



July 2018

From the Mayor's Desk

Three Questions for the Mayor

Q: Will you be holding a state of the city address this year?

A: Yes, I will address the community at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 19 in the Council Chambers of the new City Hall. As in previous years, I will highlight city projects that have been completed or are underway – as well as a look to the future. Everyone is invited.

We've made tremendous progress in the six years since incorporation as Gwinnett County's newest city. One of our focus areas has been on pedestrian safety. The city has continued installing additional sidewalks and streetlights – and we've added pedestrian crossings at Peachtree Corners Circle at Eastman Drive, Winters Chapel Road and East Jones Bridge Road.

We are also making progress on our 11.5-mile multi-use trail. Construction on the second part of Phase 1 is expected to begin by the end of summer. The work will include installing a path around a portion of Technology Park Lake for all to enjoy. Eventually the trail system will crisscross through office parks, restaurants, retail centers and the new town center and surrounding neighborhoods. The trail system will be used as another transportation alternative as the city works to provide alternative modes of transportation for our residents and workforce.

Much more information will be presented during the State-of-the-City address. I hope you will be able to attend. However, if you are unable, watch for a recap to be posted on the city's website.

Q: Is the Town Center still on track to open the end of this year?

A: We recently received a letter from Fuqua Development, the company responsible for building the Town Center, notifying the city that due to an unusual amount of rain in May and June, the expected completion date has been pushed back by several months. After Fuqua finishes its portion of the project this fall, the businesses that have leased space, will begin

building out the interiors, which generally take about three months. We are now looking to a spring 2019 grand opening date.

This is an exciting project, our Town Center, which includes restaurants, retail shops, townhomes, a Town Green with a veterans' monument will serve as Peachtree Corners' city center and will be a great community gathering and event space.

Q: The city's startup incubator, Prototype Prime, has recently been in the news when it announced plans to develop an autonomous vehicle test track on Technology Parkway. What else is in the works?

A: As you know, the city launched Prototype Prime just 1 ½ years ago and the response has been tremendous. Working in partnership with Georgia Institute of Technology's ATDC, the number of companies that are now working out of the 12,500 square-foot space has jumped from four when it opened to now over 16. Additionally, Prototype Prime will house the Advanced Vehicle Accelerator which will collaborate with ancillary companies connected to the field of autonomous vehicle research and development.

Because of its unexpected growth, Prototype Prime is expanding to the floor above its current space which will allow it to double in size. The former City Hall space, is being converted to make room for additional entrepreneurial teams. The space will also include a large classroom which will be used by ATDC and for other functions. Peachtree Corners is a tech-savvy city and as we grow, we will always be exploring and investing in more ways for improving economic development in our city.

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