



INSIDE PEACHTREE CORNERS

2nd Quarter 2017



Improving traffic congestion a major focus for city

City launches interactive GIS Maps

Intersection improvements, new sidewalks underway

PTC ranked among the top 10 best suburbs

Plus more news inside

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Intersection Improvements at S.R. 141 and Technology Parkway

The traffic island on Technology Parkway near the intersection of S.R. 141 has been removed which now allows for an increase in the turn lane stacking capacity. This should reduce the congestion during the rush hours when this left turn movement is heaviest.

Additionally, work on the sidewalk installation along Technology Parkway and Jay Bird Alley continues and is expected to be completed this summer.

Find out which city streets are scheduled for resurfacing, other sidewalk projects and road improvement plans on the city's website, www.peachtreecornersga.gov, using an easy-to use interactive map.

Under the "Government" tab at the top of the homepage, locate "Public Works" in the list, then click on "Capital Improvement Projects" for upcoming road and sidewalk projects.



The removal of the traffic island at this busy intersection is expected to reduce congestion.

SIGN UP . . .

for e-Notifications delivered via email for the latest news on what's going on "Around the Corners." On the city's website, www.peachtreecornersga.gov, click on the link labeled "Sign up for eNotifications" at the top of the homepage.



From the Mayor's Desk Improving Traffic Congestion a Major Focus for City

Traffic congestion has been a major issue for metro Atlanta for decades, and the City of Peachtree Corners certainly has its share of congestion problems. Our geographic location is prime for a variety of reasons, and the ease of getting to and from here is one of the best things about living and working in our city.

That ease of access also draws tens of thousands of commuters every day. We cannot change the fact that so many of our neighbors to the north, west and east drive through our city to get to jobs and shopping here, nor do we want to isolate ourselves from them which could lead to adverse impacts to our economic stability.

We have major north-south corridors with State Route 141 (Peachtree Parkway), State Route 13 (Buford Highway) and Peachtree Industrial Boulevard. We also have major east-west corridors along State Route 140, (Holcomb Bridge Road), Winters Chapel Road and Spalding Drive. These are very large roadway systems that have been in place for much longer than the city has been a city, and they are managed by State and County agencies. However, the City of Peachtree Corners has made easing traffic congestion one of its highest priorities. We coordinate on a regular basis with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation (GwDOT) in managing traffic on these busy roadways.

Though we cannot make immediate changes on our own to improve those corridors due to our position, we are active



participants in ongoing projects that we know will make positive impacts for years to come. One of the first projects the city initiated was a Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) project funded in part by the Atlanta Regional Commission for the central part of the city, which incorporated State Route 141, Spalding Drive and Peachtree Corners Circle, among other roads.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is a Metropolitan Planning Organization that oversees transportation planning for the entire region, and all major projects go through their programs for planning and development. These types of LCI projects study traffic, development and other related items and generate a recommended list of projects for area improvements.

The city followed that project up with additional corridor studies along Winters Chapel Road and State Route 140. In 2016, the city kicked off the development of its first Comprehensive Transportation Plan. This document was similar to the corridor studies, but it encompassed the entire city and included traffic projections and recommended projects for the next couple of decades. This plan was adopted and now will serve

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City Launches Interactive GIS Maps

After months of designing, inputting data and testing, the city's new online Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping Service has now officially launched.

The interactive GIS Mapping Service is available on a link at the top of the city's website labeled "Maps." The interactive maps may be used in a variety of ways:

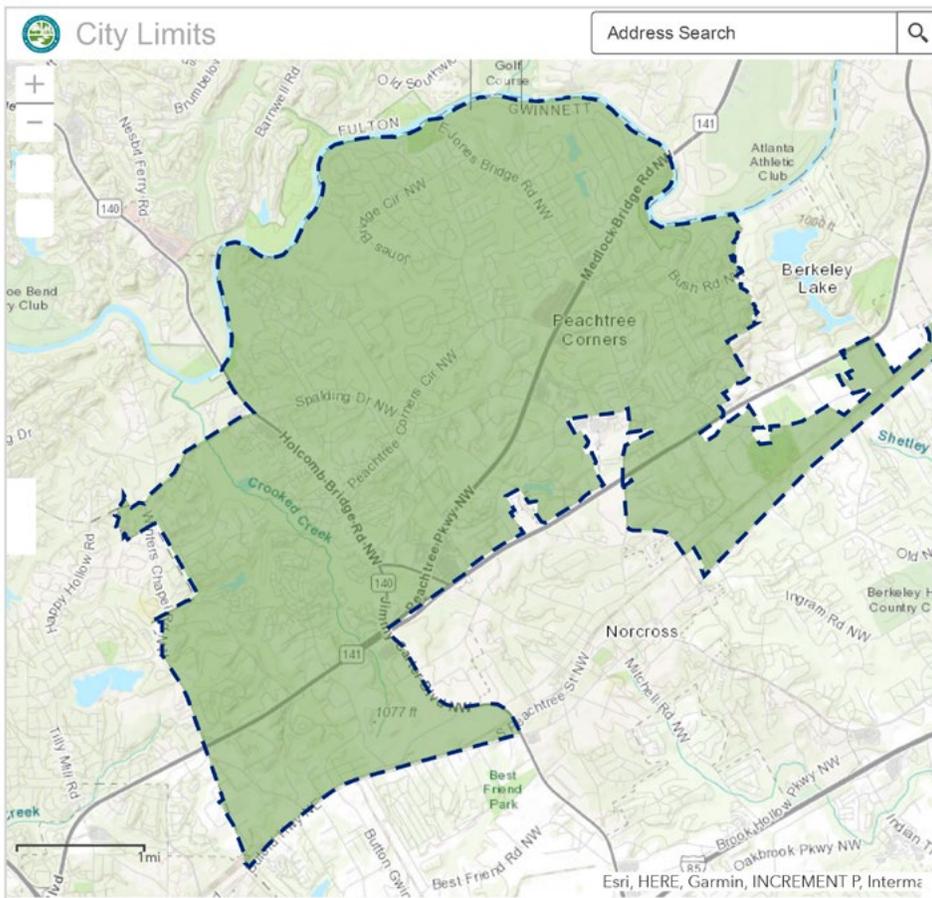
- Confirm an address is located in city limits
- Locate your voting district
- Find out if property is located in river corridor
- Locate your school district
- Property information, e.g. zoning, voting districts, etc.

"The interactive mapping system is an incredibly useful tool and educational resource for those seeking information about property in Peachtree Corners," said Brian Johnson, City Manager.

The purpose of the interactive mapping system is to make information on the city easily accessible and usable for citizens and business owners and operators.

The city encourages the public and business community to provide feedback about the new mapping system.

For questions or to provide feedback about the city's new GIS Mapping Service, contact James Nguyen via email at jnguyen@peachtreecornersga.gov or call 678-691-1200.



In Case of an Emergency Who Do I Call?

The recent storms have brought down a number of trees and a power line that completely blocked a major road in the city.

Peachtree Corners residents should dial 911 to report road hazards, wires down, etc. or any incident that requires immediate dispatch of police, fire, or an ambulance.



Also call 911 for:

- Medical Emergency
- Fire
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Suspicious Vehicles or persons
- To report incidents of auto theft, burglary, rape, arson, assault, robbery, shoplifting, disturbances, theft, domestic violence, fights, missing persons, shootings, stabbing, destruction of property, all crimes in progress or those that have just occurred, etc.
- To report road hazards, drunk drivers or reckless drivers, wires down, and tornadoes.

If you are unsure whether your situation is an emergency, call 911.

TOP 10 SUBURB

Peachtree Corners has just celebrated its 5th birthday but already has been ranked as one of the top 10 best suburbs to

live in Georgia according to an online ranking and review site.

The City of Peachtree Corners was named 8th among Georgia's 100 best suburbs in 2017.

Niche.com awarded the city an overall rating of A+ with top marks in a number of categories.

Outdoor Water-Use Restrictions Still in Place

Despite the recent rainfall in our area, outdoor water restrictions are still in place. The restrictions include limits on lawn-watering and a ban on a number of other outdoor water uses.

Allowed, but restricted, outdoor watering activities include:

- Outdoor landscape watering is only allowed two days a week, determined by odd and even-numbered addresses.
- Even-numbered addresses (those ending in 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8) and properties without numbered addresses may water on Wednesday and Saturday before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.
- Odd-numbered addresses (those ending in 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9) may water Thursday and Sunday before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.
- Irrigation of personal food gardens at any time of day
- Irrigation of new and replanted plant, seed or turf may at any time of day for 30 days after installation
- Drip irrigation or irrigation using soaker hoses at any time of day, and hand-watering with a hose with automatic cutoff or hand held container may be done at any time of day

Prohibited outdoor water uses include:

- Washing hard surfaces, such as streets and sidewalks
- Water for ornamental purposes, such as fountains
- The use of fire hydrants, except for firefighting and public safety
- Non-commercial washing of vehicles
- Non-commercial pressure washing
- Fundraising car washes

If you have any questions regarding watering restrictions, contact the Gwinnett Water Department via email at dwrconserve@gwinnettcountry.com or call 678-376-7100.

Startup Incubator Growth Right on Track

Prototype Prime, the city's new startup incubator, opened its doors in October of last year and has already made considerable progress in attracting new members.

Prototype Prime opened on Oct. 26, 2016 with two entrepreneurial teams who signed up to take advantage of the incubator's support system that includes Georgia Tech's Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC), considered one of the world's top startup incubators. Today there are eight teams that number 30 entrepreneurs working on their software and technology ideas.



Prototype Prime provides not only a physical office and design lab, but also educational series and other services to support startups. The startups have access to mentors, venture capitalists, and service providers to help them launch.

Each month Prototype Prime and ATDC offer lunch and learns and circle discussions on topics such as customer discovery, marketing, funding and manufacturing.

The 12,500 square foot incubator also offers event space that is available for rent. The space accommodates about 125. Several local non-profits, civic organizations, and the Chamber of Commerce have held meetings there and the feedback is very positive. **For more information, please contact Zoe Fox, Prototype Prime's operations manager at zoe@prototypeprime.com.**

The city is continuing to expand the number of startup teams by using several avenues:

- Outreach to colleges and high schools for internships
- 3D printer and design lab demonstrations
- Special programs for those who might be interested in becoming an entrepreneur

Having a startup incubator is a significant asset in the continued economic development of our city. Once they are successfully launched, startups often settle in the community in which they incubate bringing additional employment opportunities and business income for the city. In addition, business statistics indicate that most new companies have a high failure rate, but those that startup in a best practice incubator like Prototype Prime have the best chance at success.

City Celebrates 2nd Arbor Day

On Friday, March 24, the Peachtree Corners community joined Peachtree Elementary School students, faculty, and the city's mayor and council to celebrate its second Arbor Day event.

The festivities, held on the school grounds, included planting two new trees, a tree-pruning demonstration, and proclamation presented by Mayor Mike Mason.

The Arbor Day celebration also included the designation of the city's second Heritage Collection of trees which are recognized by size and age in a notable grove. The city's Green Committee selected a century old, 42-inch White Oak located at Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church as this year's heritage tree. A bronze plaque, presented by Councilmember Jeanne Aulbach, was placed at the base of the tree.

Arbor Day is set aside for schools, civic clubs and other organizations, as well as individuals to reflect on the importance of trees in our state and across the nation.

"Trees are an essential part of the city," said Mayor Mason. "A healthy urban forest provides benefits including air and water pollution mitigation, habitat for wildlife and storm water runoff reduction."

The city also recognized its certification by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA. More than 3,400 communities have made the commitment to becoming a Tree City USA.



Students help plant two new trees on the school campus during the annual Arbor Day event.

Annual Burn Ban Now in Place

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) imposes a total ban on outdoor burning in 54 Counties—including Gwinnett County—annually from May 1 to September 30.

The Open Burning Ban prohibits citizens and businesses from burning yard and land-clearing debris.

If you suspect someone is improperly burning please call the Gwinnett County Police Department at 770-513-5700. For additional information, please contact the Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services at 678-518-4980 or visit the Gwinnett County Fire Marshal website at www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com.

It's Not Just a Monument... It's an Educational Opportunity

The plans for the Peachtree Corners Veterans Monument are well underway. You may view the plans by visiting the monument website, www.ptcvets.net.

Among the features will be a smart phone app that will contain details about the monument's various components and may be used for self-guided tours of the monument. What a great educational tool for teachers and parents to use while visiting the monument.

The PCVMA is seeking volunteers for a fall fund-raising effort. If you are interested in helping, please contact the PCVMA by email (pcvma@comcast.net) or call Bob Ballagh at 678-618-1722.



Occupational Tax Certificates Required for Home-Based Businesses

Did you know that if you are operating a business out of your home, you are required to submit two forms with the city: the Home Based Business Declaration and a Business License Application, as well as adhere to the requirements for a home based occupation?

Please read the Qualifications and Conditions posted on the city's website to ensure you are able to comply with these guidelines. If you are unable to meet these guidelines, the business cannot be operated from your residence.

Forms are available on the city's website. For questions, please contact Business License Officer Alvenease Jackson by email at ajackson@peachtreecornersga.gov or by phone: 678-691-1208.

Councilmember Eric Christ Selected for Leadership Atlanta Class

Councilmember Eric Christ (Post 2) has been chosen to participate in Leadership Atlanta's Class of 2018 program. Christ is one of 86 community leaders selected for the prestigious nine-month program which begins in August.

The newest class represents such diverse industries as education, law, corporate, religious, nonprofit, technology, media, health care, politics and government. All have a common desire to move metro Atlanta forward by delving deeply into the region's issues. President and CEO Pat Upshaw-Monteith said the 2018 class is one of the largest, most diverse classes in the program's nearly 48-year history.

"I am delighted to have been selected for this program," said Christ. "Working together across city and county boundaries, we will explore the key challenges facing our region and identify solutions that positively affect the entire metro Atlanta area."

During the program the class will learn more about the region by participating in retreats, full-day seminars, service projects, discussion groups and community tours. The program is also designed to allow class members to critically examine themselves as leaders, challenge themselves to find ways to be more effective in their leadership roles and build relationships of trust and mutual understanding with each other.

"We are very proud that Eric has been chosen to be part of the upcoming class," said Mayor Mike Mason. "I am sure he will benefit immensely from participating in the program, and the city will benefit as well."

Leadership Atlanta is the oldest continuously running training program of its type in the country. Formed in the early 1970s, it quickly addressed the growing need for a trained cadre of leaders to move metro Atlanta towards unity and shared prosperity. Today, Leadership Atlanta continues to educate, inspire and connect local leaders. Visit Leadership Atlanta's website for additional information on the organization and its programs.



Global Medical Company Relocates to Peachtree Corners

Gwinnett County's newest city is now home to the R&D division of a world-wide medical technology and manufacturing company.

City leaders welcomed TouchPoint Medical to the community on Wednesday, March 29, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the company's new Peachtree Corners offices. Touchpoint is a 118-year-old privately held company that provides mobile computing and OEM (original equipment manufacturer) solutions and mobile medical delivery solutions for medical professionals.

The company, which has a global reach, relocated its R&D division from a 10,000 square-foot office on Oakbrook Parkway to its new 25,000 square-foot offices in the Northwoods office park.

"We are thrilled to welcome Touchpoint Medical to Peachtree Corners," said Mayor Pro Tem Weare Gratwick (Post 6) during the ribbon-cutting event. "Because our city is a regional job hub, we can offer a deep pool of workforce professionals which should serve TouchPoint well in terms of hiring well-qualified talent for its R&D division."

Councilmembers Eric Christ (Post 2) and Lorri Christopher (Post 5), were also on hand to celebrate the opening of the company's new offices.

Part of the company's array of products includes medication delivery and management systems such as automated dispensing solutions and ergonomic wall pointing solutions, which provide easy access for health care professionals in accessing information and patient data.

TouchPoint Medical is a subsidiary of Concordville, PA-based TouchPoint, Inc. In total, TouchPoint companies have over 3,600 employees in 24 countries and serve over 80,000 customers in nearly 100 countries throughout the world.

With the move to Peachtree Corners, TouchPoint Medical expects to add eight to 10 new positions to its current R&D workforce of 20 employees. The company's R&D offices are located at 3175 Northwoods Parkway, Suite A, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092.



Councilmembers Lorri Christopher (Post 5), Weare Gratwick, (Post 6), TouchPoint President and CEO, Brian M. McNeill and Councilmember Eric Christ (Post 2) celebrate the opening of Touchpoint Medical's R&D Offices

From the Building Department: Deck Building Tips



The first and most important tip when building a deck is to always get a permit. Please call the Peachtree Corners Building Department at (678) 691-1207 for any questions, and we will be glad to assist you.

Whether you are building the deck yourself or having a contractor do it, obtaining a permit comes with some great benefits to ensure a quality deck is built. We will provide a no-fee review of your deck plan for any possible structural problems. We will also provide you a deck building guide. These are some of the things we will look for when reviewing your plan.

- Footing depths and sizes: Are the footings deep enough and large enough to support the proposed deck? And will they stay put during winter ground freeze?
- Post sizes: Are the proposed post supports large enough to support the structure and the intended loads?
- Beam and Joist sizes and spans: Will the joist and beam sizes span the distance safely shown on the plans?
- House attachment: Will the methods shown on the plans to tie the deck into the house create any problems?

Part of your deck building permit fee includes a few inspections by the Building Inspector. They are a Footing, Framing, and Final inspection. Always use your inspector as a source of information. One positive way to look at the permit fee is as a consultation fee for helping you build the best deck possible.

More information on decks may be found on the Peachtree Corners website under Building & Permitting/Forms & Permits/Building Guides. This free guide is also available in the lobby of City Hall.

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as the road map for future projects for roadway improvements to address congestion, safety and operational needs.

The GDOT Plan Development Process takes 3-5 years for a project to be implemented, but even before that traffic and environmental studies are required to even initiate a project into that phase of planning and development. Making progress on traffic improvements is a slow and arduous process at times, but our staff pushes as much as possible on the initiatives we believe are important for the travelling public, both commuters and local residents.

The City is actively working on several projects with GDOT at this time which will serve as planning studies in preparation for specific projects to be programmed through GDOT's planning process. The largest of those projects underway now is the State Route 141 corridor study. This project is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2017. It includes traffic analysis of each of the major intersections along State Route 141 from State Route 140 north to the Chattahoochee River.

In addition to that project, we are working with both GDOT and GwDOT on a project to improve the intersection of State Route 140 and Spalding Drive. The plan for that project is to utilize adjacent traffic signals to improve the east-west traffic operations and reduce congestion on both roads at the same time by using creative ways of handling the left turn movements that cause all through traffic to have to stop at signals to wait for those turns to clear.

GDOT has a project called the Regional Traffic Operations Program which includes the traffic signal timing management of signals along State Route 140 and State Route 141 through Peachtree Corners. Our staff coordinates with the team of traffic specialists who are involved in this program on a daily basis, and works with them regularly to prioritize upgrades, repairs and changes to timing needs based on changes in traffic. This communication is vital to having our priorities reach those who can affect positive change to these corridors to the maximum extent possible.

The city is also making good use of the Gwinnett SPLOST program. The 2014 SPLOST has already contributed two major projects under construction now that will improve safety and traffic operations. State Route 141 southbound between Holcomb

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Bridge Road and Jimmy Carter Boulevard is being widened to accommodate an additional access lane onto State Route 141, going from one lane now to two lanes after the project is constructed. That will greatly reduce the congestion point where most of the southbound traffic wants to stay on State Route 141 versus going toward Jimmy Carter Boulevard.

The other project is an intersection improvement at State Route 140 and Jimmy Carter Boulevard, which is aimed to improve the safety of the turning movements at this location and the adjacent intersections, as well as reduce wait times and congestion for each leg of the intersection.

The 2017 SPLOST program is being drafted at this time, but the plans will include several major traffic improvement projects:

1. Widening State Route 141 between State Route 140 and Winters Chapel Road from three lanes to four lanes, greatly increasing capacity, ultimately extending to I-285, thereby coordinating with DeKalb County.
2. Widening Spalding Drive between Winters Chapel Road and State Route 140 (in addition to the intersection improvements with GDOT noted above), including improvements to the intersection of Winters Chapel Road at Spalding Drive.
3. Intersection improvements to reduce congestion and improve safety for vehicles and pedestrians at Bush Road and Medlock Bridge Road.

As you can see, improving traffic on these major arteries is a complicated process, but the city is dedicated to continually working with the state and county government agencies to enhance traffic flow in Peachtree Corners.



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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

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City Hall: 678-691-1200

Municipal Court: 770-609-8816

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

Website: www.peachtreecornersga.gov

Facebook: www.facebook.com/peachtreecornersga

Twitter: 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