

June 28, 2019



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

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HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE FOURTH OF JULY



Planning to Light Fireworks on the Holiday? What You Should Know

The City of Doraville follows Georgia fireworks law, which allows consumer fireworks to be purchased in retail stores. On the Fourth of July, fireworks can be used between 10 a.m. and midnight. However, it is illegal to light fireworks within 100 yards of a hospital, nursing home, prison, nuclear power plant or gas station. Residents are asked to take safety precautions and to clean up any debris.

City's Flowers Park Swimming Pool Will Be Open on the Fourth

Doraville's community pool in Flowers Park will be open from 1 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 4. Admission is \$3 for age 12 and younger, \$5 for 13 and older, and \$2 for 55 and older.

Trash Collection Won't Change; City Offices Closed Thursday

Next week's trash collection will be on the usual days of Tuesday and Wednesday. It will not be affected by the Fourth of July holiday on Thursday. The City's administrative offices and non-emergency services will be closed on Thursday for the holiday.

State Legislative Roundup: What Will Go Into Effect on July 1



City administration, with the help of the Georgia Municipal Association and other entities, keeps watch when Georgia's General Assembly is in session and weighs in on the expected impact to the City.

Among notable legislation in the recent session:

-- Small cell regulations have set pole height not to exceed 50 feet in residential areas, and enabled cities to protect aesthetics in historical districts.

-- Massage therapy regulations (already in effect as of

May 6) place some limitations on cities' ability to locally regulate this industry to the extent that we may desire.

-- Consulting agreements now call for more requirements to avoid conflicts of interest.

-- Landlord retaliation against tenants for filing complaints is prohibited. The City is working on tenant and landlord brochures to address changes in the law and to encourage better relationships while also improving property maintenance.

SPLOST Projects Completed This Month Across the City

June has been a busy month for the City's Department of Public Works, with five projects completed on schedule and within budget. SPLOST funds are being used to improve traffic flow, address safety issues and enhance parks. The one-cent sales tax, yielding an estimated \$9.4 million from April 2018 until March 2024, is quickly addressing longstanding needs.

The June projects completed are:

-- The picnic pavilion at Brook Park in Northwoods (pictured). Accessibility at the pavilion has been enhanced by the installation of a retaining wall and a path of decomposed granite, and two picnic tables and two grills were added.

-- The intersection of Winters Chapel and Amwiler roads. Safety has been improved with fresh striping at the intersection and along Winters Chapel. New bollards deter hazardous left turns into (and from) the convenience store at the intersection.

-- Repairs to Best Friends and Pleasantdale roads. Large potholes were paved over.



-- Striping along Park Avenue. As part of this project, the stop bar at Park and Buford Highway was moved back for safety.

-- Striping (stop bar) and the movement of a stop sign at Wheeler and Chestnut roads (pictured).

Doraville Pride to Host Potluck Tomorrow at Brook Park Pavilion

In recognition of LGBTQ Pride Month, Doraville Pride will host a potluck at noon Saturday, June 29, at the Brook Park pavilion. The event is open to the public. Those who attend are asked to bring a dish to share.

City's New Zoning Signage Makes Identification of Status Easier



The City's Department of Community Development has created new zoning signs that will be placed at sites where paperwork has been filed with the City for rezoning, a variance, a conditional use permit or an appeal.

The yellow-and-black signs provide enhanced land-use information to residents that includes the nature of the request, application number, property address and date when a hearing has been scheduled. There also is room for a summary explaining the basics of the proposal. The City is required by law to provide public notice, in printed form and also at the property site, of a zoning request.

The Department of Community Development processed nearly two dozen such cases in 2018, according to director Enrique Bascunana.

Help Us by Allowing Only Rain Down the City's Storm Drains

Storm drains are our direct links to local streams, rivers and wetlands. Keeping that in mind, a number of things can be done to prevent stormwater runoff.

Never dump anything down storm drains or in ditches. Fix auto leaks and recycle motor oil. Keep leaves and grass clippings off the street. Pick up pet waste. And please, don't litter.





John King



Charles Atkinson

Police Chief John King to Leave for State Insurance Position

Chief John King, who has headed the Doraville Police Department since 2002 and been on the force since 1993, has been selected by Gov. Brian Kemp to serve as the state's commissioner of insurance. King will become Georgia's first Hispanic statewide officeholder. He served in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq and Afghanistan as a brigadier general in the Army National Guard. His final day as chief is Sunday, June 30, and he will be sworn in by the state on Monday, July 1.

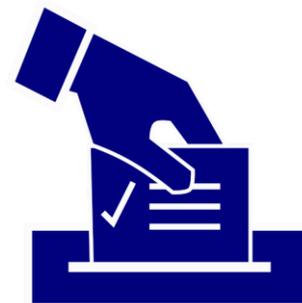
Assistant Police Chief Charles Atkinson, who has been on the Doraville force since 1994, has been named Interim Chief of Police. Atkinson has served as commander of the Criminal Investigation Division and also as commander of the Uniform Division and the Administrative Services Division. He was promoted to major from captain in 2010 and reclassified to Assistant Chief last year.

A public farewell to Chief King will be held on Friday, July 12, at the Civic Center (details to be announced). Thank you, Chief, for your service to our community, state and country!

Save the Date: Campaign Financing Seminar

The Georgia Government Transparency & Campaign Finance Commission will host a free seminar for those interested in seeking elected office on Monday, July 22, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Doraville Library. Topics will include campaign disclosure reporting, expenditures, record keeping and contribution limits.

An RSVP is required. Contact Doraville City Clerk Raquel Gonzalez at (770) 451-8745 or raquel.gonzalez@doravillega.us.



Foodies Can't Get Enough of Buford Highway's Many Delights



It has been described as a "gourmand's paradise," and if you're even somewhat familiar with Buford Highway, you know that's true. In a June 24 story, the Atlanta site for Eater magazine identified 21 restaurants of note along Buford -- and 13 of them are located in Doraville. [Click here](#) to read about the local restaurants that rated praise, including El Rey Del Taco, Las Delicias De La Abuela and Sokongdong Tofu House.

Books, Movies and Air Conditioning: Doraville Library Has It All

If summer gets too hot for you, the Doraville Library has some cool options. One of those is a matinee showing of the movie "Bumblebee" (rated PG-13) at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 29.



The library's reading programs will meet as scheduled during the holiday week: All-Star Readers (ages 5-9) from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 2, and Storytime Adventures (ages 2-5) from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 3. Friends of the Library will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 6.

City Council Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held in the council chambers at City Hall, 3725 Park Avenue:

- Tuesday, July 23: work session and regular meeting CANCELED
- Monday, Aug. 5: work session at 5:30 p.m., regular meeting at 6:30
- Monday, Aug. 19: work session at 5:30 p.m., regular meeting at 6:30

The Easiest Way to Keep Track of What's Going On in Doraville

Do you know of friends, neighbors or family members, in Doraville or outside the City, who are interested in keeping up with what's happening? Encourage them to register to receive this weekly e-newsletter! It's free, and they can sign up [here](#).