



From the Mayor's Desk

June 2021

What's New at the Town Center

It's hard to believe that the city's new Town Center and Town Green opened just two years ago. Its popularity with the community has soared since April 27, 2019, when the ribbon was cut at the grand opening celebration.

Nearly every day you will find people sitting in the chairs on the teak deck that overlooks the green, children playing in the grassy area, climbing, sliding in the play area and enjoying the splash pad. The shops and restaurants continue drawing people from our community and neighboring towns. It is apparent that the development of the Town Center and Town Green has been a success and has accomplished what we intended – to provide a gathering place for the community.

The Concerts are Back

We kicked off the 2021 Summer Concert season on May 29 with the popular Rumours ATL, a Fleetwood Mac Tribute band. Reservations were still required, but we increased the number of free tickets to 2,500. We also announced that based on the CDC's notice, individuals fully vaccinated were not required to wear masks. However, social distancing was recommended. We expect to gradually increase the number of tickets offered as the number of fully vaccinated people continues to increase. At the May 29 concert, the Gwinnett Health Department set up a tent near the Town Green offering free COVID-19 vaccinations with a free drink ticket as an incentive. We want everyone to enjoy the concerts safely. So far, the city's efforts have been well received. You will find the [full lineup of concerts located on the city's website.](#)

Adding More Fun Places to Play

By every measure, the Town Green has been a success, but there is more planned for this popular spot. While the slide and climbing structures are great for the younger children, we realized we were missing a fun place for the middle and high school age group.

We are looking at installing unique play structures which will be located on the east side of the Town Green near the wooded area. More details to come but we hope to have the new structures in place by the end of the year.

Town Center Connections

It is well documented in multiple studies that multi-use trails have a consistent, positive impact both in the community health and in the economy, primarily through higher property values. When our city was only a few years old, we began studying the idea of adding multi-use trails. We took the question to the

community holding a series of workshops for feedback. We received a very enthusiastic thumbs up from our citizens. The next step was developing a plan followed by the time-consuming process of obtaining easements and rights-of-way permissions.

We have already added trails throughout Tech Park, one of the latest being a path that runs along Technology Park Lake and provides scenic views for strollers and cyclists. In August 2020, we also announced the name of the city's trail system – the Corners Connector.

Our newest section is under construction now and is expected to be complete by the end of the year. It begins at the base of the pedestrian bridge on the Town Center side and rings the Town Center through the wooded edge and over a stream adjacent to the parking deck. This segment, called the Corners Connector Town Center, will connect to Peachtree Corners Circle and will include a skywalk segment that provide a bird's eye view of the stream below. This is a key piece of the network, defining the far northern end of the system. When complete, the 11-miles of trail systems will connect us with our neighbors, restaurants, shops and places of work.

We are also planning a trail segment along East Jones Bridge Road. The narrow sidewalk along the shoulder of the road will be widened to 12' to 14' to accommodate more pedestrians and cyclists.

Town Center Security

To ensure the city's property is protected and our residents and visitors feel safe, we have enlisted the assistance of GCPD off-duty police officers who will patrol the Town Center and Town Green in the afternoons and evenings. This is to provide a comfort level for everyone and to manage misbehavior and destructive behavior by some who are disrespecting public property. The security patrols will cover the entire Town Center including parking decks, fitness trail, pedestrian bridge, Town Green and veterans' monument.

Improving Quality of Life

We've responded to your request for a community gathering place and walking trails, all which have added to the quality of life for everyone. Speaking for the entire city council, I can say we are proud of our new Town Center and look forward to continuing efforts to enhance life for you and your family throughout the entire city.

Please remember, to reach out to me or your city councilmember for any questions, concerns or if we can be of any assistance. We thank you for your support. Our contact information is listed on the homepage of the city's website under the "[Contact Us](#)" link.

***Stay Safe,
Mike Mason, Mayor***