



# HINESVILLE

GEORGIA



*"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"*



Governmental Structure

Performance Highlights

Financial Reviews

**Our employees make the difference!  
Congratulations to the 2011 City of Hinesville Employees of the Year.**

On cover: pictured left to right.

Terry Smith - Hinesville Police Department, Officer of the Year

Vernetha Ekeyi - City Hall Employee of the Year

Carolyn Canga - Hinesville Police Department, Civilian of the Year

Donita Gauden - Community Development Department Employee of the Year

Richard Long - Municipal Court/Probation Employee of the Year

LaQrissua Bolton - Hinesville Water Department Employee of the Year

Tony Durham - Hinesville Police Department, Rookie of the Year pictured with Dual Purpose Canine Brad



Chris Moss - Hinesville Fire Department  
Firefighter of the Year (not pictured on  
cover)



Linda Smith - Hinesville Department of  
Inspections (not pictured on cover)

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 five 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](http://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, 2009**



*Jeffrey L. Esser*  
President  
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, 2009. 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 FELLOW CITIZENS,

On behalf of the Hinesville City Council, I am pleased to present the fifth "Annual Citizen's Report to the City of Hinesville." This report provides you with an overview of the current financial condition of the city and a report of significant ongoing and future activities in our city.

Our city is financially and fiscally in good economic condition. The City's General Fund revenue (our income) has increased by 16% from five years ago while property tax millage has been constant at 9.50 mills since 2007. General fund operational expenses have also increased by 42% in the last 5 years. However, we have experienced a decrease in sales tax and property tax revenue. This is due to troop deployments and otherwise tough economic conditions. We have used some of our operations reserves to avoid raising the millage rate. As the economy improves, we will rebuild our operational reserves. The City's target is a 90-day reserve on hand.

Even in these tough economic times, our city has not raised taxes or purchased non-essential capital equipment. We have delayed hiring of personnel and implementation of several city initiatives until the economy improves. The city is continuing to see new businesses open and this trend will continue as the overall economy improves. Our city's unemployment rate remains below state and national averages.

In an effort to create a successful downtown, construction is ongoing on the new city hall which will be completed late 2011. The third phase of the Memorial Drive Realignment is complete. This is part of the plans to redevelop the historic downtown core of your city as a commercial and recreational hub that we are proud to showcase to our community. So make sure whenever you have time, you come discover downtown!

Also, our public transportation system is in operation. The Liberty Transit system is the smart, fast and fun way to travel. It is cost-effective, safe, secure, clean and environmentally friendly. Currently, we are assessing its performance to this point. Based on the federal guidelines governing the operation of the buses, the transit committee will adjust the routes of the system as soon as our initial implementation period is complete to better serve all riders in our service area. Until then, please support the Liberty Transit system by using it for your transit needs and encouraging others to do the same.

As a result of projects and services such as these mentioned above, the city of Hinesville was selected by the Milliken Economic Institute (a non-partisan economic think tank) in 2010 as the 5th Best Performing Small Metro Areas in the U.S. Also, Forbes rated our city as the #122 on the list of Best Small Places for Business and Careers in 2010. Hinesville's importance to our region, state, and nation is vital and will continue to be in the foreseeable future.

As our city grows, we will face some challenges and opportunities that must be addressed to ensure the future health of our community. Therefore, it is vitally important for us to obtain your insights and recommendations regarding ways to improve our City. Please provide us with your constructive suggestions and comments so that we can more effectively address both our current programs and future opportunities. You can do so in writing, online or face-to-face using the multiple methods of contact listed on page 21 of this report. It is our desire that Hinesville will continue to be your coastal southern living destination of choice whether you're here for a day or a lifetime.

Thank you for the privilege of serving Hinesville.



Respectfully,

James Thomas Jr.  
Mayor



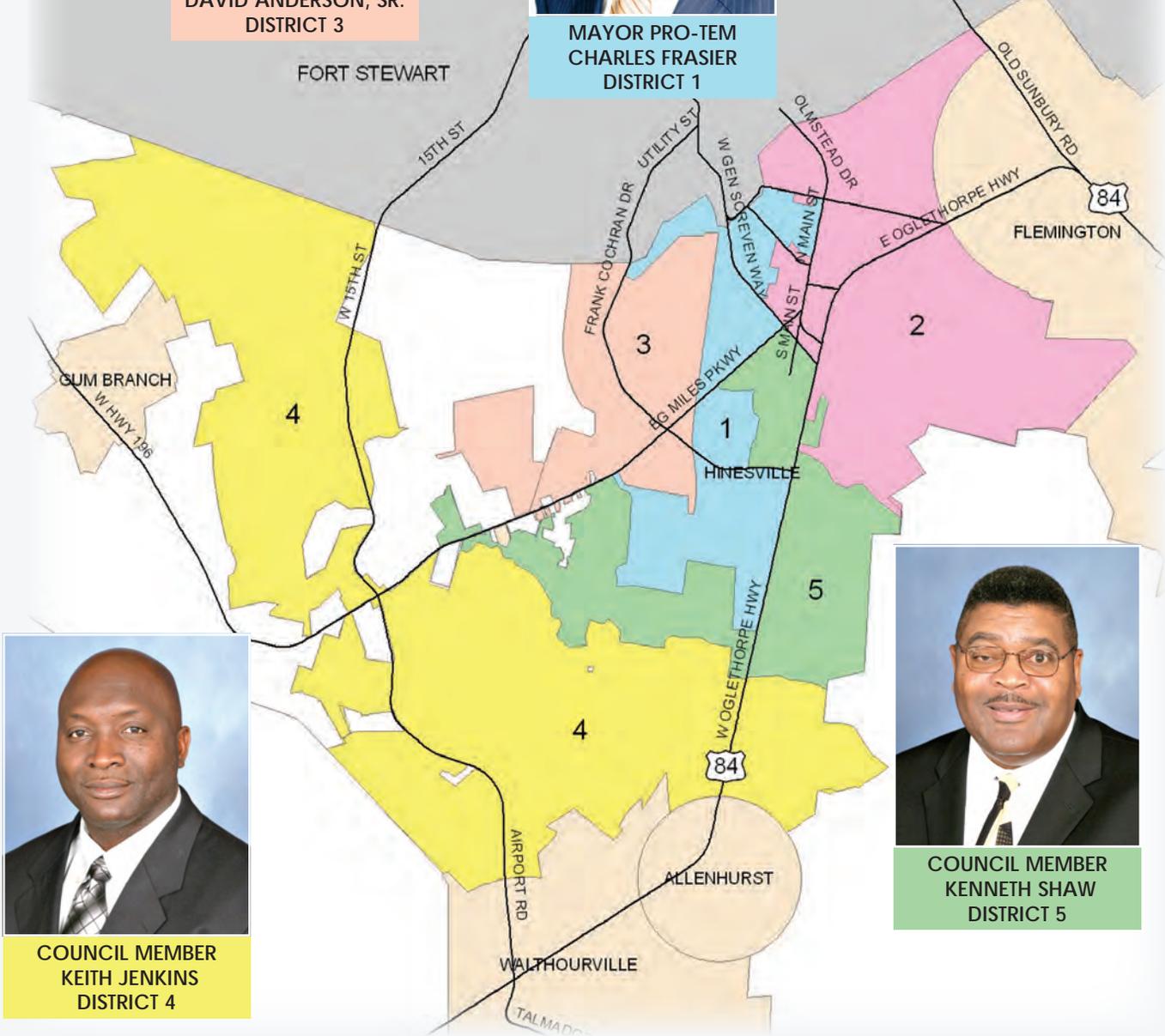
COUNCIL MEMBER  
DAVID ANDERSON, SR.  
DISTRICT 3



MAYOR PRO-TEM  
CHARLES FRASIER  
DISTRICT 1



COUNCIL MEMBER  
JASON FLOYD  
DISTRICT 2



COUNCIL MEMBER  
KEITH JENKINS  
DISTRICT 4



COUNCIL MEMBER  
KENNETH SHAW  
DISTRICT 5

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

Dear Reader,

Thank you for taking the time to view the City of Hinesville 2011 Annual Report to Citizens. We are currently half way through our 2011 fiscal year— one of the most difficult budget years we have had during my time working for the City of Hinesville. Last fall as we were developing the budget, several difficult decisions had to be made and multiple options were considered with regards to balancing the FY '11 budget. Some of the more unfavorable options included employee furloughs and layoffs as well as a moderate ad valorem tax increase of .25 mills. We chose not to employ any of those options and rather, chose to defer capital equipment replacements that were scheduled as well as utilizing some of our accumulated fund balance. While both of those measures are not something we can continue to do on a long term basis, we felt that with the economic circumstances we are operating under these were the best options available to us.



In spite of having to use fund balance, I am pleased to report that your City is still in a good financial position. The primary purpose of this report is to share with you some financial information about the City of Hinesville, so I hope you will take some time and read through the report. Additional information is also provided to you in this document that will help you understand more about what we are doing to provide you with quality services and to make Hinesville a community of which we can all be proud.

One of the more visible improvement projects we are undertaking is the construction of the new City Hall. Last year I reported to you that the new City Hall was under construction and that we should be occupying it by 2012. I am happy to report that construction is ahead of schedule and within budget. I think all of you will agree that it is a very attractive building that will centralize all city offices and make us more accessible to you. This is something that we all can be proud to showcase in our community and share with others.

Another improvement to our community is the Bryant Commons project which is further described in this report. The City has teamed up with the Glenn E. and Trudie P. Bryant Foundation, the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority and the Independent Telephone Pioneers Association to create a park which will certainly be an asset 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, Bryant Commons will serve all of us in one way or another.

As always, the City of Hinesville will continue to look for ways to better serve our residents and identify opportunities to improve the quality of life. Thank you all for your support, interest, and involvement in your City. We look forward to another great year of service to you!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Edwards". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Billy Edwards  
City Manager





**“Do It Right the First Time”**

“Do It Right the First Time” is the way to go to save time, money and reduce work stoppages. Many of us may have heard this phrase spoken by our parents, teachers and employers at some point of our lives to direct us to a more successful outcome of our endeavors and to bring about the successful completion of specific project goals and objectives. Having a well thought out plan is the initial step in achieving success the first time.

When construction is proposed, plans are usually required to be submitted. This could range from a simple single and multi-family residential buildings to a complex commercial and industrialized building. Plan review (or checking) is a meticulous review of construction drawings submitted by an applicant to ensure that all applicable building codes and city ordinances are complied with in order to ensure the health and safety of the occupants and the general public is attained.

Minor projects such as roofing, HVAC, and minor electrical work and repairs do not normally require detailed plans unless the complexity of the work warrants one.

**Required Documents**

We recommend that one full set of plans be submitted for the initial review. The plan reviewer will review the plans and make any necessary comments directly on the plan sheets or attach a separate plan review comment sheet addressing items that are needed. The following documents may be requested at the time that the permit application initially is submitted:

- Site Plan
- Foundation Plan
- Floor Plan
- Electrical Plan
- Mechanical Plan
- Wall framing details
- Roof Framing/Layout Plan
- Front, Rear, Right and Left Side Wall Elevation Views
- ResCheck/ComCheck Energy Code Compliance Certificates
- Others if needed, depending on individual project such as soil investigation reports.



**Review Times**

The length of time for a thorough plan review is commensurate with the complexity of the plans, the proposed construction method and the number of other projects that was submitted prior to the application date. Under normal circumstances,

it may take up to 3 weeks to review plans of large construction projects like places of worship, medical and educational facilities, shopping malls and similar high occupancy buildings. Additionally, these plan sets may require other governmental review and approvals from agencies such as the State Safety Fire Commissioner (Fire Marshal).

However, for smaller plans, the time to review the plans could be significantly shorter, depending on the complexity of the scope of the proposed work.

Call the Inspections Department at 912-876-4147 with any questions or to request a quick consultation before you build. We will be glad to help you to “Do It Right the First Time”.



## North Maple Drive Drainage Improvements

The City adopted a storm water user fee on September 1, 2007 and the monies collected are used to help offset some of the capital costs for major drainage projects in Hinesville. The first project completed using storm water user fees is the North Maple Drive Drainage Improvement.

For the past several years, the drainage ditch behind the houses on North Maple Drive was considered the worst drainage channel in the city. Erosion of the ditch's banks had occurred over the years due to the amount of storm water runoff and the speed at which it travels. Some erosion neared property lines causing safety concerns from neighborhood citizens and tax payers. The completed drainage improvement project has overall improved the appearance of the landscape as well as eliminated the possibility of a children or residents falling when the ditch bank collapses.

The Hinesville Public Works Department in conjunction with city officials (mayor, council, city manager, city engineer, etc.) has worked to compile a list of capital drainage projects throughout the city. Projects range from the replacement of old corrugated metal culverts to the modification of existing, as well as the construction of new retention ponds. All of these improvements will help the city comply with the State of Georgia's storm water regulations. This capital projects list has been prioritized by the governing body and will be scheduled for the much needed improvements as funding becomes available.



Before



During



After



## Detective Division

The Hinesville Police Department has a ten member Detective Division lead by Major Thomas Cribbs and Lieutenant Elizabeth Jackson. They are assisted by an Administrative Secretary and a Data Entry Clerk who perform clerical duties for the division.

The Detective Division investigates reported and suspected criminal activity, determines the chain of events leading to the commission of crimes, processes and preserves evidence from crime scenes, and provides support and testimony to assist prosecuting attorneys in the trials of those responsible for committing crimes.

### What do detectives do?

- Respond to crime scenes
- Receive briefings from officers who were first on the scene
- Examine the scene of the crime to obtain clues and gather evidence
- Interview complainants, victims, witnesses and suspects to obtain their statements for use in court
- Identify, collect, mark and preserve physical evidence
- Photograph crime scenes, lift fingerprints,



Lieutenant Elizabeth Jackson and Major Thomas Cribbs

- make composites, compare evidence and prepare photographic line-ups
- Work closely with prosecuting attorneys to plan court presentations
- Present collected evidence and information to grand juries and courts
- Testify in judicial proceedings and draw crime scene diagrams for use in investigations and court



Hinesville detectives work with Hinesville Fire Department personnel and Liberty County deputies on a search and recovery mission.

### What does it take to become a detective?

HPD Detectives are chosen from the ranks of experienced officers of the police department who have a genuine desire to delve more deeply into crimes to determine the who, what, when, where, why and how of the crime. A successful investigator is experienced and proficient in all aspects of the law enforcement field. They must have a thorough understanding of the elements of crimes and the requirements for building a case against an offender. While uniformed officers may spend a relatively short time on any one incident, detectives must be motivated and willing to spend as long as necessary on one incident to determine all of the facts required to solve the crime and successfully prosecute the offender(s).

Major Cribbs and his team actively investigate all cases assigned to the division, then close the cases or send them for prosecution based upon the investigation outcome. During 2010, 1,374 cases were assigned to the detective division. Of those assigned cases, 946 were closed. Cases

may be closed by: Arrest (when the offender is in custody), Exceptional Clearance (when the offender is known but prosecution is not possible), or Unfounded (when there is no evidence to support the occurrence of a crime).

*“During 2010, 1,374 cases were assigned to the detective division. Of those assigned cases, 946 were closed.”*

Hinesville detectives work closely with the Atlantic Judicial Circuit District Attorney’s Office, the Liberty County Sheriff’s Department, Fort Stewart’s Criminal Investigation Command and other law enforcement agencies from across the state. To ensure complete coverage, an on-call detective is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



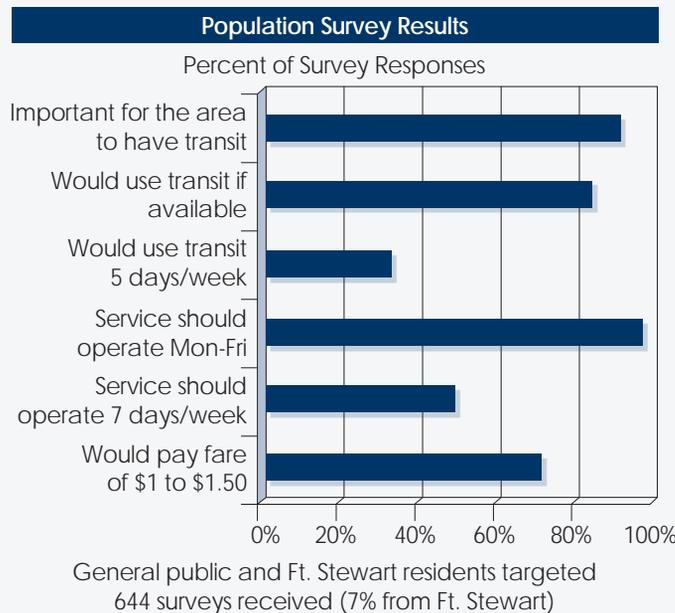
Lt. Jackson examines a bullet-riddled shirt.

## Experience the Freedom to Move

### What is Liberty Transit?

Liberty Transit is a new public bus system serving areas of Hinesville, Flemington, and Fort Stewart. with a search and recovery mission.

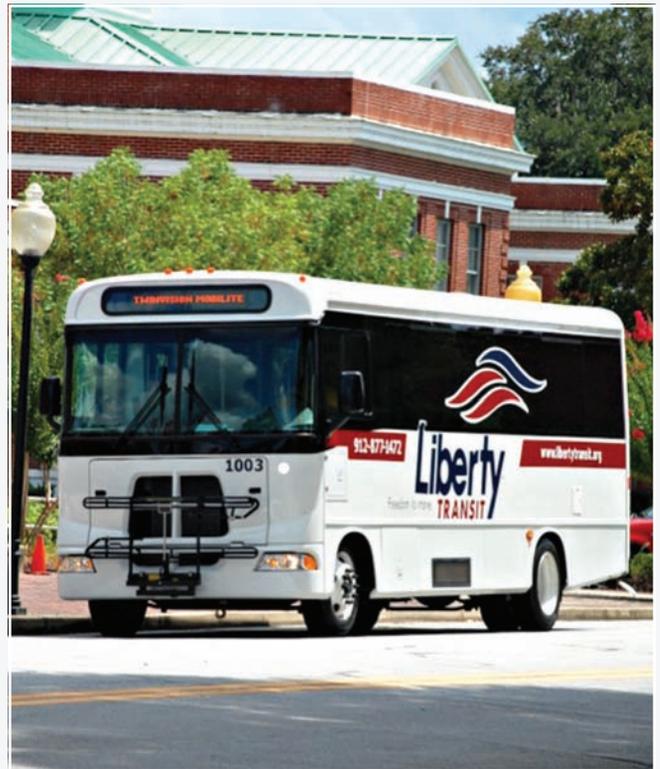
The Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission was tasked with performing studies to determine if a transit system could be supported and the feasibility studies indicated that an alternative to the private auto is needed in our urban area.



### Quick Facts

- Liberty Transit operates using a combination of federal transit funds awarded annually, state and local funds, and fare revenue. Liberty Transit is also receiving federal stimulus funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).
- The City of Hinesville serves as the grantee for all federal funding for the system.
- Liberty Transit's fleet includes eight, 30-passenger buses, each equipped with wheel chair lifts.
- Liberty Transit also has one 18-passenger bus used primarily for service to physically challenged riders that are within 3/4 miles of our current routes but cannot get to regular bus stops without assistance
- Buses generally arrive at each stop about every 30 - 40 minutes depending on the route.

Qualified special needs citizens that wish to utilize the service should call the Liberty Transit Customer Service representative at 877-1472 to



request information or download an application online. Detailed bus schedules can be seen in the Liberty Transit Ride Guide as well as the Liberty Transit website at [www.libertytransit.org](http://www.libertytransit.org)

### How will public transportation benefit me?

Liberty Transit provides transportation options for everyone within the service area. It helps people that cannot drive, such as youth, seniors and persons with disabilities, as well as military troops and families. The service benefits everyone by reducing traffic congestion and demand for parking, and helps to reduce air pollution and other environmental impacts of automobile use.



**Where does the system operate?** Currently there are three routes operating in Hinesville, Flemington, and Fort Stewart. Bus stops are located at:

- Hinesville City Hall
- Liberty Regional Medical Center
- Winn Army Medical Center
- Live Oak Public Library, Hinesville Branch
- US 84 post office
- Wal-Mart
- Family housing and commercial areas on Fort Stewart,
- Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS)
- Liberty County Health Department
- Armstrong Atlantic State University (AASU) Liberty campus
- YMCA
- Many other stops in downtown Hinesville and along Hwy 84.

Following a one year ridership survey, refined routes for the system will be established and bus passenger shelters selected by the Transit Steering Committee to blend into the historic feel of our community while providing comfort and protection to waiting passengers will be installed.

**How much will it cost to ride the bus?** One bus trip costs \$1. A half-fare (\$.50) service is available to all eligible passengers, including Medicare cardholders, persons 65+ and persons with disabilities, as required by federal law. The half-fare service will be available on all regular routes. Beginning summer 2011, Liberty Transit will feature swipe card units on all vehicles that will allow passengers to purchase passes on board versus the current system of secondary sales stations.



The City of Hinesville and Liberty Transit need your feedback and support regarding the pros and cons of the current system operation. The initial route implementation was based on public feedback through surveys and public outreach meetings and will be adjusted and refined with the same emphasis on public involvement and input. LCPC will conduct a one year ridership survey beginning May 2011 to determine what routes are performing well and what changes need to be implemented to better serve current and potential future riders. All activities will be announced in the Coastal Courier and advertised to the public to ensure ample feedback is received. Your feedback and participation is appreciated in surveys.

#### *Experience the Freedom to Move...*

Ride Liberty Transit Monday through Thursday 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Fridays 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Call Liberty Transit Customer Service 912-877-1472  
Visit [www.libertytransit.org](http://www.libertytransit.org)



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 2009	FY 2010
Property Taxes	\$ 5,649,510	\$ 5,634,947
Sales Taxes	3,930,649	4,068,635
Franchise Taxes	1,589,862	1,522,454
Insurance Premium Tax	1,685,027	1,636,056
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes	371,740	335,268
Hotel/Motel Tax	246,512	209,789
Other General Revenue	79,713	75,499
<b>Total General Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 13,553,013</b>	<b>\$ 13,482,648</b>
Charges for Services	12,555,035	12,591,632
Operating Grants	1,264,948	1,731,085
Capital Grants and Contributions	3,344,072	29,525,901
<b>Total Program Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 17,164,055</b>	<b>\$ 43,848,618</b>
Other Income	113,573	187,137
Investment Earnings	266,094	114,744
Gain (loss) on Sale of Capital Assets	-	(365,982)
Transfers	-	-
<b>Total Other Income and Transfers</b>	<b>\$ 379,667</b>	<b>\$ 64,101</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 31,096,735</b>	<b>\$ 57,267,165</b>

Where the Money Went . . .		
	FY 2009	FY 2010
General Government	\$ 2,094,334	\$ 2,483,187
Judicial	368,461	415,532
Public Safety	9,761,982	10,238,143
Public Works	2,665,112	2,761,761
Housing and Development	2,468,991	3,466,832
Health and Welfare	617,340	574,305
Culture and Recreation	801,662	826,155
Interest and Fiscal Charges	53,893	140,367
<b>Total Government Activities</b>	<b>\$ 18,831,775</b>	<b>\$ 20,906,282</b>
Water and Sewer	9,205,371	9,105,367
Sanitation	2,166,292	2,386,351
Stormwater Utility	1,057,459	939,821
Transit	-	208,507
<b>Total Business Type Activities</b>	<b>\$ 12,429,122</b>	<b>\$ 12,640,046</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 31,260,897</b>	<b>\$ 33,546,328</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ (164,162)</b>	<b>\$ 23,720,837</b>
Net Assets - Beginning	63,818,965	62,794,726
Net Assets - Ending	63,654,803	86,515,563

**Definition 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.

**Governmental Activities**

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

**Business-Type Activities**

One of two classes of activities reported in the government-wide financial statements. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by

fees charged to external parties for goods or services. These activities are normally reported in enterprise funds. The City currently has three business-type funds.

**Net Assets**

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

**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.

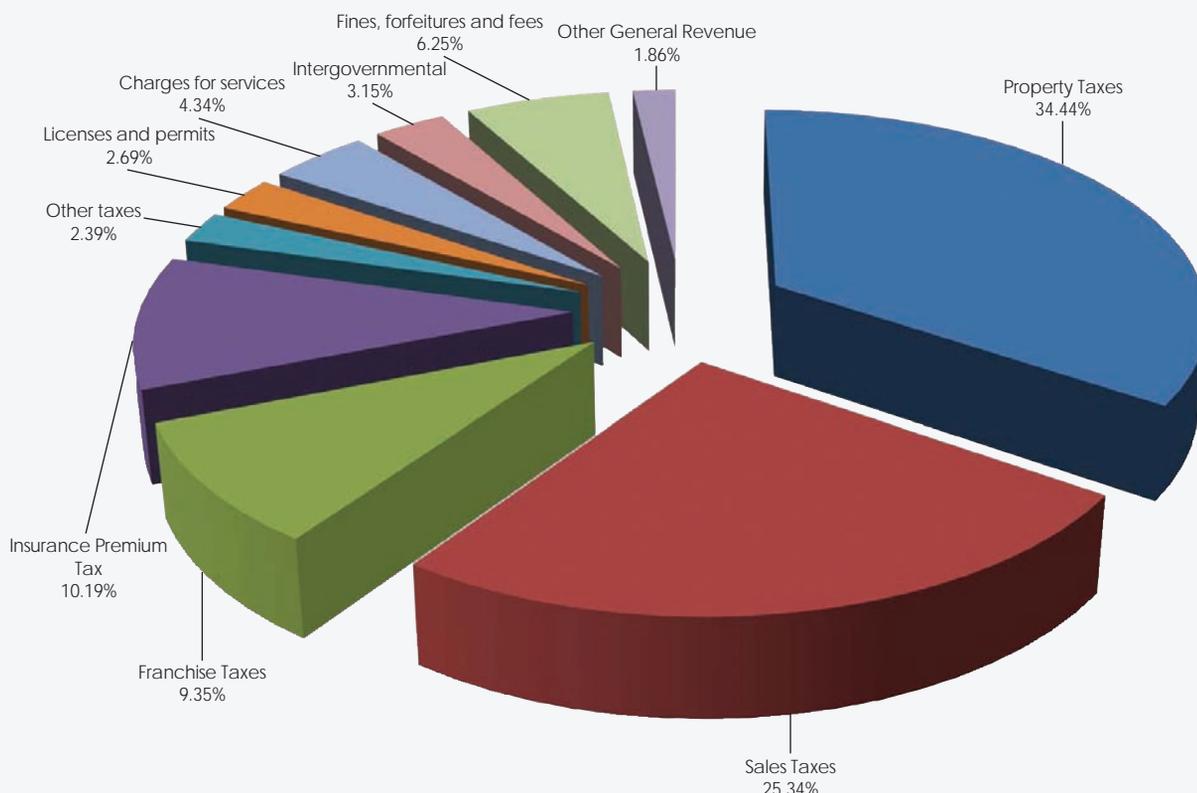
**Net Assets-Restricted**

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 reported under the other two categories of net assets.

**General Fund Fiscal Year 2010 Revenues**



For fiscal year ended October 31, 2010, the City of Hinesville revenues for the General fund totaled approximately 16 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:

**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 their% 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.

The total net assets of the City are categorized. The largest portion of net assets (\$55,426,338 or 64%) 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 (\$7,789,194 or 9%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. All of the City's restricted net assets are restricted for the repayment of the water and sewer fund revenue bond debt. The remaining portion of the City's net assets (\$23,300,031 or 27%) is unrestricted net assets and may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.



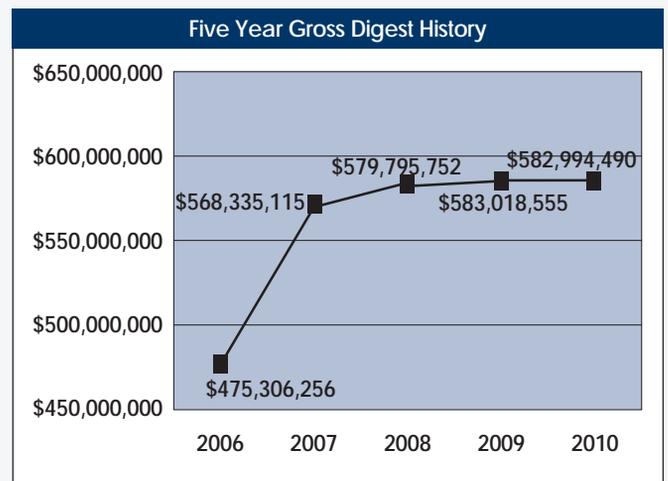
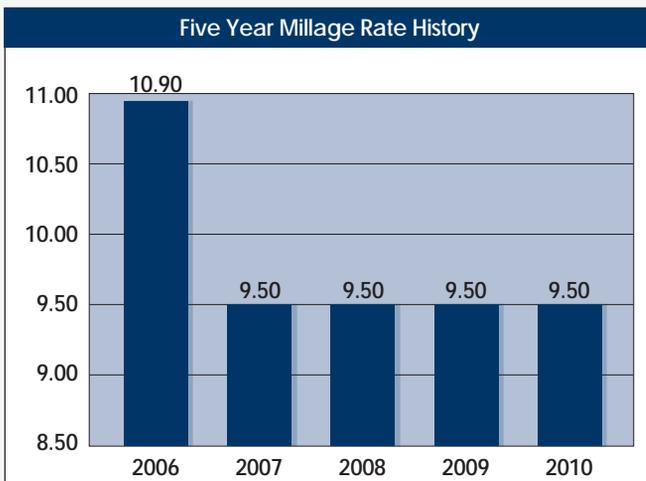
### Property Tax Breakdown

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

### Property Taxes

Property tax is the City's single largest source of revenue. The City's millage rate remained level at 11.30 mills from 1997 to 2005. In 2006, the City decreased the millage rate to 10.90 mills. In 2007 the City again decreased the rate to 9.5 mills. It has stayed consistent at 9.5 again for 2010.

The graph on the left shows the City's Millage Rate for the past five years. The graph on the right tracks the change in the tax digest over the past five years.



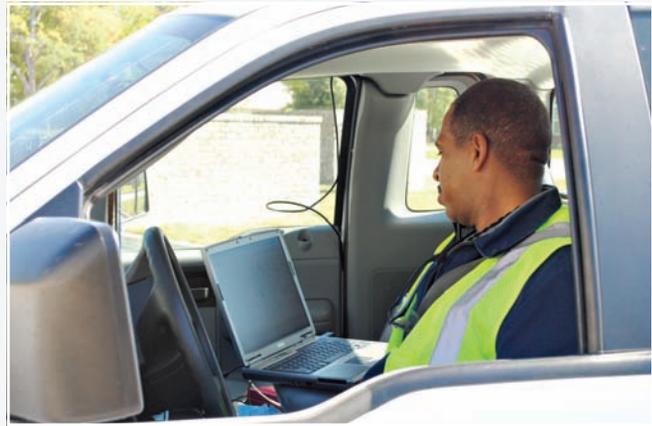
## Water Meter Reading

The Hinesville Public Utilities Department performs tasks related to the City's drinking water and sanitary sewer. Those tasks include the following operations and maintenance departments: Water Treatment, Water Distribution, Wastewater Collection, Wastewater Treatment (two facilities), Re-use Water Distribution, Meter Reading, Utility Maintenance, and Inflow & Infiltration Inspections. These tasks are completed by a staff of 36 full-time employees.

Water Meter Reading activities are performed on a monthly basis in conjunction with the monthly water billing process. The meters are divided into routes systematically drawn throughout the City for efficiency. The water meters are read utilizing two methods.

1. Touch Read process where the meter reader touches an electronic probe to a transmitter on top of the water meter boxes at each residence or business. This system transfers the meter reading electronically to a hand held data storage device that the meter reader carries.
2. Automated Meter Reading (AMR) or radio transmitted drive-by reading system is accomplished by adding a transmitter to the existing touch read meter that electronically transfers to a truck-mounted computer for data storage and transmission to the billing system located at Hinesville City Hall. The City is systematically transitioning to this system. The transition to radio-read system will continue incrementally until its completion in 2016.

Once all readings are gathered, they are transmitted into the City's billing system electronically for final processing and billed to customers each month.



Automated Meter Reading Process



Touch Read Process

**Attn: Water Dept.**  
**CITY OF HINESVILLE**  
115 East M.L. King, Jr. Drive  
Hinesville, GA 31313

02/23/2011      03/23/2011

Meter ID	Previous	Current	Read Date	Consumption	Prev. Balance	\$0.00
667264148	878	926	03/04/2011	4800	<b>Current Charges</b>	
					Garbage Disposal	4.79
					Dry Trash Collection	5.25
					Garbage Collection	11.39
					Linked Sewer	12.10
					Storm Water Utility	7.23
					Metered Water	15.34
					<b>Total Current Bill</b>	<b>\$56.10</b>
					<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	<b>\$56.10</b>

**A \$25 SERVICE CHARGE WILL BE ADDED TO ALL RETURN CHECKS. A returned check may result in disconnection of water service.**

**PAYMENT STUB**  
Please Return This Portion With Payment

Service Address:	XXX XXXXXX XXX	
Name:	XXXXXXXX, XXXXXXXX	
Bill Date	Account Number	Please Pay
24-Mar-2011	XXXXXX-XXXXXX	\$56.10
Amount Due After 5 pm 4/15/2011		\$61.71
Due Date	Invoice	Amount Enclosed
15-Apr-2011	6892401	

**Bill Messages**  
Balance must be paid by the 20th to avoid disconnection. Pay your bill on-line at [www.cityofhinesville.org](http://www.cityofhinesville.org). There is also a new DROP BOX in front of the P.L. Stewart Post Office for your convenience.  
This Statement Reflects Payments Posted Thru 22-Mar-2011

*Water Bills can conveniently be paid on-line.*

*In order to pay your water bill online, you will need one of the following:  
Customer ID and PIN*

*or*

*Invoice number from most recent water bill*

*Please call (912) 876-3564 for login information.*

## Child Safety Seat Fitting

The Hinesville Fire Department is an advocate of public safety education. We offer many programs that focus on safety for our residents and strive to provide the best services available to our community. In 2000, with the help of the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety and Training, the Hinesville Fire Department implemented the Child Safety Seat Fitting Station (which is one of a few in the state of Georgia). The department requires that all firefighters become certified as Child Safety Seat Technicians.

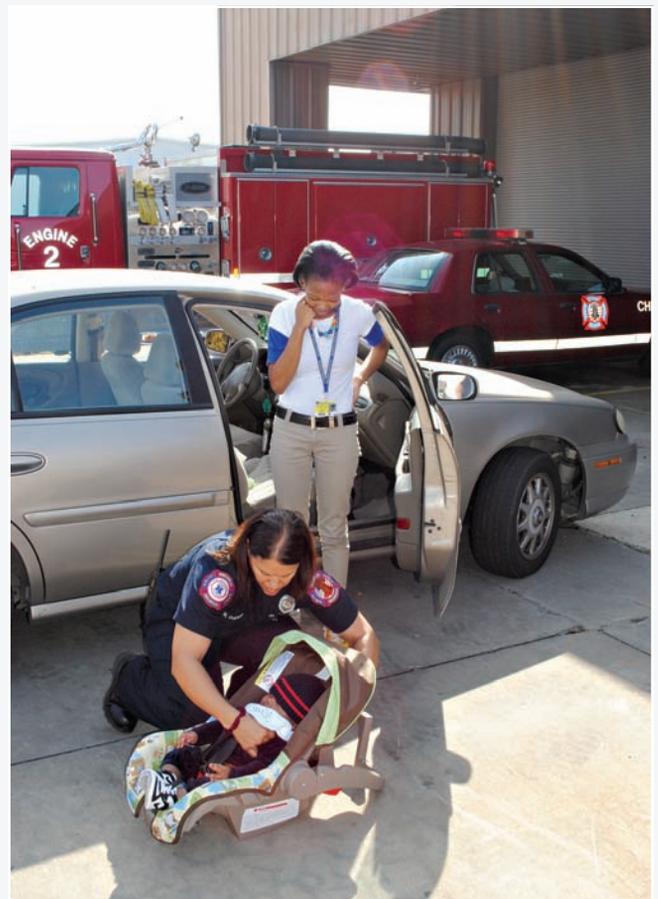
Every day in the U.S., an average of 4 children age 14 and younger were killed and 549 were injured in motor vehicle crashes during 2008 according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Based on 2006 figures, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children ages 3 to 14.

Studies have shown that younger children restrained in child safety seats have an 80% lower risk of fatal injury than those who are unrestrained. Research on the effectiveness of child safety seats has found them to reduce fatal injury by 71% for infants (children younger than 1 years old) and by 54% for toddlers (children 1 to 4 years old) in passenger cars. In 2008, there were 297 passenger vehicle occupants’ fatalities among children age 4 and younger.

Among children under the age of 5 in passenger vehicles, an estimated 244 lives were saved in 2008 by restraint use. Of these 244 lives saved, 219 were associated with the use of a child safety seat. To ensure that more children are safe in our city, the Hinesville Fire Department has committed to educating the public on proper child safety seat use.

The Hinesville Fire Department currently has 35 certified technicians. Under the program, technicians inspect child safety seats to ensure that they are properly installed and fitted for the child. The technician also trains the parents/guardians on the proper way to install the seat. If the parents/guardians do not have a child safety seat, one will be provided for them free of charge as long as donated seats are available.

In the 10 years since the program was initiated, the department has installed/checked 935 child safety restraint seats. With the help of local companies, we are able to provide seats for those families that may not be financially able to purchase one.





The Hinesville Fire Department is proactive when it comes to public safety education. We realize that public safety education is a major factor in preventing injuries in all age groups. The Hinesville Fire Department takes pride in the services that we are able to provide to our community.

The Child Safety Seat Program is one of many programs offered by the Hinesville fire department. We offer 26 other programs such as Fire Extinguisher Classes, Home Safety Inspections, Free Smoke Alarm Program, C.P.R Classes, Home Owner Work Shop, Scald Prevention Program, and Disaster Preparedness Classes.

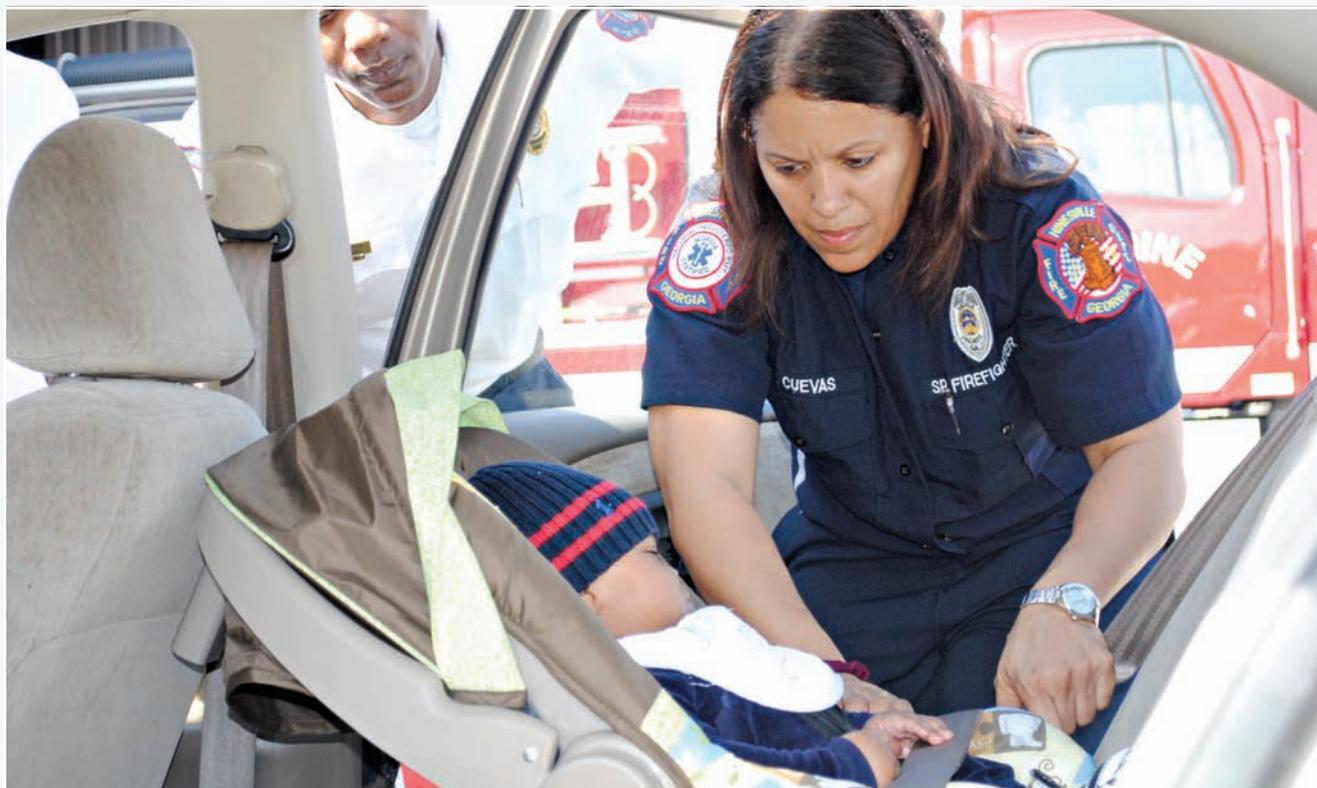
If anyone needs a child safety seat installed or checked, please visit The Hinesville Fire Department Monday through Sunday, 24 hours each day. If you wish to find out more about our other programs, contact the Hinesville Police Department at (912) 876-4143 or visit [www.cityofhinesville.org/fire](http://www.cityofhinesville.org/fire).



Location for H.F.D Station 1  
103 Liberty Street  
Hinesville, Ga. 31313  
(912) 876-4143

Location for H.F.D Station 2  
640 Airport Road  
Hinesville, Ga. 31313  
(912) 876- 4852

\*Data on traffic safety was provided by NHTSA via [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).



**Assets for Independence**

The Assets for Independence (AFI) Project is one of five distinct facets of the city’s Homeless Prevention Program. The city has emplaced the AFI Project as a unique way to help low and moderate income single parent families become more sufficient through asset building. AFI is an opportunity to save \$6,000 to buy a home or fund college. After completing an initial 10 hours of basic financial management training, a participant can open an individual savings account and save \$2,000 in 24 months, which can be combined with a matching \$2,000 from a federal grant and another \$2,000 match from the City of Hinesville. A growing number of individuals and families with low incomes are learning about money management and planning for a stronger financial future through AFI!



**Dreaming about buying a home?  
Getting a college education?**

The Assets for Independence Project is a matched savings program that can earn qualified low to moderate income participants \$6,000 towards the purchase of a home or fund a post secondary education!

**DREAM BIG! Save...Learn...Earn...Invest**

New and existing homes abound in our city, and AFI Project participation can help make the dream of homeownership a reality. In the same manner, Hinesville is a center for higher education



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

opportunities. The AFI project can make educational dreams come true for parents—and dependents planning for college.

**How AFI Works**

Saving money is a basic foundation of AFI, and financial literacy and credit building are paramount for participants to position themselves to get matching funds. Participants will benefit from engaging training sessions, professional financial counseling from AFI project partners, homebuyers education workshops and other supportive services designed for their success in the AFI Project.

**Minimum qualifications**

- Single-parent
- Have a social security or tax-payer ID number
- Resident of Hinesville, GA/ Liberty County
- 18 years of age or older
- Earn wages from full- or part-time work income
- Applicants cannot have more than \$10,000 in net assets excluding one automobile and primary residence per household



Homes built in Azalea Street Redevelopment Project are now available for purchase.

## Conserve Water and Save too.....

Throughout history there have been a multitude of efforts put in place to help conserve the natural resources that we have at our disposal. Right now, in our nation, we find ourselves in similar territory. We are witnessing our resources dwindle away and we are confronting a difficult economy in which we have had to learn to tighten our belt and spend less in every way possible.

Water is no exception—when you conserve your water you are also saving money! The City of Hinesville Water Department would like to offer you some helpful tips to utilize in your home to conserve water and avoid expensive mishaps in order to help reduce your spending.

Water-saving technology for the home includes:

- Replace regular shower heads with low-flow shower heads, sometimes called energy-efficient shower heads, to use less energy.
- Use low-flush toilets and composting toilets. They have a dramatic impact on the amount of water used each time you flush.



Add Nozzles!



Use faucet aerators.

- Use faucet aerators, which break water flow into fine droplets to maintain “wetting effectiveness” while using less water. An additional benefit is that they reduce splashing while washing hands and dishes.
- Purchase high-efficiency washing machines to save energy and reduce water use.
- Add nozzles to your garden hose to shut off water when it is not being used instead of letting a hose run.
- Use low flow taps in wash basins.

In addition to the previously listed helpful hints about what items can be installed or replaced in your home to maximize your water conservation, we also offer the following advice of everyday things that you can do without spending a dime.

- Turn your faucets off when you are brushing your teeth or washing dishes.
- Get a full load of clothes together before washing your clothes.
- Landscape your yard with native plants.
- Check your toilets if you hear them running more than they normally should.
- Put containers out when it rains so you can later use that water for gardening or washing cars.
- Drip your faucets slightly when you expect freezing weather to avoid pipes breaking and causing worse leaks.

There are many ways for us to economize our expenses as we attempt to save money and conserve energy. Please use these tips to help in accomplishing a trimmed budget!

## 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  
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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  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
(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



### City Of Hinesville

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

### Other Frequently Called Numbers

Animal Control . . . . .	912-876-9191	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		



Postal Patron

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US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #144  
Statesboro, GA



### 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.

*"Home for a day or a lifetime."*

Find us Online!

Website: [www.cityofhinesville.org](http://www.cityofhinesville.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/hinesvillega](http://www.facebook.com/hinesvillega) or search

City of Hinesville

Twitter: @HinesvilleGA

### 2011 Annual City of Hinesville Events:

- City Council Meetings held 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in the Hinesville Municipal Courtroom at the Hinesville Police Department at 3 p.m.
- Homebuyer's Education Workshop held once every quarter - Contact Hinesville Community Development Department at (912) 876-2015
- Project Homeless Connect June 4 - Contact Hinesville Homeless Prevention Program at (912) 876-6573
- 2011 National Night Out August 2 - Contact Hinesville Police Department at (912) 876-8211
- Cycles for Charity August 27 - Contact Hinesville Public Relations Office at (912) 876-3564
- 3rd Annual MDA Golf Tournament September 24 - Contact Hinesville Fire Department at (912) 876-4143
- Poverty Simulation September 23 - Contact Hinesville Homeless Prevention Program at (912) 876-6573
- 2011 Mayor's Thanksgiving Service November 20 - 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](http://www.cityofhinesville.org).



[WWW.CITYOFHINESVILLE.ORG](http://WWW.CITYOFHINESVILLE.ORG)