



"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"



City of Hinesville Contact Information

City of Hinesville Contact Information

Administration.....	912-876-3564	Human Resources Department	912-876-3564
Business License Office.....	912-876-3564	Inspections Department.....	912-876-4147
City Clerk.....	912-876-3564	Mayor's Office.....	912-876-3564
City Council.....	912-876-3564	Municipal Court.....	912-368-8206
City Hall (Hearing Impaired).....	912-876-4229	Planning & Zoning Office.....	912-408-2030
City Hall (Main Line).....	912-876-3564	Police Department	912-368-8211
Community Development.....	912-876-3164	Public Relations Department	912-876-3564
Downtown Development Authority.....	912-877-4332	Public Works Department.....	912-876-8216
Finance Department	912-876-3564	Water Department	912-876-3564
Fire Department.....	912-876-4143		

Other Frequently Contacted Agencies

Animal Control	912-876-9191	Liberty Transit.....	912-877-1472
Birth Certificates/Marriage License/Gun Permit...	912-876-3635	Passports	912-876-3625
Board of Education	912-876-2161	Public Health Department	912-876-2173
Driver's License	912-370-2604	Social Security Administration (Savannah).....	800-772-1213
Emergency Management Agency	912-368-2201	Soil Testing (County Extension Service)	912-876-2133
Georgia Department of Labor	912-370-2595	Vehicle Registration & Car Tags.....	912-876-3389
Homeless Prevention Program	912-876-6573	Voter's Registration	912-876-3310
Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission	912-408-2030		

Report to the Citizens of Hinesville

The City of Hinesville continuously strives to provide citizens with information about their city. As part of that effort, we have proudly published our Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) or “Citizens Report” since Fiscal Year 2006. Throughout this report, you will find information about the elected officials, services, and financial condition of your city.

The financial information contained within this report is extracted from the City’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). In order to provide a comprehensive condensed overview, financial statements are presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Further, city funds, which are presented within the Financial Condition and Reporting section, disclose the appropriate fund in which the detail was derived. Component units are not presented in this report.

For the past eighteen years the City’s ACFR was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of only one year. We believe that our current ACFR continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program’s requirements and we have submitted it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

You may obtain a copy of the ACFR on our website at www.cityofhinesville.org or by contacting the Finance Department at (912) 876-3564.



Government Finance Officers Association

Award for
Outstanding
Achievement in
Popular Annual
Financial Reporting

Presented to

**City of Hinesville
Georgia**

For its Annual Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended

October 31, 2023

Christopher P. Morill

Executive Director/CEO

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the City of Hinesville for its Citizens Report for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2023. The award is a prestigious national honor recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports. The published reports must reflect the program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.

Letter From The Mayor

Dear Friends of Hinesville,

It is my pleasure to present the Annual Citizens Report to you. I am proud to report that, once again, the City of Hinesville is in sound fiscal shape.

As Mayor, and someone who's called Hinesville home my entire life, I'm honored to serve the city that has helped shape the person I am today. This community is more than just where I live, it's where my story began. Now, I have the privilege and responsibility of helping guide our city forward into a future filled with promise.

Our commitment to responsible growth and sound financial stewardship continues to pay off. As you can see in the financial section of this publication, the City of Hinesville millage rate has decreased by 0.40 mills in the past five fiscal years; making the current millage rate lower than 1985. In 2024 alone, we welcomed 227 new businesses and issued over 200 new construction permits, showing just how strong our local economy is.

Growth is about more than statistics; it's about the lives we impact along the way. My focus remains on ensuring that our progress lifts up every resident, strengthens our neighborhoods, and stays true to the spirit of Hinesville. Whether it's through infrastructure improvements, business development, or community programs, everything we do is centered on building a better quality of life for all.

As we move forward, I remain committed to leading with transparency, encouraging collaboration, and embracing innovation. I invite each of you to stay engaged, share your voice, and be part of the progress. Our success as a city depends on all of us working together with a shared vision for what Hinesville can become.

You'll often hear me say, "Hinesville is open for business." That's not just a message to entrepreneurs, it's a mindset. It reflects our readiness to welcome opportunity, invest in our people, and shape a thriving future for generations to come.

Thank you for continuing to place your trust in me. I'm proud to serve as your Mayor, and I'm even more proud of what we're building together.

Sincerely,



Karl A. Riles
Mayor



Message from the City Manager

Dear Residents and Visitors,

It is with immense pride that I present to you the 19th Popular Annual Financial Report, more commonly referred to as the PAFR. Each year, our Finance Department submits this document to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). I am pleased to report that, for the 18th consecutive year, the City of Hinesville PAFR received the GFOA Popular Annual Financial Report Award for the fiscal year ending on October 31, 2023. This award is presented to those governments that produce high-quality reports designed to provide the general public with readily accessible, easy-to-read information relative to the governmental entity's financial position.

The information contained in this report has been taken from the 2024 City's Annual Financial Report (ACFR) and serves as a summary of the financial activities and operating results reported. Over the years, our PAFR has transformed into so much more than a financial report. Not only does it give citizens insight into the City's financial health, it highlights how our City departments serve you at the highest levels of professionalism and efficiency – something that we pride ourselves on each and every day.

In fiscal year 2023, the City of Hinesville experienced continued financial growth, fueled by healthy economic development. New businesses are choosing Hinesville, bringing with them job opportunities, expanded services, and a stronger local economy. These advancements speak to the strength of our community and the active participation of our residents.

But numbers only tell part of the story. At the heart of our success is the unwavering support of the people who call Hinesville home. Your engagement and commitment to the future of our city continue to shape a vibrant and forward-looking community.

I also want to take a moment to thank our dedicated staff. Their professionalism and daily commitment to exemplary service are the backbone of everything we accomplish. It's a true honor to work alongside them in service to Hinesville.

As your City Manager, I remain devoted to ensuring our city continues to thrive, both financially and socially. I look forward to the road ahead as we build on our progress and strive for an even brighter future, together.

Best regards,



Kenneth Howard
Hinesville City Manager



City Council



DIANA REID, DISTRICT 1
district1@cityofhinesville.org

From 2015-2025 Still alive because GOD has continually blessed me to serve District#1, as I pledged from day one. May GOD always get the GLORY is my story! If you need me, call me, text or email me. 912-432-9278 dianareid1@yahoo.com.

JASON FLOYD, DISTRICT 2
district2@cityofhinesville.org

I would like to thank the citizens of Hinesville for their continued support of the City. The City is proud of the services they provide citizens and I hope you enjoy the Annual Citizens Report, so you can see how your tax dollars are put to work. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as a councilmember.



**VICKY NELSON, DISTRICT 3,
MAYOR PRO TEM**
district3@cityofhinesville.org

I'm grateful for the opportunity to not only serve the citizens of District 3, but all of Hinesville. I let the voices of my constituents drive me, and I feel confident that my work thus far has been a reflection of that. Together, we have accomplished a lot in the various neighborhoods throughout the district and I am honored to represent our district and to be a member of the City's leadership team. Collectively, we will continue to work daily to make Hinesville a better place for everyone.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support. "A gem is not polished without rubbing nor a person perfect without trials."



City Council



DEXTER NEWBY, DISTRICT 4

district4@cityofhinesville.org

I am genuinely grateful for the overwhelming support and dedication of the constituents of District 4. Your unwavering faith in me fuels my determination to work tirelessly on your behalf. Together, we will continue to make positive changes and advancements to propel our district and city forward. Thank you.

JOSE ORTIZ JR, DISTRICT 5

district5@cityofhinesville.org

As the first Hispanic elected to Hinesville City Council, I'm honored to serve with integrity, trust, and above all—loyalty. Loyalty is the highest principle I stand on, both to the people who believed in me and to the city we love. I want everything to happen for our kids today that we dreamed of when I was growing up. We want them to return home with the skills they've learned—to be productive citizens and proud contributors to our community. To achieve this, we must have strong partnerships across the county. Together, we can build a safe, welcoming city with strong schools, thriving businesses, and opportunity for all. We are heading in the right direction with this council. I'm proud to be your voice to the city — Tu voz a la ciudad.”



—
“Juntos podemos construir un Hinesville más seguro, unido y lleno de oportunidades para nuestras familias”



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Hinesville City Council meetings take place on the first and third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Council Chambers, located in City Hall at 115 E. M. L. King, Jr. Dr. Meetings are livestreamed to the City's Facebook account - @HinesvilleGA.

Hinesville Police Department

Did you know most vehicle break-ins happen because the car was left **unlocked**? It's true—and here in Hinesville, we're asking for your help to stop these crimes before they start.

Every year, local residents lose valuables, money, and peace of mind to a crime that's often totally preventable. At the Hinesville Police Department, we see it time and time again: someone leaves their car unlocked, a thief checks the door, and in just a few seconds—items are gone.

Don't Give Thieves an Easy Target

Whether you're parked at home, work, or the store—remove your valuables and lock your doors. Even a quick stop can give someone just enough time to take advantage. They open unlocked doors, grab what they can, and disappear in seconds. If your vehicle is unlocked, it becomes an easy target.

Never Leave a Gun in Your Car

One of the biggest dangers? Firearms left in unlocked vehicles.

Stolen guns are often used in other crimes, and sadly, many of the weapons our officers recover on the streets were taken from cars that weren't locked.

If you're a responsible gun owner, please make sure you're also a **safe** one. Never leave a firearm in your car—especially if it's unlocked.



Simple Steps That Make a Big Difference

Here's what you can do today to protect your vehicle:

- ✓ Always lock your doors and roll up windows
- ✓ Take valuables with you—or hide them out of sight before parking
- ✓ Park in well-lit areas whenever possible
- ✓ Never leave a spare key or key fob inside
- ✓ Use a car alarm or security system if you have one

We're All in This Together

Keeping Hinesville safe is a team effort—and it starts with each of us doing our part. Every time you lock your car or take valuables inside, you're helping prevent crime in our neighborhoods.

Let's Send a Message Loud and Clear:

In Hinesville, we lock it—because we won't lose it.

Stay safe and thank you for helping protect our community.

Inspections Department

Pool Installation Safety

The Inspections Department seeks to keep all citizens of Hinesville safe during and after building projects – pools included! If you are considering a pool installation, please read this article carefully to ensure proper permitting and inspections for maximum safety!

Safety First In:



Proper Permits and Plan Review

Keeping you safe from the very beginning. If permits are properly pulled and a thorough Plan Review is done, many issues with the construction and use could be avoided.

Zoning

Keeping everyone safe, both you and your neighbors. The exterior walls of the pool structure must not be closer than 10 feet from any side property line and no closer than 5 feet from the rear property line. While there is no regulation between the pool and other structures, it is strongly recommended that the pool be an adequate distance to discourage platform diving from these other structures.

Barriers

Keeping children safe from unattended access. More children ages 1-4 die from drowning than any other cause. A permanent barrier or fence is required to be in place. If any section of the exterior wall is used as a barrier, any door with direct access to the pool area

must be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door or screen is opened.

Pool Types

Above Ground – if the pool is over 48 inches in height, a set of steps that can be gated, or removed may be used as a barrier

In-Ground – a fence of 48 inches in height must in place, please see our official brochure for more details on the types of fences that are allowed.

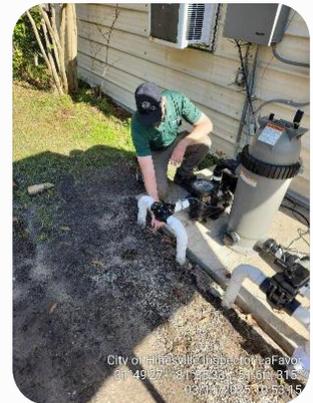
Electrical Requirements

Keeping everyone safe from electrocution. Proper electrical connections must be made to follow code, and a bonding wire is required to ensure that anyone using the pool is not electrocuted.

Plumbing Requirements – Keep our City water supply safe by ensuring that all drainage empties into the sanitary sewer and away from storm water drainage systems.

Inspections – Keeping everyone safe in and around the pool area. Proper inspections must be performed to ensure that the pool is installed in accordance with the approved plans by which the permit was granted.

Our entire team – Permit Technicians, Plans Examiners, and Inspectors, look forward to working with you on your pool project!



To see the full brochure, please scan this QR Code:



Community Development Department



In April 2024, the City of Hinesville Community Development Department proudly launched its inaugural Dress for Success event—an inspiring initiative designed to equip young women ages 12–18 with the tools, confidence, and connections needed to thrive personally and professionally.

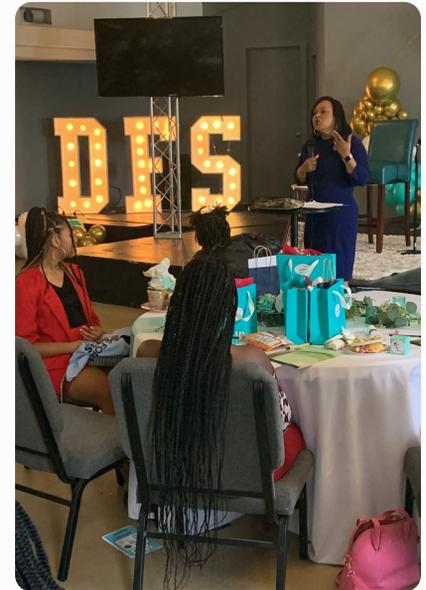
As a complement to the City’s established Tied to Success program, Dress for Success focuses on empowering young ladies to embrace their full potential, explore new possibilities, and engage with accomplished women leaders from a variety of fields. Through a series of interactive workshops, inspiring conversations, and mentorship opportunities, participants were encouraged to build self-confidence, develop leadership skills, and envision a successful future.

This year’s event welcomed more than 70 young women from across the community, each ready

to take the next step in their personal growth journey. The program emphasized professional development, financial literacy, and holistic well-being, all core components of the City’s mission to invest in the next generation.

The City of Hinesville remains committed to supporting the development of future leaders and celebrating the strength and determination of its young residents.

Dress for Success stands as a testament to that commitment—empowering young women today to lead boldly tomorrow.



Community Development Department

The City of Hinesville Community Development Department continued its commitment to youth empowerment with the 2024 Tied to Success event—an impactful experience for young men ages 12–18 that focuses on building a strong internal foundation for lasting external success.

Rooted in the belief that true achievement begins with self-growth, this year's theme, *ELEVATE*, encouraged participants to rise above limitations and strive for personal excellence in every area of life. Through dynamic workshops, honest conversations, and real-life testimonies, Tied to Success challenged young men to:

- Elevate their friend groups by surrounding themselves with positive, goal-oriented peers
- Elevate their health through self-care and mindful habits
- Elevate their finances by learning the basics of money management and planning for the future
- Elevate their self-image by building confidence and self-respect
- Elevate their thinking by embracing a growth mindset and aiming higher

Local men from a range of backgrounds and professions shared their personal journeys of overcoming adversity. From navigating mental health struggles and financial hardships to finding identity and purpose, speakers gave participants a glimpse into the real challenges and triumphs that shape manhood.

Tied to Success continues to grow in its impact and reach. The City of Hinesville is proud to invest in programs that uplift and guide the next generation of leaders, starting from the inside out.



Georgia's House Bill 581:

A Win for Homeowners

Good news for Georgia homeowners! Thanks to House Bill 581, also known as the Save the Homes Act, many residents will soon see real relief on their property taxes—starting in 2025. This new law is designed to help protect homeowners from rising property values that can lead to sharp tax increases. Here's what it means for you.

What Is House Bill 581?

House Bill 581 introduces a new property tax exemption that helps keep your home's taxable value from jumping too quickly year after year. It also gives local communities an optional tool—a special 1% sales tax—to help reduce property taxes further.

How Does It Help Homeowners?

1. Limits Big Increases in Taxable Value

If you own and live in your home (called a "homestead"), this bill caps how much the taxable value of your home can increase each year.

Even if the real estate market spikes, your taxes won't shoot up with it. The most your home's taxable value can increase is by the rate of inflation—not the full market value.

2. Keeps Property Taxes Predictable

With this protection in place, you can plan ahead. No more surprise tax bills just because your home value went up.

3. You Still Keep Your Other Exemptions

This new exemption adds on to any local homestead exemptions you already receive. You'll automatically get the one that gives you the most savings.

HOUSE BILL 581



What About the FLOST Sales Tax?

To help cover the cost of lower property taxes, counties can introduce a referendum for Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST)—a 1% local sales tax. The FLOST would have to be approved by voters.

Why is this a good thing?

Because everyone who shops in your community—including tourists and visitors—will help fund property tax relief. FLOST will benefit **all** property owners, not just homesteads.

FLOST: Small Change. Big Relief.

What is FLOST?

FLOST stands for Floating Local Option Sales Tax—a one-cent sales tax used only to lower property taxes for property owners.

How It Works:

Every time you make a purchase locally, just one penny per dollar goes toward reducing the millage rate. That means lower property tax bills for property owners. It's that simple.

Why It Matters:

- **Property owners save money.** FLOST is designed specifically to ease the tax burden on property owners.
- **The more people shop, the more relief you get.** Whether it's your neighbors or out-of-town visitors spending money here, everyone helps contribute to lowering your property tax bill.
- **It's more fair.** FLOST ensures everyone who shops in the county contributes, helping reduce property tax bills for all property owners.

The Bottom Line:

That extra penny paid at the register adds up to **REAL** savings when property tax bills come out.



Financial Review - Fiscal Year 2024

The Financial Review section is designed to provide information on the financial health and stability of the City. This information should provide an increased level of understanding of how available resources are utilized to provide services. The following charts summarize the City's largest sources of revenues ("Where the Money Comes From") and expenses ("Where the Money Went").

Where the Money Came From...

	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2024
Property Taxes.....	\$ 9,526,606	\$ 11,180,274
Sales Taxes.....	6,253,077	6,723,366
Franchise Taxes.....	1,758,271	2,201,605
Insurance Premium Tax.....	3,094,726	3,328,683
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes.....	436,287	410,537
Hotel/Motel Tax.....	255,438	609,087
Other General Revenue.....	40,731	51,854
Total General Revenue.....	21,365,136	24,505,406
Charges for Services.....	25,523,877	25,191,005
Operating Grants.....	5,082,421	2,090,432
Capital Grants and Contributions.....	8,195,723	9,225,124
Total Program Revenues	38,802,021	36,506,561
Other Income.....	218,576	238,668
Investment Earnings.....	571,411	740,212
Total Other Income and Transfers	789,987	978,880
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 60,957,144	\$ 61,990,847

Where the Money Went...

	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2024
General Government.....	\$ 4,329,611	\$ 4,221,272
Judicial.....	341,594	393,380
Public Safety.....	13,648,779	16,684,987
Public Works.....	4,168,207	3,644,156
Housing and Development.....	1,704,549	2,354,223
Health and Welfare.....	826,217	932,248
Culture and Recreation.....	1,093,749	1,275,091
Interest and Fiscal Charges.....	184,000	163,911
Total Governmental Activities....	26,296,706	29,669,268
Water and Sewer.....	12,482,387	13,325,853
Sanitation.....	3,973,475	4,102,134
Stormwater Utility.....	1,645,631	1,783,653
Transit.....	1,166,348	1,366,886
Fort Stewart IGSA's.....	3,239,513	3,323,567
Total Business-type Activities...	22,507,354	23,902,093
TOTAL EXPENSES	48,804,060	53,571,361
Change in Net Position	12,153,084	8,419,486
Net Position-Beginning	121,190,270	133,343,354
Net Position - Ending	\$ 133,343,354	\$ 141,762,840

For more detailed financial information, you can view the City's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report at www.cityofhinesville.org or by contacting the Finance Department at 912-876-3564.

Financial Review - Fiscal Year 2024

The total net position of the City are categorized. The largest portion of net position (\$93,441,829 or 66%) is invested in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, infrastructure, machinery and equipment) less any related outstanding debt used to acquire these assets. An additional portion of the City's net position (\$15,887,106 or 11%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. All of the City's restricted net assets are restricted for the repayment of the water and sewer fund revenue bond debt. The remaining portion of the City's net assets (\$32,433,905 or 23%) is unrestricted net position and may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.



Definitions of Key Terms

General Revenue

All revenue that is not required to be reported as program revenue. All taxes, even those that are levied for specific purpose, are general revenues and should be reported by type of tax.

Program Revenue

Revenue derived directly from the program itself or from parties outside the City's taxpayers or citizenry, as a whole. Program revenues reduce the net cost of the function to be financed from the City's general revenues.

Business-Type Activities

One of two classes of activities reported in the government-wide financial

statements. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. These activities are normally reported in enterprise funds. The City currently has three business-type funds.

Governmental Activities

Activities generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

Net Position

Refers to the difference between assets and deferred outflows and deferred inflows of the City as a whole. Net positions may be shown in the following three major categories:

Net Investment in Capital Assets

The component of net assets that consists of capital assets less both the accumulated depreciation and the outstanding balance of debt attributable to the acquisition of those assets.

Net Position Restricted

The component of net position that consists of assets with constraints placed on their use by either external parties or through enabling legislation.

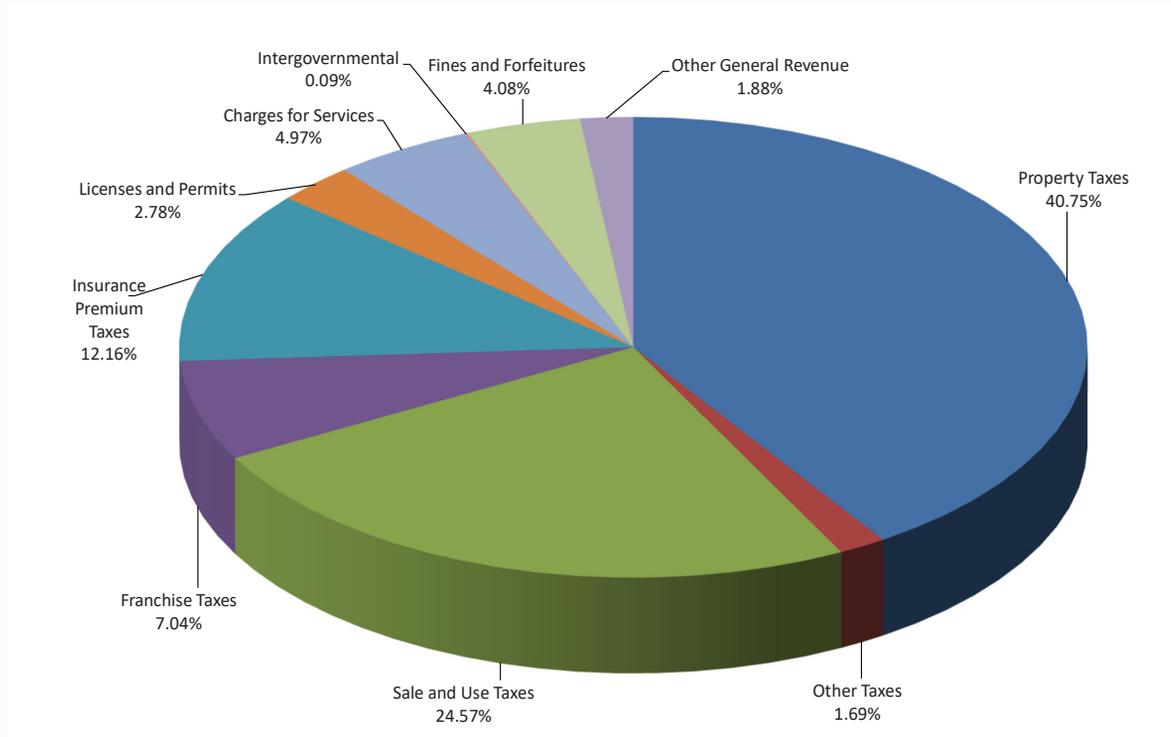
Net Positions Unrestricted

The remaining balance of net assets not reports under the other two categories of net positions.

Financial Review – Fiscal Year 2024

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2024, the City of Hinesville received revenues for the General Fund totaling slightly over \$27 million. The four (4) largest sources of revenues are Property Taxes, Sales Taxes, Insurance Premium Taxes and Franchise Taxes. This section provides a brief description of the City's revenue sources by

General Fund Fiscal Year 2024 Revenues



● **Property Taxes – 40.75%**

Taxes collected from property owners based upon an assessed valuation and tax rate. The dollar amount received is to be used to fund governmental services and debt service on voter approved general obligation bonds.

● **Sales and Use Taxes – 24.57%**

Taxes imposed on the purchase, sale, rental, storage use or consumption of tangible personal property and related services and are subject to voter approval. Specifically represents the City's portion of the one (1) percent sales and use tax collected.

● **Franchise Taxes – 7.04%**

Taxes imposed on corporations or businesses for using public property on private purposes.

● **Insurance Premium Taxes – 12.16%**

Taxes levied based on the gross direct premiums collected by all insurance companies doing business in the City.

● **Other Taxes – 1.69%**

Taxes not classified under any other taxes.

● **Licenses and Permits – 2.78%**

Fees collected for the issuance of licenses and permits by the City. One of the large components included in this is business licenses.

● **Charges for Services - 4.97%**

Fees collected for general government uses.

● **Intergovernmental – 0.09%**

Revenue from other governments in the form of operating grants, shared revenues, etc.

● **Fines, Forfeitures and Fees – 4.08%**

Revenue derived from fines and penalties imposed for the commission of statutory offenses, violation of lawful administrative rules and regulations, for the neglect of official duty, etc.

● **Other General Revenue – 1.88%**

Other revenue received from sale of surplus, investments or not otherwise classified.

Financial Review – Fiscal Year 2024



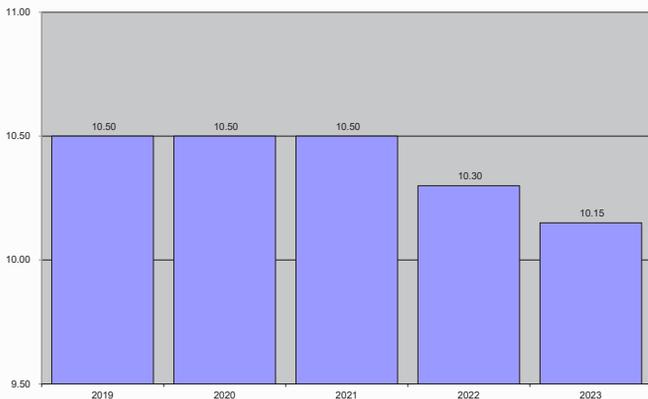
Property Tax Breakdown

The illustration on the left depicts how each one dollar of property tax revenue collected is distributed to the various taxing entities. The City of Hinesville receives \$0.20 of every \$1.00 collected from taxpayers in the City.

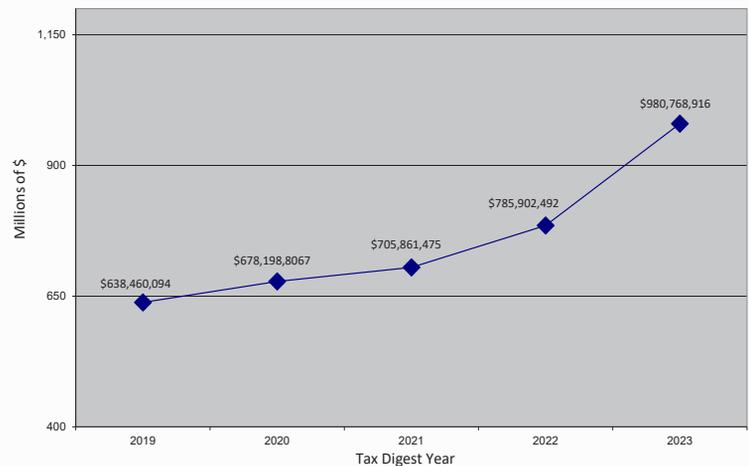
Property Taxes

* Property tax is the City’s single largest source of revenue. The City’s millage rate decreased in fiscal year 2017 from 11.51 mills to 11.00 mills. It decreased in fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020 to 10.75 mills, 10.70 mills and 10.50 mills, respectively. It remained at 10.50 mills in fiscal years 2021 and 2022. In fiscal year 2023, the millage rate decreased to 10.30 mills and decreased to 10.15 mills in fiscal year 2024.

Five Year Millage Rate History



Five Year Gross Digest History



Hinesville Downtown Development Authority

From 3 to 7 p.m. on Thursdays there is a little something extra happening in downtown Hinesville – it’s called the Hinesville Farmers and Maker Market. On average, there are 25 to 30 vendors each week selling items that are homegrown or handmade. The Market began in 2010. The Hinesville Downtown Development Authority manages the Market and tries to offer a variety of produce, baked good, food trucks, healthy foods, plants and handmade crafts.

“We are very proud that there are a handful of businesses who started at the Market, who now have brick and locations,” said Michelle Ricketson, HDDA executive director.

Another healthy spot in down is the orchard at Bryant Commons park. Each Arbor Day, a handful of trees are added to the plot of land just beyond Cisco’s Dog Park. Although some of the trees are small, several are producing for wildlife and park patrons to enjoy. The more than two dozen trees in the orchard, range from pears, plums, fig, olive, to a variety of citrus.

People can also utilize paved areas and grass trails as



walking routes in the downtown. A map on the HDDA website (HinesvilleDowntown.com), shows distances of 1-mile, 2-miles, 5-kilometers, and 10-kilometers. These routes can be used for any level of fitness activity. In addition to the website, copies of the map can be found in the lobby of City and in the restrooms at Bryant Commons.



Public Works: Mosquito Control

Our mosquito Control Pesticide discharge plan uses a multipronged approach of Integrated Pest Management. It allows us the ability to effectively target species that can vector arboviruses such as West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), (LAC) Lacrosse Encephalitis and Zika if necessary. The state of Georgia has over 60 different species of mosquitoes. We try to focus on the most dangerous species that can get people sick. We trap with assistance from the Georgia Department of Public Health Vector Surveillance Coordinator if necessary. We use CDC light traps to lure female mosquitoes using CO₂ (dry ice). These traps can hold from 1 to several thousand species. If the traps are full they will be collected for identification with a dissecting microscope. If they are on our target list they will be sent on ice to UGA for testing. Gravid traps

(Hay infusion with well water) are also used to catch mosquitoes that have had a blood meal. If they test positive, then Adulticide treatment with a ULV spray truck application is the method used. This method is effective and our last line of defense against flying adult mosquitoes the city of Hinesville needs the help of all its residents to suppress mosquitoes in its city limits. This area is surrounded by wetlands and the Salt Marsh; these mosquitoes do not need any help with breeding sites.

Practice tip and toss methods especially when it comes to removing standing water from your yard i.e. kiddie pools, flower pots, old tires anything that can hold water.

Mosquitoes are drawn to CO₂ and heat, so wearing dark colored clothes will make you more likely to being bitten.

Use insect repellent with an active ingredient of DEET.



Hinesville Fire Department

The Hinesville Fire Department proudly celebrated its inaugural Junior Fire Marshal Academy graduation on June 15, 2024. This event marks a significant milestone in the department's commitment to enhancing public safety education within the community. Under the guidance of Deputy Fire Marshal and Public Safety Educator Marta Cuevas, the Junior Academy has engaged local youth, fostering early awareness and education regarding fire safety.

The Junior Fire Marshal Academy aims to educate children between the ages of 8 and 12 about essential fire safety practices. A total of nine participants, affectionately known as the "Hotshots," were selected on a first-come basis from an extensive pool of applicants. The initiative not only helps in nurturing the next generation of community leaders but also emphasizes the importance of safety awareness from a young age.

Throughout the academy, students engaged in a dynamic and hands-on learning experience. Key activities included a fire station tour, fire gear and apparatus insight, water training, 911 Center tour. The capstone to the week, CPR training, equipped the "Hotshots" with life-saving skills that extend beyond fire safety.

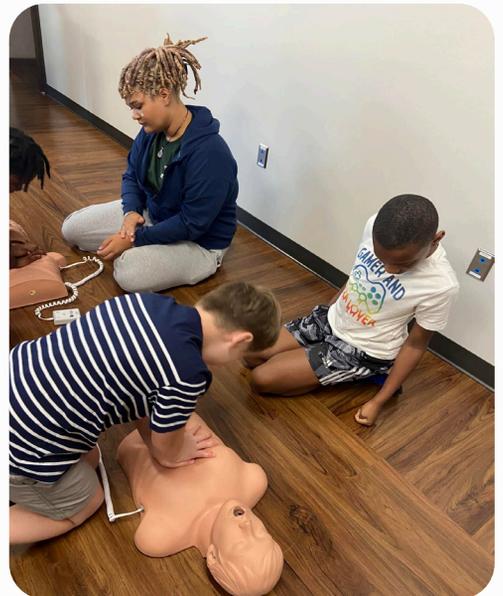
The success of the Junior Fire Marshal Academy was further bolstered by the generous support



of local businesses, including Chick-fil-A, Little Caesars, and McDonald's, who provided lunches throughout the week. This partnership highlights the community's commitment to investing in the education and safety of its youth.

The successful graduation of the first Junior Fire Marshal Academy not only reflects the hard work and dedication of the Hinesville Fire Department and its partners but also establishes a foundation for future educational initiatives aimed at enhancing public safety awareness among the next generation. By instilling a sense of responsibility and understanding of fire safety, we are investing in a safer future for our community.

The Hinesville Fire Department is excited to announce that applications for the 2025 Junior Fire Marshal Academy will open in early May. Keep a look out on the Hinesville Fire Department Facebook page!



Business License

Need A Permit? We're Here to Help!

Navigating permit requirements can seem like a lot at first, but with the right support, it becomes a clear and simple process. The City of Hinesville's Business License Department is here to guide you through the process and make it as smooth as possible.

Whether you're hosting a yard sale, selling products door-to-door, planning a parade, or organizing a community car wash, we've got you covered. Our Tax & License Coordinator at City Hall is ready to answer your questions and help you understand what permits you may need.

Securing the proper permit is more than just following the law—it's a critical step in protecting our community from fraud, ensuring public safety, and helping you stay compliant with important local and state regulations.

Types of Permits We Offer:

1. Transient Merchant Permit

If you're temporarily selling goods, food, or services in Hinesville, such as through a pop-up shop or stand, you'll need this permit.

2. Peddler's Permit

This is for anyone selling goods or services door-to-door or in various spots around the city without a permanent storefront.

3. Yard Sale Permit

Planning a yard sale? You can host up to three per year, each lasting no more than two consecutive days.

4. Parade & Public Assembly Permit

Hosting a parade, march, demonstration, or public event? You'll need a permit approved by the Hinesville Chief of Police. Apply at least 20 days in advance.



5. Charitable/Religious Solicitation Permit

Organizations collecting donations for charitable or religious causes can apply for this free permit. Be sure to include your tax-exempt paperwork or documentation.

6. Car Wash Permit

Charity car washes must be held on property owned or leased by the charitable organization.

Fees & Forms

Permit and license fees vary depending on your activity and location. For detailed information and downloadable forms, visit: www.cityofhinesville.org > **Departments** > **Business License Office** > **Business License Forms**

Have questions? Visit us at City Hall or call to speak with our Tax & License Coordinator. We're here to support you and your business every step of the way. Let's grow together, the right way!

Flood Protection

In 2013, the City of Hinesville voluntarily began participating in a FEMA program administered by the Insurance Services Office to improve floodplain management services that results in savings to its residents. Since entering the program, over \$158,000 of savings has been realized by property owners in Hinesville through CRS Premium Discounts on their Flood Hazard Insurance Premiums.

Flooding can happen to you... Are you prepared?

Many people don't consider the likelihood of flooding in our City but it can happen! Several sources of flooding exist in our City, and our goal at the City of Hinesville is to ensure you are safe from the potential damages of flooding. Even if your property is not in a special flood hazard area, take a look at these checklists to make sure you're safe.

Build Responsibly

- Get a permit from the Hinesville Department of Inspections before you build to ensure your structure is up to code and safe from flooding. For example, all projects should be at least 10 feet from the property line so you don't alter the drainage between homes.
- Improvement requirements and procedures as well as information on enforcement can be found online at www.cityofhinesville.org in City of Hinesville Code of Ordinances, Part II, Sec. 5-276 or by contacting the Hinesville Department of Inspections.
- The NFIP requires that if the cost of reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must be brought up to the same standards (e.g. a residence damaged so that the cost of repairs equals or exceeds 50% of the building's value before it was damaged must be elevated above the base flood elevation).

Protect Your Property from Flooding

- Regrade your lot
- Build a small floodwall or earthen berm
- Make your walls waterproof
- Place watertight closures over the doorways
- Raise the house above flood levels
- Talk to a plumber about overhead sewers or a backup valve for deeper sewer backup flooding

Know Your Local Flood Hazard

- Check your flood hazard by viewing flood maps and flood protection references in the Hinesville Department of Inspections at (912) 876-4147. Information regarding Floodway, approximate depth of flooding and possible presence of wetlands can be provided if applicable to the site.
- If you are in a Special Flood Hazard Area or have had flooding issues, drainage, or sewer backup problems or would like information about local flood hazard maps and permit requirements, visit or call the Hinesville Department of Inspections at (912) 876-4147.
- Request for the Hinesville Public Works Department to visit your property free of charge to review flood problems and explain ways to stop flooding or prevent flood damage. Call Public Works at (912) 876-8216.

Protect the Environment

- Do not litter and make sure you properly dispose pollutants so they will not be sent down the storm drains.
- Report damaged storm drain covers to Hinesville Public Works. This will help keep our waterways clean.
- For more tips on how to protect our natural floodplains, contact Keep Liberty County Beautiful at (912) 880-4888 or email klcb@coastalnow.net

Flood Protection



Protect Yourself from Flooding

The City of Hinesville works closely with the Liberty County Emergency Management Agency to share information about flood warnings as well as keep our community safe during emergency situations. Notification is available via text, phone, and email.

- Sign-up for emergency alert information from the City of Hinesville at www.cityofhinesville.org (Click on the “Notify Me Signup” button).
- Visit www.libertycountyga.com/alertliberty to complete the Citizen Alert Notification Signup from Liberty County EMA.
- Have a plan in place for your family to gather when an evacuation order is issued

Flood Safety

Before the flood...

- Purchase flood insurance for yourself and encourage renters to buy flood insurance for their content. Take advantage of a low-cost Preferred Risk Policy.
- List all your personal property
- Keep your policy and your list of personal property in a safe place
- Learn the safest route from your home or place of business to a high, safe ground

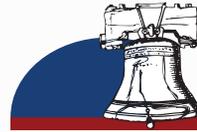
If the flood comes...

- Keep a battery-operated radio tuned to a local station and follow all instructions
- Turn off all utilities at the main switch, if time permits
- Move valuable contents to a higher level, if time permits
- Avoid already flooded areas. Do not attempt to cross any stretch of flood waters on foot if the water is above your knees

- Do not drive where water is over the roads. In floods, cars can become coffins!
- If by mistake you find yourself driving in water and the car stalls, get out of the car and climb to high ground immediately
- If you are caught in the house, move to the second floor and/or, if necessary, the roof. Wait for help; do not try to swim to safety

After the flood...

- Call your insurance agent or broker
- Have your insurance policy and your list of possessions to simplify the adjuster’s work
- Be sure that the structure is not in danger of collapsing before you enter
- Open windows and doors to let air circulate
- Do not strike a match or use a flame when you enter the structure



HINESVILLE

GEORGIA

"Home for a day or a lifetime"

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the highest quality of life, nurture a strong business community, and maintain efficient government for the residents of Hinesville.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be the coastal "southern living" community of choice in Georgia for a day or a lifetime. We are committed to serving our residents with superior organization that demonstrates excellence, responsiveness and efficiency.



Find us Online!

Website: www.cityofhinesville.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/hinesvillega

or search City of Hinesville

Twitter: @HinesvilleGA