



*From the Mayor's Desk*

**July 2019**

## **Peachtree Corners Continues to Prosper**

Peachtree Corners has just celebrated its 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In its short history, our young city has become a dynamic place with expansive opportunities for businesses to flourish. Our residents also enjoy the continuing improvements in our quality of life. With commitments from me and your councilmembers, I predict the upcoming year will be a year of accomplishments and advancements. Let's review our recent successes and look ahead to the coming year.

### **Economic Development in Tech Park**

The revitalization of Tech Park continues to make news as innovative businesses move in or startups open new businesses in this highly regarded technology park. The city's plans to add a multi-use trail throughout the park and beyond have been a big incentive for businesses to locate in Tech Park.

- We've seen surges in the redevelopment of a number of properties including the former Honeywell building on the corner of Technology Parkway and Scientific Drive. [Brightree](#), a cloud-based software company, will be relocating from Lawrenceville and occupying a portion of this 8-acre property. Built in the early 1970s, the developer is razing a portion of the old structure and redeveloping 60,500 square feet of the existing building into trendy office lofts for Brightree.
- Soon Tech Park will be the site of the city's first craft brewery. [Anderby Brewing](#) is expected to open in late July. The brewery will offer sit-down service, as well as indoor and outdoor space that is pet friendly.
- And on the east side of Peachtree Parkway, a new 5,000 square-foot [RaceTrac](#) is expected to open later this year. The project includes adding an extension of Engineering Drive which will connect with Technology Parkway and tie in with the multi-use trails including the new trails being developed around the 15-acre Technology Park Lake. The section of the multi-use trails that rings the lake will also connect to [Echo Lakeside](#), the upscale millennial housing development that overlooks the lake.
- [ASHRAE](#), specialists in indoor-environment-control technology, has purchased the old Recall building and is currently in the process of upgrading the 1970s' era structure for its world headquarters. The company which was established in 1894, expects the new, renovated facility to become a showcase for the latest HVAC&R equipment and

technology. The addition of ASHRAE brings another high-tech company to Paul Duke's Technology Park.

- [CarMax](#), a Fortune 500 Company, just opened a new customer center bringing 300 new jobs to our city. The center offers a new concept in purchasing a car. The Customer Care Center provides customer support in purchasing a vehicle online, at one of its stores, or both.
- [Prototype Prime](#) the city's startup incubator, is the site of Coding and Data Science boot camps taught by Georgia Tech, providing more opportunities for our residents and work force to learn these valuable skills. There is a Georgia Tech professional education class taught every day of the week here in Peachtree Corners.
- [Hapag-Lloyd](#), one of the world's largest shipping companies, announced over the winter that it would invest \$5.5 million over the next two years and create 363 new jobs here in our city. And this spring [MassMutual](#), a Fortune 500 company, relocated its Perimeter headquarters to our city bringing 110 employees to its new offices on Davinci Court.
- Probably one of the most exciting economic news is the city's [Curiosity Lab at Peachtree Corners](#), a 1.5-mile intelligent mobility and smart city laboratory which is being built along Technology Parkway. We are expecting it to be complete this summer. Curiosity Lab will offer a [5G](#) enabled autonomous vehicle test track and smart city living lab for both startups and established companies to imagine, build and validate next generation IoT ([internet of things](#)), smart city and mobility technologies. You can learn more about this exciting project by visiting [Curiosity Lab's website](#).

### **Quality of Life Enhancements**

The city's Public Works Department continues to add sidewalks throughout the city to improve walkability including adding pedestrian crossings in high-volume traffic areas. The [roundabout](#) at Medlock Bridge Road and Peachtree Corners Circle is another enhancement that will improve traffic flow in this heavily traveled section. Given the proximity to the Town Center, and heavy volume of walkers, the project includes adding pedestrian safety crossings as well.

We will also begin constructing a pedestrian bridge across Peachtree Parkway which will connect The Forum and the Town Center. This is a critical project that is needed to ensure our residents and others crossing this very heavily-traveled state road a safe way to cross. Since the Town Center opened, we see hundreds of families, with young children in tow, walking across S.R. 141 to take part in the activities at the Town Center. It is imperative that they have a safe means to cross this four-lane road.

And without a doubt, the most talked about project is the completion of the city's [Town Center](#). We designed this space as a gathering place for our residents, and it's been a tremendous success since it officially opened on April 27 of this year. Residents have enjoyed the numerous [city-sponsored events](#) at the Town Green that include live concerts, outdoor movies, and activities for families including Games on the Green which are scheduled for every Friday during the summer months. This 21-acre development includes shops, restaurants, office space, the

2-acre Town Green and [veterans' monument](#). Site work has begun on the construction of 72 townhomes which will be built adjacent to the Town Green.

I would also like to point out that the city undertook this large-scale project with no additional debt to tax payers while maintaining a zero-millage rate, which means owners of residential and commercial property pay no municipal property taxes.

**Invitation to attend State-of-City Address**

This is just a brief look back at the progress of our young city. I invite each of you to attend my annual state-of-the-city address beginning at 7 p.m. on July 22 at the Atlanta Marriott located in Tech Park. There will be an hour for gathering and socializing from 6 – 7 p.m. before the event. Please join us for a glimpse of what is in store for our young city.

I hope to see you there.

***Mike Mason, Mayor***