and the community to come together; for kids to talk, laugh, sing, eat and perhaps play a few games with the cops and see the positive side of policing.

We want our community cookouts to be a part of your summertime memories, "... for a Day or a Lifetime."



Community Development

Each year the City of Hinesville recognizes Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week during the month of November. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that over 1.3 million students are homeless in Georgia. Studies show that students experiencing homelessness have poor attendance, fail more courses, have increased disciplinary issues and are at a higher risk of dropping out of school. In 2018, the Community Development Department held a series of educational, service-focused and advocacy events to bring attention to this cause. Staff raised awareness about poverty and hunger with the students of Joseph Martin Elementary School. The children's book *Maddi's Fridge* was utilized to encourage conversation about the effects of hunger on fellow classmates and what each of them can do to help friends that may be in need.

Unfortunately, many Americans have to choose between necessities such as purchasing food and paying rent. The City strives to ease these burdens by hosting or participating in activities during Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Staff of the Community Development Department assisted with packing bags filled with nutritious, nonperishable child-friendly food and delivering to students at-risk of going hungry over the weekend. Another partnership enabled 10 families to receive a complete Thanksgiving dinner and the annual Project Homeless Connect event provided over 50 families with free health, dental, education, housing and beauty/barber services.

Addressing the issues of hunger and homelessness is much more than a week's affair for the Community Development Department. The dedicated staff work year round to assist by providing

needed resources to help remove obstacles for those in need as well as spreading awareness about poverty and the effect it has on the citizens of Hinesville.



Hinesville Fire Department



The City of Hinesville welcomes new businesses and wants to ensure the safety of employees and patrons of those businesses. Part of the process for opening a new business is having a business license inspection completed by the Hinesville Fire Department Fire Marshal's Office. They work in conjunction with the City of Hinesville Department of Inspections to ensure that buildings are safe for all citizens.

When conducting an inspection, the Fire Marshals ensure compliance with a variety of codes, laws and ordinances. Codes come from a variety of sources, including the International Code Council, National Fire Protection Association and Americans with Disabilities Act. Effectively implementing all of the different codes becomes a challenge for the inspectors, as they have to know how the code is referenced, when to apply the code and if there are any variances.

One code requirement that has several variables is the sprinkler code. The Fire Marshals are often asked why a sprinkler is required for a building or why one has to be installed in an existing building. Every building that is used commercially has the potential to need a sprinkler. The construction features and usage of the building determines whether one is required or not. To make it even more complicated, the number of people intended to be in the building can also have an impact. Some of the factors that may provide relief from having to install a sprinkler would be an increased number of exits; longer lasting fire walls; a minimal number of occupants; the amount of combustible material in the building; the size of the building or portion used; and the list goes on.

Another code requirement that is just as confusing as sprinklers is fire alarms. Once again, the

type of construction and building use determines whether an alarm is needed.

However, an alarm goes hand in hand with a sprinkler; if you have a sprinkler, you need to have a fire alarm.

When conducting the business license inspection, the Fire Marshal is looking at all of the different requirements to make the determination on what is needed. They strongly recommend setting up a consultation inspection to get the correct information before starting any project to open a business. Consultation and initial business license inspections are done at no cost for those businesses within the corporate limits of Hinesville and Flemington.



The Freedom to Move With Liberty Transit

The Liberty Transit system has been around for a while. Since 2010, Hinesville residents have seen the familiar red, white and blue buses driving around town – and even out of town. As the years have gone by, more stakeholders have been added to the mix of Liberty Transit and riders can make trips from Walthourville to Hinesville to Flemington and back again; all while making stops at central hubs throughout the three municipalities. The system has had quite a few changes over the years and has brought quite a few changes with it.



By the end of 2019, the Liberty Transit system will boast over ten stops with sheltered seating for passengers waiting for a ride. Monies brought in by the transit system have had a hand in helping with sidewalk improvements along the system’s routes, increasing connectivity throughout our area, along with making stops and shelters easily accessible to riders.

In November 2018, Liberty Transit added a new service that brought a new kind of transport to the road in Hinesville: paratransit. The Liberty Transit Paratransit system is a curb-to-curb service designed to help individuals who live within the Liberty Transit service area who have mobility issues. This service picks up riders from their residence or location and takes them directly to their destination and vice versa. From doctor visits to the grocery store and everything in between, Liberty Transit’s paratransit services can help make navigating transportation easier and grant riders the freedom to move.

Aside from the curb-to-curb aspect, there is another major difference between Liberty Transit’s paratransit services and their normal operating

route: eligibility confirmed by a physician.

Individuals who are interested in paratransit services need to complete an application with a health care provider and submit completed application to the Paratransit Supervisor, Kelly Madison. Once the application is approved, the individual can begin using

Liberty Transit Fares and Passes	
Regular Transit Fare*	\$2.00 per person per ride
Reduced Transit Fare	
Senior Citizens (age 65+ with proper ID)	\$0.50 per person per ride
Medicare Cardholders (with proper ID)	\$0.50 per person per ride
Persons with disabilities	\$0.50 per person per ride
Children ages 5 and younger	FREE
1 - Day Pass (unlimited rides)	\$2.00 per person per ride
30 - Day Pass (unlimited rides)	
Regular	\$30.00 per person per ride
People eligible for reduced fare	\$15.00 per person per ride
Curb-to-Curb Paratransit Service	\$2.00 per person per ride
Fare Value Cards	\$5, \$10, \$20
*Transfers require payment of additional fare.	

For route schedules and more information, please visit libertytransit.org.

Liberty Transit

For route schedules and more information, please visit libertytransit.org. For Liberty Transit's paratransit services, please call 912.877.1472.



the service immediately.

Service costs are \$2 per ride and exact change is required when boarding the bus, as drivers cannot handle cash or make change.

While the idea of having to go through the process of becoming eligible to ride a Liberty Transit paratransit bus may seem daunting, staff are here to help. Since January, Liberty Transit and City staff have been venturing out into the community to host workshops for various organizations in order to help our residents better understand the process – and even help begin applications!

If you are interested in having staff visit your organization to conduct a workshop for your residents or program participants, please contact the Paratransit Supervisor, Kelly Madison, at (912) 877 – 1472. To apply for Liberty Transit's paratransit services, please call (912) 877 – 1472; visit the Liberty Transit office (located on the 3rd floor of Hinesville City Hall in the Administration department); or visit libertytransit.org. The Liberty Transit system is operated by TransDev and through a partnership between the cities of Flemington, Hinesville and Walthourville. To learn more about Liberty Transit services, routes and fares, visit libertytransit.org.



Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2018

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. The information on this page is summarized from the Government-wide Financial Statements in the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Where the Money Came From...

	Fiscal Year 2017	Fiscal Year 2018
Property Taxes.....	\$ 7,738,266	\$ 7,392,635
Sales Taxes.....	3,530,019	3,675,635
Franchise Taxes.....	1,580,576	1,654,775
Insurance Premium Tax.....	2,220,793	2,396,381
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes.....	422,537	404,884
Hotel/Motel Tax.....	201,508	174,354
Other General Revenue.....	57,706	79,731
Total General Revenue	15,751,405	15,778,395
Charges for Services.....	16,924,195	17,652,860
Operating Grants.....	1,421,796	1,215,567
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,630,934	3,285,248
Total Program Revenues	19,976,925	22,153,675
Other Income.....	74,910	102,468
Investment Earnings.....	34,960	104,752
Total Other Income and Transfers	109,870	207,220
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 35,838,200	\$ 38,139,290

Where the Money Went...

	Fiscal Year 2017	Fiscal Year 2018
General Government.....	\$ 2,905,460	\$ 2,667,071
Judicial.....	505,069	463,165
Public Safety.....	9,852,898	9,815,109
Public Works.....	2,812,958	3,803,578
Housing and Development.....	2,129,339	1,721,698
Health and Welfare.....	701,923	761,102
Culture and Recreation.....	941,725	851,389
Interest and Fiscal Charges.....	142,853	131,931
Total Governmental Activities	19,992,225	20,215,043
Water and Sewer.....	8,945,220	9,105,838
Sanitation.....	2,902,614	3,155,106
Stormwater Utility.....	1,339,530	1,361,657
Transit.....	787,852	807,070
Total Business-type Activities	13,975,216	14,429,671
TOTAL EXPENSES	33,967,441	34,644,714
Change in Net Assets	1,870,759	3,494,576
Net Position - Beginning	84,148,003	86,018,762
Net Position - Ending	\$ 86,018,762	\$ 89,513,338

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 Position

Refers to the difference between assets and deferred outflows and deferred inflows of the City as a whole. Net positions may be shown in the following three major categories:

1. Net Investment in Capital Assets

The component of net position 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 Position Restricted

The component of net position that consists of assets with constraints placed on their use by either external parties or through enabling legislation.

3. Net Position Unrestricted

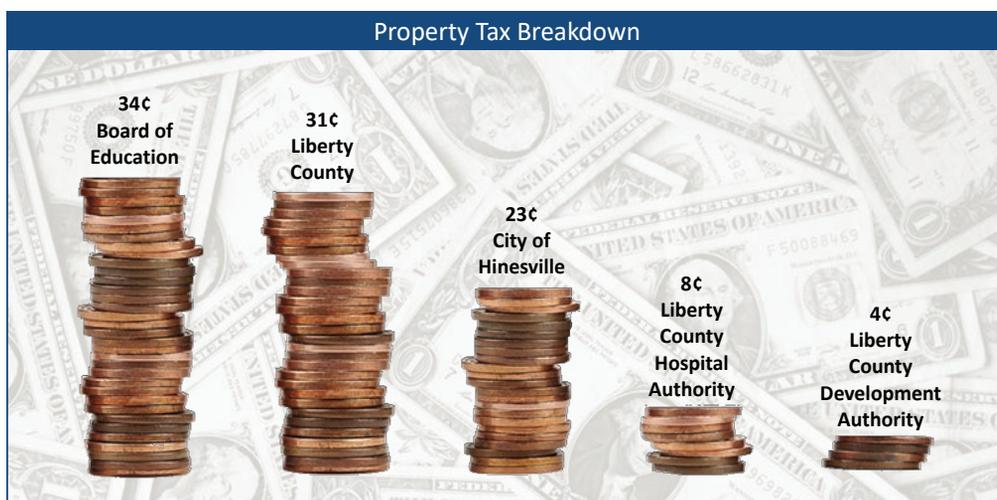
The remaining balance of net position not reported under the other two categories of net position.

Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2018

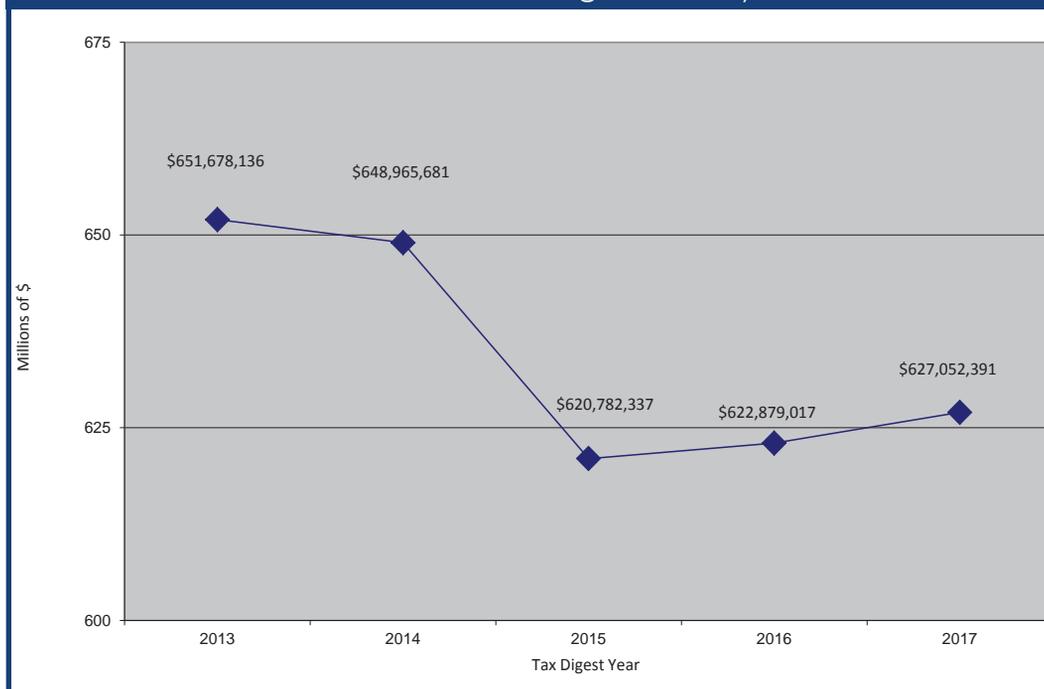
The City's total net position is categorized. The largest portion of net position (\$74,902,089) is net investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, infrastructure, machinery and equipment less any related outstanding debt used to acquire these assets). An additional portion of the City's net position (\$1,899,041) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining portion of the City's net position (\$12,712,208) is unrestricted 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 23¢ of each \$1.00 collected from taxpayers in the City.



Five Year Gross Digest History



Property Tax Digest

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

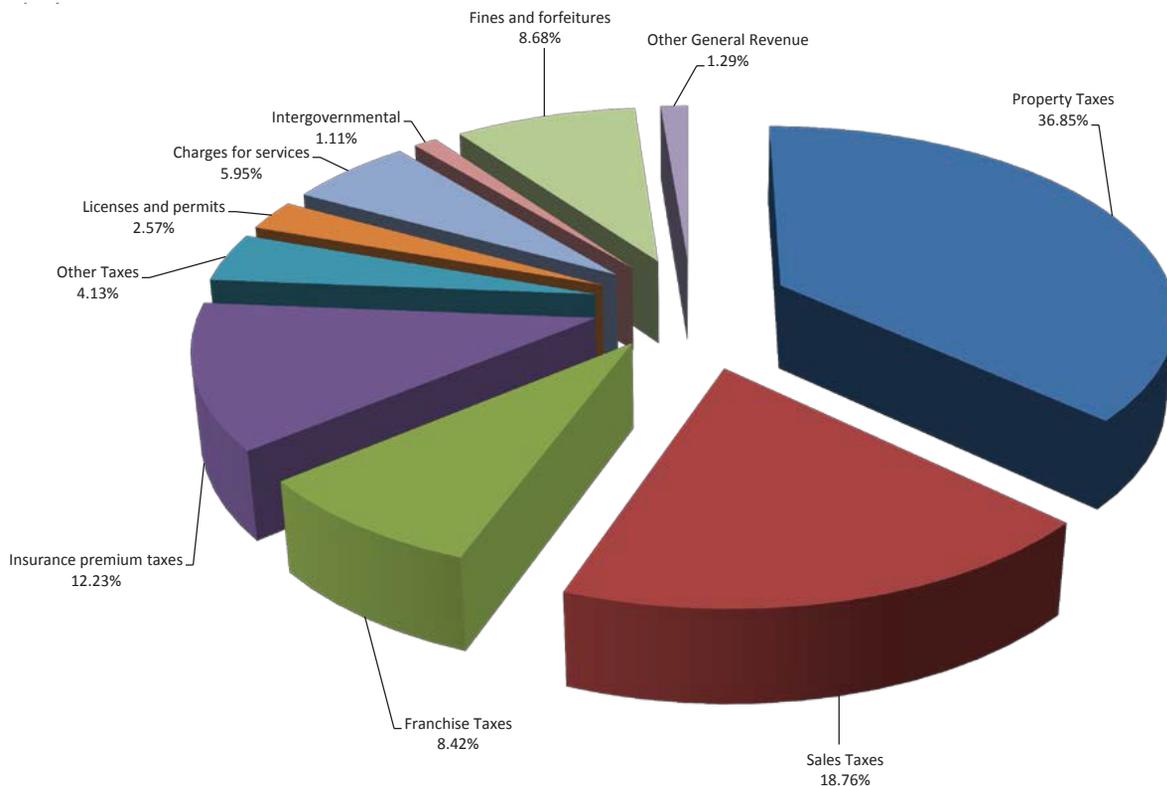
For more detailed financial information, you can view the City's CAFR online at www.cityofhinesville.org or by contacting the finance department at 912-875-3564.

Property tax is the City's single largest source of revenue. 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 9.50 mills, where it remained level through fiscal year 2012. The City increased its millage rate to 10.50 in fiscal year 2013 and increased to 11.51 in fiscal year 2015 and 2016. The rate was decreased to 11.00 mills and 10.75 in fiscal years 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2018

For fiscal year ended October 31, 2018 the City of Hinesville received revenues for the General Fund totaling slightly over \$18.65 million. The four largest sources of revenues are Property Taxes, Sales Taxes, Insurance Premium Taxes and Franchise Taxes. The Following section provides a brief description of the City's revenue sources by category:

General Fund Fiscal Year 2018 Revenues



Property Taxes 36.85%

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 18.76%

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.

Franchise Taxes 8.42%

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

Insurance Premium Taxes 12.23%

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

Other Taxes 4.13%

Taxes not classified under any other taxes.

License and permits 2.57%

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

Charges for services 5.95%

Fees collected for general government services.

Intergovernmental 1.11%

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

Fines, forfeitures and fees 8.68%

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

Other general revenue 1.29%

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

Inspections Department



Hinesville Code Enforcement
May 19, 2016 4:54:15 PM

Federal and State regulations require local municipalities to protect state waters from pollutants and provide annual reports to the Environmental Protection Agency. Through the Stormwater Management Program, the City of Hinesville has numerous control measures in place to adhere to these requirements.

Part of the program is detecting and eliminating illicit discharge. An illicit discharge is any discharge into a storm drain or water system that is not composed entirely of rain water. The release of wastewater or pollution entering a storm drain, waterway or ditch contaminates water or land and may be harmful to the health or safety of humans and wildlife.

Examples of Illicit Discharge:

- Gasoline, motor oil, cooking grease and antifreeze
- Sewage
- Laundry and dish washing wastewater
- Car wash wastewater
- Chlorinated swimming pool water
- Household cleaners, pesticides,

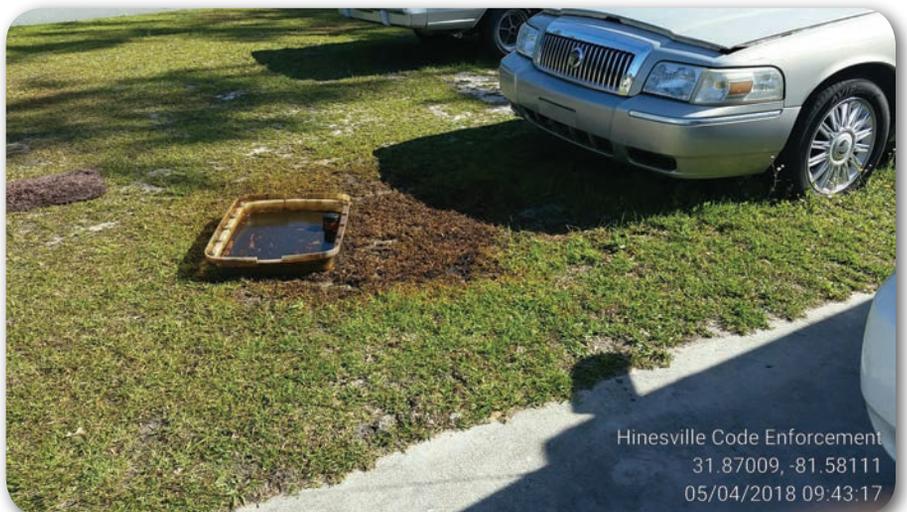
herbicides & fertilizer

- Paint, paint thinner and solvents
- Pet waste
- Grass clippings
- Construction site sediment

Ways you can help reduce illicit discharge:

- Clean up gas and oil spills with kitty litter and disposed of in the trash.
- Repair sewage leaks.
- Either take your vehicle to a commercial carwash or wash your car on the grass so that water, detergent and dirt will be filtered by the soil.
- Use pesticides, herbicides and fertilizer sporadically and away from storm drains and ditches.
- Use water-based paint and clean brushes in the sink, never outside where the runoff could enter a storm drain.
- When walking your pet, use a bag or scooper to clean up your pet's waste. Properly dispose of pet waste in the trash or toilet.
- Don't blow leaves into the street. Collect grass clippings and leaves for the City Sanitation Department to pick up or use them as mulch or for composting.

The City works hard to detect and eliminate illicit discharge. Preventing polluted runoff is everyone's business. You can help by reporting it when you see it.



Hinesville Code Enforcement
31.87009, -81.58111
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Hinesville Public Works Department

The Hinesville Water System, which is operated by the City's Public Works Department, underwent substantial upgrades in 2018. In an effort to better serve our customers, three of the City's elevated water storage tanks were raised approximately 30 feet each. The benefit this now provides our customers is an increase in the system's overall water pressure by 15 pounds per square inch (psi). Prior to this project, the water system averaged 35 psi which exceeded the state – required minimum pressure of 20 psi. On average, the new system operating pressure is now 50 psi across the city. This provides great benefit to many of our commercial customers in meeting required fire suppression system pressures for safety. In addition, multi-story

buildings benefit from the increase in pressure to the higher level floors.

In addition to raising the three water tanks, the corresponding three groundwater wells were upgraded to meet current water system and building codes or standards. New pumps and motors were installed at all three to be able to pump water into the now higher tanks and to pump a slightly higher volume of water per minute, making them more efficient. Increased safety measures were built into the well buildings to better protect our system operators, as well as the public. Electrical generators were upgraded or installed at the three upgraded wells as well. This will ensure we are able to provide water to our citizens in the event of power failures.

These system upgrades have been completed with the future of our city in mind. Now that they are complete, our customers will benefit from a more efficient and reliable system for years to come.



Business Licenses



Licenses and permits requirements may seem challenging, but you do not have to figure it out on your own. The Business License Department

coordinates the permit process for Transient Merchants, Peddlers and Yard Sale Permits. Have questions? Stop by our office inside Hinesville City Hall to speak with our licensing coordinator. Proper permitting is required in order to protect all residents from fraudulent activity and safety hazards, as well as to educate you on state and local laws – especially about the requirements for operating a business. All permits for solicitation for charitable and/or religious purposes, parade and/or assembly may also be obtained through the Business License Department.

Here is some helpful information:

- Transient merchant means any person who engages in a business selling goods, wares, merchandise, food, drink or other items or services occasionally or temporarily within the city and who, in furtherance of such purpose, hires, leases, uses or occupies any building, structure or place within the city.
- A peddler is any person who, whether a resident of the city or not, has no permanent regular place in the city, and who engages in the business of selling goods or offering to sell goods or services by going from door – to – door and place – to – place within the city.
- An applicant who wishes to have a private yard sale may have no more than three (3) yard sales per calendar year and continuing no more than two (2) consecutive days per sale. There is no cost for a private yard sale permit.
- Any public assembly, parade, demonstration, march, ceremony, exhibition or other similar event, either fixed or processional, involving individuals gathering for a common purpose, due to either prior planning or spontaneous gathering on public streets or spaces, requires a permit approved by the Hinesville Chief of Police. The permit request must be turned in 20 days prior to the planned event.



- No fee is required for a Solicitor for Charitable or Religious Purposes permit. Applicants must attach a copy of the corporate charter and by-laws; or a copy of the tax exempt status 501-(C)(3) letter from the IRS; or have maintained in the city a continuous existence as a charitable or religious organization for a period of one year prior to the date of application submittal.
- To apply for a car wash permit, the car wash must be located and operated on property owned or leased by the charitable organization authorized to conduct the car wash.

Prices for licenses and permits vary based on location and nature of business or activity. For more information on permitting procedures, please feel free to visit our website at www.cityofhinesville.org > Departments > Business License Office > Business License Forms. Please take the time to obtain necessary licensing and permits. We look forward to serving you.



Flood Protection Information

In 2013, the City of Hinesville voluntarily began participating in a FEMA program administered by the Insurance Services Office to improve floodplain management services that results in savings to its residents. Since entering the program, over \$158,000 of savings has been realized by property owners in Hinesville through CRS Premium Discounts on their Flood Hazard Insurance Premiums.

Flooding can happen to you... Are you prepared?

Many people don't consider the likelihood of flooding in our city but it can happen! Several sources of flooding exist in our city, and our goal at the City of Hinesville is to ensure you are safe from the potential damages of flooding. Even if your property is not in a special flood hazard area, take a look at these checklists to make sure you're safe.

Build Responsibly

- Get a permit from the Hinesville Department of Inspections before you build to ensure your structure is up to code and safe from flooding. For example, all projects should be at least 10 feet from the property line so you don't alter the drainage between homes.
- Improvement requirements and procedures as well as information on enforcement can be found online at www.cityofhinesville.org in City of Hinesville Code of Ordinances, Part II, Sec. 5-276 or by contacting the Hinesville Department of Inspections.
- 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).

Protect Your Property from Flooding

- Regrade your lot
- Build a small floodwall or earthen berm
- Make your walls waterproof
- Place watertight closures over the doorways
- Raise the house above flood levels
- Talk to a plumber about overhead sewers or a backup valve for deeper sewer backup flooding

Know Your Local Flood Hazard

- Check your flood hazard by viewing flood maps and flood protection references in the Hinesville Department of Inspections at (912) 876-4147. Information regarding Floodway, approximate depth of flooding and possible presence of wetlands can be provided if applicable to the site.
- If you are in a Special Flood Hazard Area or have had flooding issues, drainage, or sewer backup problems or would like information about local flood hazard maps and permit requirements, visit or call the Hinesville Department of Inspections at (912) 876-4147.
- Request for the Hinesville Public Works Department to visit your property free of charge to review flood problems and explain ways to stop flooding or prevent flood damage. Call Public Works at (912) 876-8216.

Protect the Environment

- Do not litter and make sure you properly dispose pollutants so they will not be sent down the storm drains.
- Report damaged storm drain covers to Hinesville Public Works. This will help keep our waterways clean.
- For more tips on how to protect our natural floodplains, contact Keep Liberty County Beautiful at (912) 880-4888 or email klcb@coastalnow.net

Flood Protection Information



Protect Yourself from Flooding

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. Notification is available via text, phone, and email.

- Sign-up for emergency alert information from the City of Hinesville at www.cityofhinesville.org (Click on the “Notify Me Signup” button).
- Visit www.libertycountyga.com/alertliberty to complete the Citizen Alert Notification Signup from Liberty County EMA.
- Have a plan in place for your family to gather when an evacuation order is issued

Flood Safety

Before the flood...

- Purchase flood insurance for yourself and encourage renters to buy flood insurance for their content. Take advantage of a low-cost Preferred Risk Policy.
- 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

Downtown Development Authority

10th Farmers Market Season is Underway in Bradwell Park

Established in 2010, the Hinesville Downtown Farmers Market is a thriving outlet for fresh farm and agricultural goods as well as crafts and prepared foods. It has become the Thursday-night-place-to-be in Liberty County. The open-air, outdoor market is conducted from 3 – 7 p.m. each Thursday in beautiful Bradwell Park in March through

October.

The Hinesville Farmers Market has several components:

- Vendors in the following categories: fresh produce, agricultural/farm items, baked goods, specialty foods, floral and plants, arts and crafts and prepared foods.
- Live music/entertainment performances are scheduled as

available.

- Special events are planned to coincide with Market activities throughout the season.
- Non-profit booth space is also available each week.

Each Market season sees a number of special events planned to coincide with Market days. From celebrating the Army's birthday, distributing school supplies to teachers and collecting peanut butter and jelly, Market attendees will always have a pleasant experience visiting vendors in the downtown area.

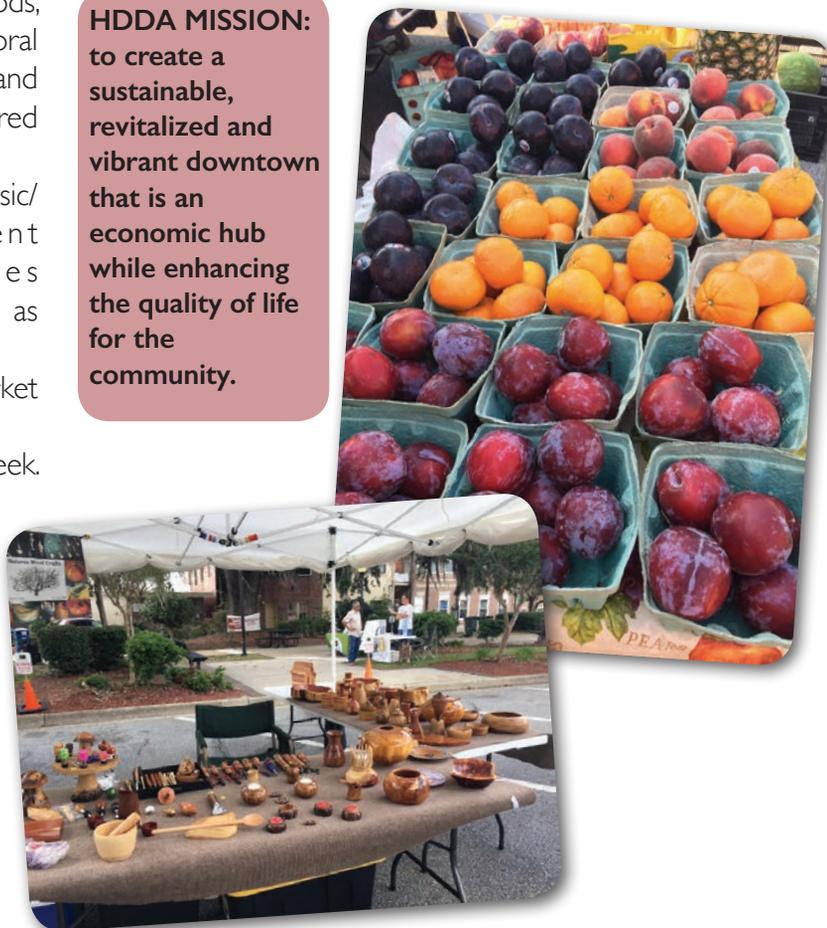


Residents in the EBT program may utilize their benefits to purchase fresh merchandise at the market. EBT cards are swiped and debited the amount of the purchase, in exchange for tokens which are spent like cash with the vendors.



Applications for vendors will be accepted throughout the duration of the season. Please contact the Market Manager for more information at mainstreet@hinesvilledowntown.com. The Hinesville Farmers Market is managed by the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority. For more information, call 877-4332 or email mainstreet@hinesvilledowntown.com.

HDDA MISSION:
to create a sustainable, revitalized and vibrant downtown that is an economic hub while enhancing the quality of life for the community.





As we move through 2019, Hinesville residents will begin to hear more and more about the 2020 Census – which begins on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 – and how it affects the county as a whole, the state of Georgia and even our city.

Here are some facts about the 2020 Census:

- It's about counting everyone. The census counts every person living in the United States and each person will be counted once and only once.
- It's important for representation at the federal level. The census will help determine the number of seats in the US House of Representatives each state receives. After the 2010 Census, six states gained one seat in the House; one state gained 2 seats; one state gained 4 seats; seven states lost one seat; and two states lost 2 seats. Georgia was one of the lucky states to gain 1 seat after the census.
- It's in the Constitution. The US Constitution mandates that every person in the country be counted every 10 years. The process began in 1790. The 2020 Census will

be the 24th occurrence of such a counting in our nation's history.

- It's about legislative districts. After the census is complete and the numbers come in, state officials will use the information to potentially redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states based on the population counts.
- It's about money. The federal government's budget has about \$675 billion dollars to distribute to the states, counties and communities in the form of funds, grants and support. These funds are distributed based on census data and go toward spending on local schools, hospitals, infrastructure, public works and other vital programs.
- It's about taking part in your civic duty. Participating in the census is mandatory for those living in the United States. Even with the negative connotation surrounding the word "mandatory," it's a great way to participate in our democracy and say "I count!"

For more information about the 2020 Census, visit census.gov or follow the City of Hinesville on Facebook for details as the date nears.

Hinesville Military Affairs Committee Meetings held 4th Monday of each month at the LaQuinta Inn at 7 p.m. Contact Hinesville Military Affairs Committee at (912) 368-8211.

Hinesville Farmer's Market held every Thursday March through October from 3-7 p.m. in Bradwell Park. Contact Hinesville Downtown Development Authority at 912.877.4332.

Visit www.cityofhinesville.org for detailed information on Annual City Events. Information on community events can be found at www.libertycounty.org.

2019 Annual Hinesville Events

Second Saturday Block Parties will be held on the second Saturday of every month from April – August from 6 p.m. – midnight. There will be karaoke from 6 – 8 p.m. and live music from 8 p.m. – midnight. For more information, contact the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority at 912.877.4332.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Collection for Food Pantry will be on Thursday, June 6, 2019 from 3 – 7 p.m. in Bradwell Park at the Hinesville Farmer's Market. For more information, contact the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority at 912.877.4332.

U.S. Army's Birthday Party will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2019 from 3 – 7 p.m. in Bradwell Park at the Hinesville Farmer's Market. For more information, contact the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority at 912.877.4332.

Back-to-School Supply Giveaway will be held on Thursday, August 22, 2019 from 3 – 7 p.m. in Bradwell Park at the Hinesville Farmer's Market. For more information, contact the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority at 912.877.4332.

National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 from 5 – 8 p.m. at Bryant Commons Park. For more information, contact the Hinesville Police Department at 912.876.8211.

Tied to Success will be held on Saturday, August 31, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Liberty County Performing Arts Center. For more information, contact the Community Development Department at 912.876.6573.

Blues and BBQ Festival will be held on Saturday, September 21, 2019 from 2 – 11 p.m. in downtown Hinesville. For more information, contact the Hinesville Area Arts Council at hinesvillearts.com.

Pumpkin Patch will be held on October 12, 2019 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Bryant Commons Park. For more information, contact the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority at 912.877.4332.

Scarecrow Stroll and Beggar's Night will be held on Friday, October 25, 2019 from 5 – 7 p.m. in downtown Hinesville. For more information, contact the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority at 912.877.4332.

17th Annual Mayor's Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday, November 24 at 6 p.m. The location will be announced by Friday, November 8, 2019. For more information, contact the Public Relations Department at 912.408.3569.

Hinesville for the Holidays Tree Lighting and Celebration will be held on Thursday, December 5 from 5 – 8 p.m. in downtown Hinesville. The downtown Hinesville Christmas tree will be lit at 6 p.m. in Bradwell Park. For more information, contact the Public Relations Department at 912.408.3569.

23rd annual Illuminated Christmas Parade will be held on Friday, December 6 in downtown Hinesville at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce at 912.368.4445.



"Home for a day or a lifetime"

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.

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.

