



CITY OF  
**Peachtree  
CORNERS**  
Innovative & Remarkable

# INSIDE PEACHTREE CORNERS

1st Quarter 2017



**Making Pedestrian Safety  
a Priority**

**Town Center  
Groundbreaking in May**

**Developing Arts & Culture  
Master Plan**

**Road Improvements,  
Sidewalks Planned for 2017**

*Plus more news inside*



## Town Center Property Sold, Spring Groundbreaking Planned

The city recently passed an important milestone. The town center property has been sold to Atlanta-based Fuqua Development. The developer expects to break ground this spring. The 21-acre site, located on Peachtree Parkway and Medlock Bridge Road, will be a mixed-use development with a theater, restaurants, retail shops, office space, town homes – and a Town Green.

The city anticipates holding a groundbreaking ceremony sometime in May and will announce the date as soon as it's been decided. The community will be invited.

The sale took place February 28. At closing, Fuqua had preleased 60 percent of the tenants as required in the contract, including the center's anchor tenant, Cinebistro. The Town Center will feature at least 10 quality restaurants, ground floor retail space and second-floor office space and a 2-acre Town Green for community gatherings and events.

The development also includes over 70 high-end townhomes to be built by Marietta-based InLine Communities, LLC. Work on the three-story townhomes is also expected to start this spring.

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## From the Mayor's Desk

### Making Pedestrian Safety a Priority

When Peachtree Corners first began to develop in the 1970s, the automobile was king and little thought was given to providing even the basic amenities, such as sidewalks and dedicated crosswalks, for pedestrians. Even our city's early subdivisions often lacked sidewalks.

We've seen that trend begin to swing in the opposite direction: Now homebuyers often make their choice of which home to buy based on the community's pedestrian-friendly amenities such as sidewalks, hiking trails, multi-use trails and safe pedestrian crossings.

Since the city incorporated just four and a half years ago, we've made considerable strides in improving pedestrian safety for our citizens. Along with the city's plans for an 11-mile multi-use trail (the first phase to be complete by late summer), over 20,000 feet of sidewalks have been added to the following streets:

- Buford Highway
- Crooked Creek Road
- Jay Bird Alley
- Technology Parkway
- Winters Chapel Road

And future plans include 11 additional sidewalk projects. When complete, the projects will add nearly 32,000 feet of sidewalks to our streets.

The planned projects for 2017 and beyond are:

- Corners Parkway
- Crooked Creek Road
- Frank Neely Road
- Holcomb Bridge Road
- Jay Bird Alley
- Peachtree Corners Circle multi-use trail

- Peachtree Corners Circle
- Spalding Drive
- Technology Parkway
- Technology Parkway South
- Winters Chapel Road

In addition to installing sidewalks, two pedestrian crosswalks with rapid flashing beacons are planned for 2017. Safety crosswalks will be installed on Winters Chapel Road near Winterbrook Court and East Jones Bridge Road near Rebel Ridge Court. The city also is adding streetlights to many of the main thoroughfares. The streetlight project is expected to be complete within 24 months.



One of the biggest challenges is ensuring our residents are safely able to cross major thoroughfares such as Holcomb Bridge Road and Peachtree Parkway. The need to provide a safe way to cross Peachtree Parkway, in particular, will be even greater once the Town Center is complete. This major road currently carries over 40,000 vehicles a day and that number will only increase in the coming years.

But the city's pedestrian safety efforts can only go so far. All of us who drive a vehicle need to be aware of joggers, walkers, and children walking to school. Many pedestrian crashes are the result

## Lake-front complex breaking ground soon

The Overlook at Twin Lakes, a 39-acre development located on the shores of two lakes in Technology Park, is expected to break ground this spring.

The development includes a 295 high-end millennial housing complex, pool, boat dock, hiking and biking trail, cyber café, fitness facility, and dog park.

Brand Properties of Atlanta is the developer. Access to the development will be from Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and Reps Miller Road.



## Crawford & Co. Relocates HQ to Peachtree Corners

Crawford & Company, one of the world's largest independent providers of claims management solutions, will open its new corporate headquarters in Peachtree Corners this spring. The new facility, located at 5335 Triangle Parkway, will house all corporate headquarter operations, and represents approximately 500 new jobs and \$15 million in capital investment over the next three years.

With an expansive global network that serves clients in more than 70 countries, Crawford & Company offers comprehensive and integrated claims services, business process outsourcing and consulting services for major project lines, including property and casualty claims management, worker's compensation claims, medical claims and legal administration.



The new corporate headquarters address is 5335 Triangle Parkway.

Crawford and Company has recently announced the acquisition of a majority interest in WeGoLook®, LLC, an online and mobile-enabled economy platform, that will allow the company to provide a new system for their clients in order to better handle high-volume, low-severity claims. They have also recently formed a new entity, Crawford Innovative Ventures, to invest in more strategic acquisitions and partnerships. More information is available on the company's website: [us.crawfordandcompany.com](http://us.crawfordandcompany.com).



## Your Input Needed for Arts & Culture Master Plan

The arts are an important part of our lives, whether it be visual, music, writing, designing, performing arts, dancing or other forms.

Numerous studies have shown that when cities invest in the arts, they are fueling economic growth, creating jobs, and making their communities more attractive as well as providing residents with a richer quality of life.

In response to citizen input, an arts council has been formed and is developing a master plan that will provide future direction for public and performing arts for our community.

To gather community input, the arts council held its first workshop on March 6. The second workshop is scheduled for April 17, from 5:30 p.m.–7 p.m. at Ba Bellies restaurant located at 6025 Peachtree Parkway.

The arts council encourages all citizens to plan on attending this very important planning session.

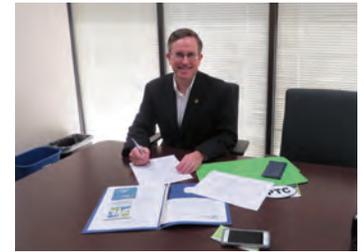


Over 40 residents attended the first arts council workshop.



Peachtree Corners residents Hilary Wilson, Lorrie Backer and staff member Jennifer Howard accept the city's 2017 recognition from Robert Farris, Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission.

## Councilmember Earns GMA Certificate



Councilmember Eric Christ, Post 2.

The Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) announced recently that Eric Christ, the city's newest councilmember, has successfully completed a training program specifically designed for newly elected municipal officials.

Christ, who was elected in a special held election in May 2016, serves Post 2. The two-day class is offered each February and March and is specifically designed for newly elected municipal officials. It provides training in ethics, municipal finance, planning and zoning, open meetings, open records, parliamentary procedures, legal, financial and ethical responsibilities of city officials.

"As the first new councilmember since 2012, I'm pleased to join my fellow elected officials in completing the Newly Elected Officials class," said Christ. "I look forward to using the knowledge gained to better serve the residents of District 2."

The GMA and the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government provide this class and other training to mayors and councilmembers to increase their knowledge and understanding of city government, especially as it relates to the role and responsibility of elected officials.

## From the Building Department

### When Do I Need a Building Permit?

Are you planning on adding an outdoor storage shed but are unsure if a building permit is needed?

The answer depends on the size of the structure. Find the answer to this question and more on the city's website. Visit [www.peachtreecornersga.gov](http://www.peachtreecornersga.gov), locate the Departments tab, then click on the link marked "Building & Permitting" in the pulldown menu; then select the "When do I need a building permit?" link in the left column.



*For questions, contact the Building Department Help Line at 470-395-7027.*

## City Earns 2nd 'Tree City USA' Recognition

During a recent State Arbor Day celebration, Gwinnett's newest city was honored for the second year at Trees Atlanta for being one of the state's newest "Tree City USA" communities.

Peachtree Corners (incorporated July 1, 2012) was among 19 cities in Georgia recognized on February 14 for its commitment to caring for and managing its public trees. Residents Lorrie Backer, Hilary Wilson and city staff member Jennifer Howard represented the city during the event.

"Our citizens who make up the city's Green Committee are to be commended for their efforts," said Mayor Mike Mason. "It is, indeed, an honor that Peachtree Corners has been recognized for a second consecutive year."



There are 135 Tree City USAs in Georgia and nationwide there are more than 3,400 Tree City USA communities. Visit [www.GaTrees.org](http://www.GaTrees.org) for more information about the Georgia Forestry Commission. And for more on the Arbor Day Foundation, visit [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

This year the City of Peachtree Corners celebrated Arbor Day on March 24 at Peachtree Elementary School during an after-school event.

# Sidewalks, Road Projects Planned for 2017

In just the 4½ years since it was incorporated, the city has made a number of intersection improvements, installed safety upgrades for vehicles and pedestrians, completed road and street resurfacing projects and added new sidewalk and pedestrian crossings. This year there are 10 projects scheduled to begin:

1. **Holcomb Bridge Road at Jimmy Carter Boulevard** — intersection improvements, Spring 2017 (Managed by City of Peachtree Corners)
2. **Winters Chapel Road** sidewalks — county line north to Spalding Drive, Summer 2017 (Managed by Gwinnett County)
3. **Technology Parkway and Jay Bird Alley** sidewalks — Spring 2017 (Managed by City of Peachtree Corners)
4. **Sidewalks** along Corners Parkway, Frank Neely Road, Technology Parkway South, Peachtree Corners Circle, Fall 2017 (Managed by City of Peachtree Corners)
5. **Jimmy Carter Boulevard and Holcomb Bridge Road** sidewalks — fill in gaps, Summer 2017 (Managed by City of Peachtree Corners)
6. **Spalding Drive sidewalks, Crooked Creek Road to Engineering Drive** — Summer 2017 (Managed by Gwinnett County)
7. **State Route 141 Southbound Widening, Holcomb Bridge to Jimmy Carter Blvd** — Summer 2017 (Managed by Georgia DOT)
8. **Holcomb Bridge Road** eastbound, right turn lane onto Peachtree Corners Circle — Summer 2017 (Managed by Georgia DOT)
9. **Peachtree Corners Circle** pedestrian improvements near Eastman Trail - Summer 2017 (Managed by City of Peachtree Corners)
10. **Pedestrian crossing improvements, Winters Chapel Road and East Jones Bridge Road** - Summer 2017 (Managed by City of Peachtree Corners)

To find more information on the transportation projects, visit [www.peachtreecornersga.gov](http://www.peachtreecornersga.gov), locate the “Department” tab, and click “Capital Improvement Projects” in the pulldown menu.



## Looking at Options for Recycling Glass



Waste Pro offers glass recycling as part of its weekly residential pickup service. However, because of the way it's collected, glass is sometimes broken and gets mixed in with other recycled items and as result, the load is contaminated.

As a way to address the problem, the city's Green Committee is looking into how the city can improve residential glass recycling so that contaminated loads don't end up in the landfill. *Please note Waste Pro will continue picking up glass in your recycling containers on Mondays as part of its service.*



Waste Pro spokesman Bob Wolk said there are several ways the city could promote glass recycling such as setting up a separate pickup route or establishing glass-only drop off locations. He said the biggest challenge with glass is keeping it clean because glass that is not separated gets contaminated with food or other materials and then cannot be recycled.

Wolk said about 56 percent of Peachtree Corners residents currently recycle with Waste Pro. The Green Committee will revisit the issue at its April meeting.



Academy graduates Jennifer Howard and Lorri Christopher (third from left) were presented with certificates. Gwinnett County Commissioner Lynette Howard, Dist. 2, (second from right) was also among the graduating class.

## Two from City Graduate Economic Development Academy

Councilmember Lorri Christopher (Post 5) and Peachtree Corners staff member Jennifer Howard were among the six Gwinnett graduates completing the Board of Georgia Academy for Economic Development’s 2016 Region 3 Multi-Day Training Program.

The Academy’s multi-day program is taught one day a month over a four-month period and includes economic and community development training. The class also offers training in business recruitment and retention, tourism project development and downtown development.

Also among the graduating class was Lynette Howard, Gwinnett Commissioner for District 2. Ms. Howard’s district includes Peachtree Corners.

## From Code Enforcement Homeowners Responsible for Exterior Maintenance, Landscaping

Spring has arrived. We can expect to see our grass and vegetation begin to grow as the weather changes.

Homeowners and business owners are responsible for providing regular maintenance of their property’s landscaping. Front, side, and rear yards should be well maintained, mowed regularly and free from trash, weeds and overgrown vegetation.



All residents and business owners are responsible for ensuring that their property is free from all litter and debris for health and sanitation reasons. Keeping your property on a routine maintenance schedule is one way to guarantee your property will not have any code violations.

## City Earns National Recognition for Geospatial Project

Just four months ago the American Council of Engineering Companies of Georgia (ACEC Georgia) announced that the City of Peachtree Corners’ public works department had won the prestigious Georgia Engineering Excellence Award for its Geospatial Asset Inventory Project.

On Feb. 15, 2017 the national ACEC federation, based in Washington, D.C., announced that the City of Peachtree Corners has earned a National Recognition Award in the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) 2017 Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) competition.

The National Recognition Award is a prestigious distinction honoring projects that demonstrate exceptional achievement in engineering. The national award will be presented April 25 at its annual awards gala to be held at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park.



A truck specially fitted with photo imaging and LIDAR equipment was used to compile a detailed asset catalog for the city.

The City of Peachtree Corners and CH2M, its partner in operations, are receiving the national award for its geospatial project which applied photo imaging and LIDAR (surveying technology that measures distance by illuminating a target with a laser light) to compile a comprehensive asset catalog for the city. The data is being used to help refine and focus the city’s management strategy. This technology has been used in the past to produce aerial views, however, no jurisdiction in Georgia has used it from the ground level.

“It is a tremendous honor for our project to receive this award against competition from so many other fantastic engineering projects across the country,” said Public Works Director Greg Ramsey. “Our mayor and city council have a tremendous desire to push new technology and innovation, and this project was the perfect example of their willingness to operate outside the standard municipal box. It is very exciting to see their efforts and the work of our team rewarded with such a distinctive honor from ACEC.”



## City Clerk Earns International Education Certificate

Peachtree Corners City Clerk, Kym Chereck recently earned the designation of International Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC), a designation granted only to those municipal clerks who complete demanding education requirements, and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, their community and state.

Lifelong learning is necessary for all in local government to keep pace with growing demands and changing needs of a community's citizens. The International Certified Municipal Clerk program is designed to enhance the job performance of the Clerk in small and large municipalities.

The certificate is granted by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and requires a municipal clerk to attend extensive education programs.

Founded in 1947, the International Institute of Municipal Clerks has 10,300 members throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries. The mission of this global non-profit corporation is to enhance the education opportunities and professional development of its diverse membership.

## Prototype Prime Attracting New Startups

Interest in Prototype Prime, the new startup incubator located in the City of Peachtree Corners, has been high since it opened just last fall.



In partnership with ATDC at Georgia Tech and supported by the City of Peachtree Corners, Prototype Prime provides not only a physical office and maker space, but access to mentors, events and resources. Startups also have access to venture capitalists and service providers to help launch their business.

Prototype Prime's facility is large enough to accommodate over 60 startups. The 12,500 square-foot area provides networking and event space, workshops, a podcast room, and a design lab with 3D printers and electronics manufacturing capabilities. In addition, the law firm Troutman Sanders is providing flexible payment terms for any Prototype Prime startup utilizing their services.

Find more information at [www.prototypeprime.com](http://www.prototypeprime.com).

## Invention Nets Entrepreneur \$2,500 from City

There are 122 professional sports teams around the country with a fan base that numbers in the millions. The problem for fans – and sports team owners – is how to connect the two for the ultimate fan experience.

It was a dilemma that intrigued Morgan Drake, an entrepreneur who also happens to reside in Peachtree Corners. Drake took the challenge and came up with a concept for an app that allows fans to interact with their favorite sports teams.



This year's Vision Award winner is Morgan Drake (center), pictured with Mayor Mike Mason (left) and Prototype Prime's Sanjay Parekh.

For his idea, Drake has been awarded a \$2,500.00 grant from the City of Peachtree Corners and three months of free space at Prototype Prime, the startup incubator located in the city that provides support and guidance for early hardware and software startups.

The grant was developed by a group of high school students last summer who interned at Peachtree Corners City Hall to learn more about local government. Named the Vision Award, it was adopted by the city council in August 2016, and provides a \$2,500 grant each year to a STEM-focused (science, technology, engineering, math) startup with a product or service that is noticeably different from the competition.

The grant money, and access to the startup incubator, will assist Drake, a Norcross High School graduate, as he rolls out his platform (Fanboard,) that will allow fans to interact with live events, new multimedia and digital games.

The check was presented to Drake at the City Council meeting on Feb. 27, 2017.



City of Peachtree Corners City Hall  
147 Technology Pkwy NW Ste 200  
Peachtree Corners GA 30092

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## Calling All U.S. Veterans

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces - or do you have a spouse or family member who has served our country? If so, the city would like to hear from you.

Plans to create a monument to honor Peachtree Corners veterans are underway. The monument will be located on the Town Green of the city's new Town Center and is expected to be complete in 2018. View the plans for the Peachtree Corners Veterans Monument at [www.ptcvets.net](http://www.ptcvets.net).

Veterans and families, we are asking that you send in your name and contact information including the branch of service and years served. Mail to Communications Director, City of Peachtree Corners, 147 Technology Parkway, Suite, 200, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092, or e-mail info to Judy Putnam, Communications Director at [jputnam@peachtreecornersga.gov](mailto:jputnam@peachtreecornersga.gov).

*Continued from page 2*

of unsafe motor vehicle driver and pedestrian behavior.

Remember, it's everyone's responsibility to ensure our neighborhoods are pedestrian safe.

Drivers, keep these important tips in mind:

1. Always yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk.
2. Be careful at intersections when making right turns on red.
3. Use caution when driving where people gather.
4. Come to a complete stop at stop signs.

Although much has been done in our 4½ years, much remains to ensure pedestrian safety for everyone. We're determined to continue improving walkability throughout the city.

*Mayor Mike Mason*



## Mayor & City Council

*Mayor, Mike Mason*

*City Council Post 1, Phil Sadd*

*City Council Post 2, Eric Christ*

*City Council Post 3, Alex Wright*

*City Council Post 4, Jeanne Aulbach*

*City Council Post 5, Lorri Christopher*

*City Council Post 6, Weare Gratwick*

## City Staff

*City Manager, Brian L. Johnson*

*City Clerk, Kymberly Chereck*

*Community Development Director, Diana Wheeler*

*City Attorney, Bill Riley*

## City Hall

City of Peachtree Corners  
147 Technology Parkway, Suite 200  
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

*City Hall: 678-691-1200*

*Municipal Court: 770-609-8816*

*Hours: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday – Friday*

*Website: [www.peachtreecornersga.gov](http://www.peachtreecornersga.gov)*

*Facebook: [www.facebook.com/peachtreecornersga](http://www.facebook.com/peachtreecornersga)*

*Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PtreeCorners](http://www.twitter.com/PtreeCorners)*

## Public Safety

**Gwinnett County Police Department**

*Non- Emergency: 770-513-5700*

*Emergency: 911*

**Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services**

*678-518-4800*