

HINESVILLE

GEORGIA



"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF HINESVILLE FISCAL YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2019

**GOVERNMENT
STRUCTURE**

**PERFORMANCE
HIGHLIGHTS**

**FINANCIAL
REVIEWS**

City of Hinesville Contact Information

City Hall Main Line.....	912.876.3564
City Hall TDY.....	912.876.4229
Mayor's Office.....	912.876.3564
City Council.....	912.876.3564
Administration Department.....	912.876.3564
Business License Office.....	912.876.3564
City Clerk's Office.....	912.876.3564
Community Development Department.....	912.876.3164
Downtown Development Authority.....	912.877.4332
Finance Department.....	912.876.3564
Fire Department.....	912.876.4143
Human Resources.....	912.876.3564
Inspections Department.....	912.876.4147
Municipal Court.....	912.368.8206
Planning and Zoning Office.....	912.408.2030
Police Department.....	912.368.8211
Public Relations Department.....	912.408.3569
Public Works Department.....	912.876.8216
Water Department.....	912.876.3564

Other Frequently Contacted Agencies

Animal Control.....	912.876.9191
Birth Certificates/Marriage License/Gun Permits.....	912.876.3635
Board of Education.....	912.876.2161
Driver's License.....	912.370.2604
Emergency Management Agency.....	912.368.2201
Georgia Dept. of Labor.....	912.370.2595
Homeless Prevention Program.....	912.876.6573
Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission.....	912.408.2030
Liberty Transit.....	912.877.1472
Passports.....	912.876.3625
Public Health Department.....	912.876.2173
Social Security Administration (Savannah).....	800.772.1213
Soil Testing.....	912.876.2133
Vehicle Registration & Car Tags.....	912.876.3389
Voter Registration.....	912.876.3310

Report to the Citizens of Hinesville

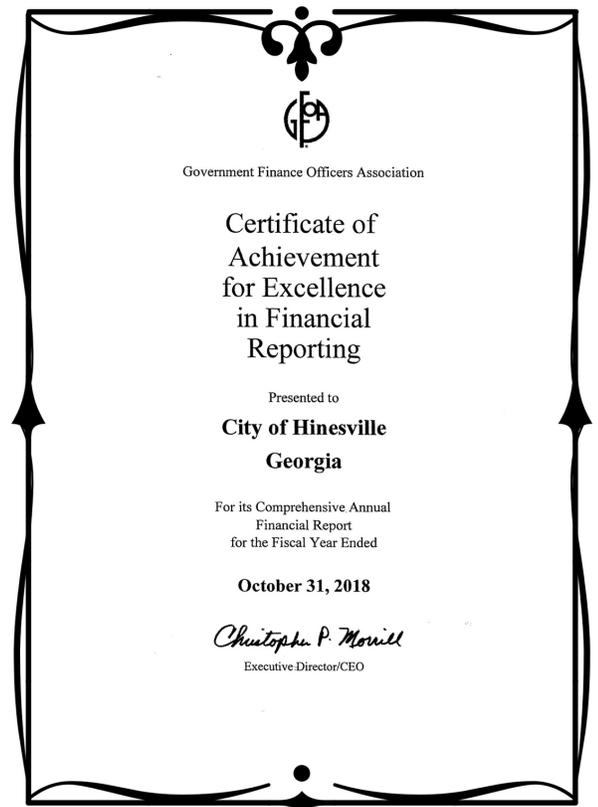
The City of Hinesville continuously strives to provide citizens information about their city. As part of that effort, we have proudly published our Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) or "Citizens Report" since Fiscal Year 2006. Throughout this report, you will find information about the elected officials,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

The financial information contained within this report is extracted from the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). 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 fourteen years, the City's CAFR 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 (1) year. We believe that our current CAFR 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.

The City's CAFR contains more detailed financial information than this report. You may obtain a copy of the CAFR on our website at www.cityofhinesville.org or by contacting the Finance Department at 912.876.3564.



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 ending in October 31, 2018. 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.

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friends of Hinesville,

It is my pleasure to present the 2019 Annual Report to you. The City's fiscal year 2019 General Fund budget is \$19.99 million. This is only about \$197,000, or 0.99 percent, higher than our fiscal year 2018 budget, which demonstrates that while we have not experienced a reduction in our expenses, we continue to do more as a city without spending more.

The City's millage rate has continued its downward trend. As you can see in the financial section of this publication, the millage rate has decreased by .81 mills in the past three fiscal years.

One of the biggest attributes to the financial state of the City, in addition to strategic leadership and a conservative stance on expense management, is SPLOST. We have worked on some important projects with the previous year's SPLOST funds, including paving Mattie and Gibson Streets and restriping 26 miles of City streets. With this year's round of SPLOST, we plan on making some critical purchases for our first responders.

All in all, the City of Hinesville is in great shape financially and continuing to grow and expand in terms of commercial activity and residents. With that boom in residential growth, I encourage all residents to participate in the 2020 Census, which helps us plan for future growth, attracts developers and impacts federal dollars in Liberty County.

As always, I am grateful to serve as the Mayor of the City of Hinesville and, once again, I am humbled to be in this position. Even as I write this, our city, county and nation are facing a time of uncertainty in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic's arrival in Georgia. Despite all of the hardship and confusion, I am proud of Hinesville's response in the face of these strange times. Even with the difficulties, we as a city have risen to the occasion and I am proud to be a part of such a vibrant, caring and strong community.

Blessings to all!

ALLEN BROWN
Mayor, City of Hinesville



From the City Manager's Desk



Dear Residents and Visitors,

I am pleased to present to you the 2019 Popular Annual Financial Report. For the 14th consecutive year, the City of Hinesville PAFR received the GFOA Popular Annual Financial Report Award for the fiscal year ending on October 31, 2018. 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 regarding the governmental entity's financial position at the end of the previous fiscal year.

The information contained in this report has been taken from the 2019 Comprehensive Financial Report (CAFR) and serves as a summary of all financial activities and reported operating results. The PAFR, however, is so much more than just another financial report. Over the years, our PAFR has transformed into a document that not only gives citizens insight into the City's financial health, it highlights how all of our City departments serve you at the highest levels of professionalism and efficiency.

During the fiscal year 2019, as a result of continued economic growth and development, the City's financial position remains steady and strong. We continue to actively recruit and attract businesses and industry; thereby increasing the number of amenities and available jobs in our area, as well as improving quality of life for residents. If you would like to review the City's financial documents in greater detail, our annual CAFR is published on our website under the Finance Department page at cityofhinesville.org.

Finally, I want to express my deepest gratitude to my staff. The COVID-19 pandemic was a situation no one expected. We all experienced the unprecedented level of change in a disproportionate amount of time. Rather than shrink away from the challenge, our staff has risen to the occasion to solve problems, troubleshoot and serve the public with unparalleled dedication. It is my pleasure and honor to work with and lead such true public servants.



Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth L. Howard".

KENNETH HOWARD
Hinesville City Manager

From the City Council

Diana Reid

District 1, district1@cityofhinesville.org

It is my humble pleasure to be able to continually serve you and the city that I love. It hasn't been easy, but it has been well worth it! We have made great strides towards strengthening our community, but we still have a lot of work ahead us. If you need me, be assured that I am only a phone call away.

As always, to God be the Glory!



Jason Floyd, Mayor Pro Tem

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 the Citizens and I hope you enjoy the Annual Financial 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 council member.

Vicky Nelson

District 3, district3@cityofhinesville.org

I am grateful for the opportunity to not only serve the citizens of District 3, but of 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 making 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."



From the City Council



Keith Jenkins

District 4, district4@cityofhinesville.org

Greetings Constituents of District Four,

It has been a distinct privilege serving you for over eight years. Our district is diverse and with promising growth for the future, it is my desire to advocate for new development and infrastructure upgrades. This is why I am encouraging you to learn more about T-SPLOST and various initiatives through things like community meetings.

Let's work together to improve our district and our city.

Karl Riles

District 5, district5@cityofhinesville.org

Thank you to the citizens of Hinesville for allowing me the opportunity to represent and serve them during the last year and for the next four years. Hinesville is a community built on many things and service to others is one of the cornerstones that stands out in my mind when I consider the style of leadership best suited to my time in office. This city succeeds when we support and serve each other.

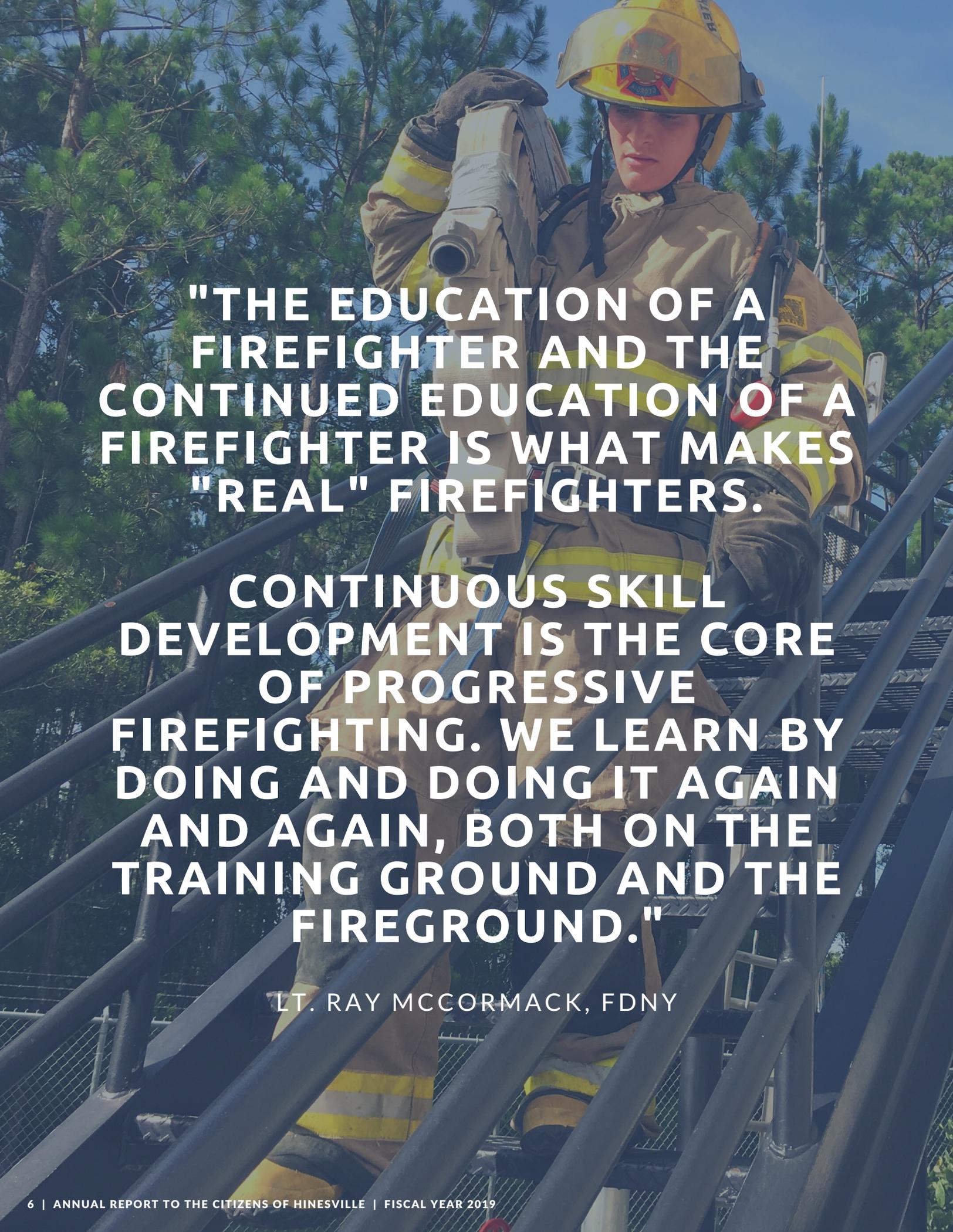
"It takes a village to raise a village."



Hinesville City Council Meetings

City Council meetings take place on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 3 p.m. in Council Chambers, located in City Hall.

Meetings can also be viewed via the livestream on the City's Facebook page at facebook.com/HinesvilleGA.



**"THE EDUCATION OF A
FIREFIGHTER AND THE
CONTINUED EDUCATION OF A
FIREFIGHTER IS WHAT MAKES
"REAL" FIREFIGHTERS.**

**CONTINUOUS SKILL
DEVELOPMENT IS THE CORE
OF PROGRESSIVE
FIREFIGHTING. WE LEARN BY
DOING AND DOING IT AGAIN
AND AGAIN, BOTH ON THE
TRAINING GROUND AND THE
FIREGROUND."**

LT. RAY MCCORMACK, FDNY

Hinesville Fire Department

The Training Ground & the Fireground

In 2008, the Hinesville Fire Department (HFD) created a stand-alone training division to meet the needs of the growing community.

Training for firefighters in Georgia is governed by multiple entities, requiring firefighters to receive hundreds of hours of training each year. Hinesville firefighters train in multiple disciplines. Some examples of the training include: firefighting, emergency medical, vehicle extrication, hazardous materials response and technical rescue.



HFD has 28 certified instructors, three (3) of these are certified as Fire Instructor 2 which allows them to develop curriculum. We also have seven (7) live-fire instructors. The live-fire instructors conduct specialized training involving live-fire scenarios. In addition, we have a number of instructors that are adjunct instructors for the Georgia Fire Academy in Forsyth, and two (2) instructors that have been cleared to teach curriculum for the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD.



Not only do members of our instructor cadre deliver courses at HFD, they also travel across the state to provide instruction. To date, our instructors have helped train over 600 firefighters in the state. Recently, the Georgia Fire Academy selected one (1) of our instructors to serve on a panel rewriting the curriculum for the Basic Firefighter training program.



As stated by Lt. McCormack, training is what makes real firefighters and will make or break a fire department. Through countless hours of “doing it again and again” we, as a department, will continue to provide the highest level of service to our community.

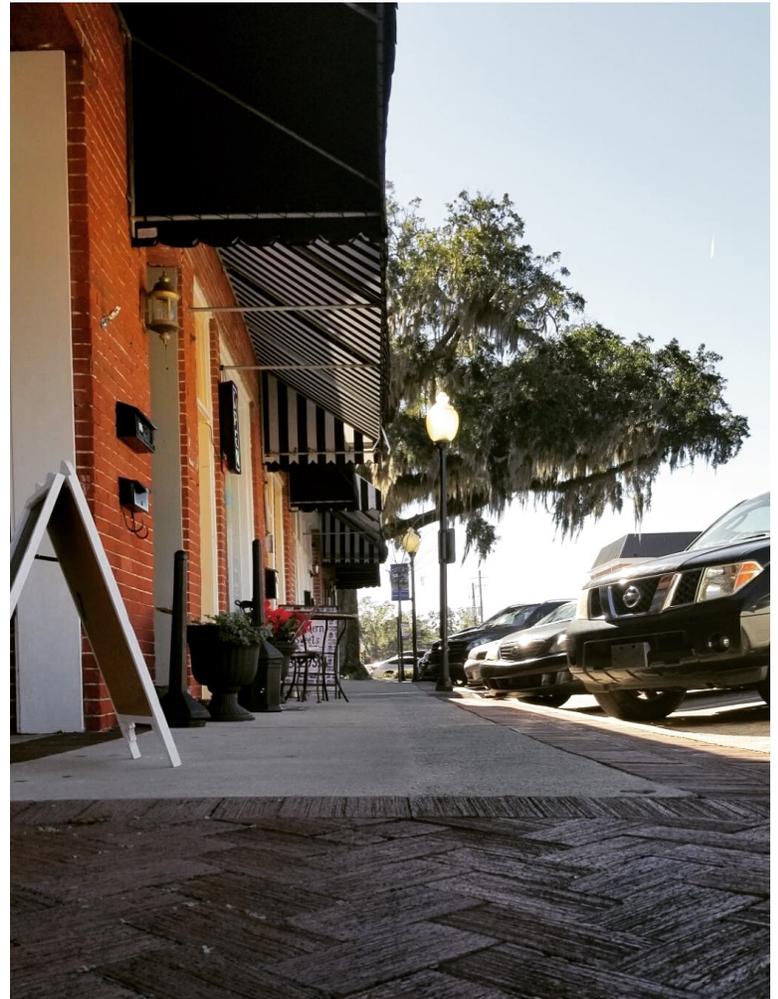
Downtown Development Authority

Remembering the Past & Planning the Future

2019 was a year to reflect on the past and to plan for the future at the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority (HDDA). In March, a team from the Carl Vinson Institute at the University of Georgia held one-on-one interviews, focus groups, an open community town hall meeting and a survey taken to garner public input in a redevelopment plan for downtown. With this process, community members identified the top assets of downtown and created a list of needs to be addressed for the downtown area to thrive.

In the 2020 budget, Mayor and Council added \$100,000 to the HDDA budget to develop a revolving loan program and enhanced our façade grant budget to spur redevelopment downtown of empty buildings with the hope to attract more dining options. Mayor & Council also gave their authorization for the redesign and expansion of Bradwell Park. Within the next year, construction will begin to give the park a fresh look, flexible event space and an interactive water feature for kids.

Finally, the HDDA has programmed new events for 2020. Tuesday Tunes features a chance for people to visit Bradwell Park during lunchtime hours to enjoy fresh air and live music. To create the “Alive After 5” feel, free events on Friday night in Bradwell Park are planned as well as after work parties to be held in the “Gap” space on Main Street.



There is a feeling and a level of excitement about great things happening in downtown – and the HDDA is just getting started! To learn more about downtown Hinesville events and review the entire redevelopment plan, visit downtownhinesville.com and click on the links on the home page.

Hinesville Municipal Court

Facts, Fines and Fees

The Municipal Court of Hinesville represents the judicial branch of government. The Municipal Court staff currently consists of the Presiding Judge, an Associate Judge, a Judge Pro Tem, a Prosecuting Attorney, an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Clerk of Court, two full time Deputy Court Clerks, and a part-time Deputy Court Clerk.

Where does the bond/fine money from a citation go?

The City does not get to retain all of the money collected when a citation is paid. The City is required to pay into funds with the State of Georgia and Liberty County.

There is a priority list established by the State as to the order that funds get paid. If Restitution is collected, it is always paid out first. The defendants charge will determine if money collected will be paid out to all of the funds established or just some.

Currently the City is number 6 on the priority list of 14 established funds. In Fiscal Year 2019 the Municipal Court collected an approximate total of \$1,504,880.00 in bond and fine money. Of that money, approximately \$639,073.00 was paid out to the different funds and computer software fees. The City was able to retain approximately \$865,806.00 or 58% of the money collected.



Municipal Court is held every Wednesday beginning at 8:00 AM. Arraignments are held on the first, second, and third Wednesday of the month. Bench trials are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Court is open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend.

Citations can be paid in person, by mail, or online at cityofhinesville.org. Cash, money orders, checks, and credit cards are accepted. You may contact the Municipal Court located at 123 E ML King Jr. Drive by calling 912-368-8206.

Employees of the Year

Fiscal Year 2019

With the inability to gather preventing this annual celebration, we want to introduce these hard working employees to you in the annual PAFR!



Henry Roberts | Head of Maintenance | Administration Department

How his coworkers describe him:
Reliable | Professional | Resilient

Henry's favorite Hinesville event: "The Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Parade. I like participating in it because it stands for equality for all people."

Wing Sze "Wincy" Poon | GIS Coordinator | Inspections Department

How her coworkers describe her:
Reliable | Professional | Proficient

Wincy's favorite Hinesville event: "GIS Day - of course! This annual event allows the City and County GIS offices to come together and showcase our work and services to the public."



Teanesa Fabain | Grants Specialist II | Community Development Department

How her coworkers describe her:
Talented | Enthusiastic | Meticulous

Teanesa's favorite work memory: "Becoming a part of the Community Development Department. I had no idea what it entailed until I experienced it personally. Being a part of the CDD team has provided me with mounds of skills and experience."

Stacy Turk | Accounting Technician | Finance Department

How her coworkers describe her:
Dependable | Team Player | Eager to Learn

Stacy's favorite work memory: "The Finance Department has Elf on the Shelf with plenty of mischief every Christmas season. It is so much fun to come in to work and see who has been "elfed" and see how creative my coworkers can get. "



Employees of the Year

Fiscal Year 2019

With the inability to gather preventing this annual celebration, we want to introduce these hard working employees to you in the annual PAFR!



Rusberg Perez | Firefighter | Hinesville Fire Department

How his coworkers describe him:

Self-Motivated | Dependable | Hard Working

Rusberg's favorite Hinesville event: "I enjoy the Public Safety event in Hinesville. I like these events because I get to interact with different people and get to know them a little more. It's very important to me to have a good relationship with the people in Hinesville."

Victor Maldonado | Officer of the Year | Hinesville Police Department

How his coworkers describe him:

Knowledgeable | Dedicated | Leader

Victor's favorite Hinesville event: "I enjoy doing National Night Out with the Police Department and other law enforcement agencies each year. That event is fun because it gives officers a chance to interact with people in the community in a much different way than normal."



Damitrus Styles | Rookie of the Year | Hinesville Police Department.

How his coworkers describe him:

Energetic | Driven | Innovative

Damitrus' favorite work memory: The best memory I've had with the Hinesville Police Department is when I received a brand new Dodge Charger police car for my hard work and accomplishments.

Iris Cadiz | Records Technician | Hinesville Police Department

How her coworkers describe her:

Loyal | Friendly | Compassionat

Iris' favorite Hinesville event: "By far the Scarecrow Stroll. I usually take my grandchildren to the event. I enjoy Halloween and taking them is always a fun experience - especially their reactions to all the costumes and booths."



Financial Review

Fiscal Year 2019

The Financial Review section is designed to provide information on the financial health and stability of the City of Hinesville. This information should provide the reader with 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 Came From") and expenses ("Where the Money Went") for the government as a whole.

Where the Money Came From...

	Fiscal Year 2018	Fiscal Year 2019
Property Taxes.....	\$ 7,392,635	\$ 7,633,019
Sales Taxes.....	3,675,635	4,278,560
Franchise Taxes.....	1,654,775	1,688,485
Insurance Premium Tax.....	2,396,381	2,537,800
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes.....	404,884	423,927
Hotel/Motel Tax.....	174,354	169,812
Other General Revenue.....	79,731	41,688
Total General Revenue.....	15,778,395	16,773,291
Charges for Services.....	17,652,860	19,947,949
Operating Grants.....	1,215,567	2,256,471
Capital Grants and Contributions.....	3,285,248	2,938,429
Total Program Revenues.....	22,153,675	25,142,849
Other Income.....	102,468	157,593
Investment Earnings.....	104,752	285,506
Transfers.....	-	-
Total Other Income and Transfers.....	207,220	443,099
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 38,139,290	\$ 42,359,239

Where the Money Went...

	Fiscal Year 2018	Fiscal Year 2019
General Government.....	\$ 2,667,071	\$ 2,921,312
Judicial.....	463,165	299,009
Public Safety.....	9,815,109	10,734,917
Public Works.....	3,803,578	4,014,287
Housing and Development.....	1,721,698	1,917,074
Health and Welfare.....	761,102	953,307
Culture and Recreation.....	851,389	892,926
Interest and Fiscal Charges.....	131,931	122,836
Total Governmental Activities.....	20,215,043	21,855,668
Water and Sewer.....	9,105,838	9,592,558
Sanitation.....	3,155,106	3,069,620
Stormwater Utility.....	1,361,657	1,461,797
Transit.....	807,070	904,230
Total Business-type Activities.....	14,429,671	15,028,205
TOTAL EXPENSES	34,644,714	36,883,873
Change in Net Assets	3,494,576	5,475,366
Net Assets-Beginning	86,018,762	89,513,338
Net Assets - Ending	\$ 89,513,338	\$ 94,988,704

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 directly derived 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 major three categories (shown at right):

1. Net Investment in Capital Assets

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

2. 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.

3. Net Position Unrestricted

The remaining balance of net position not reported under the other two (2) categories of net position.

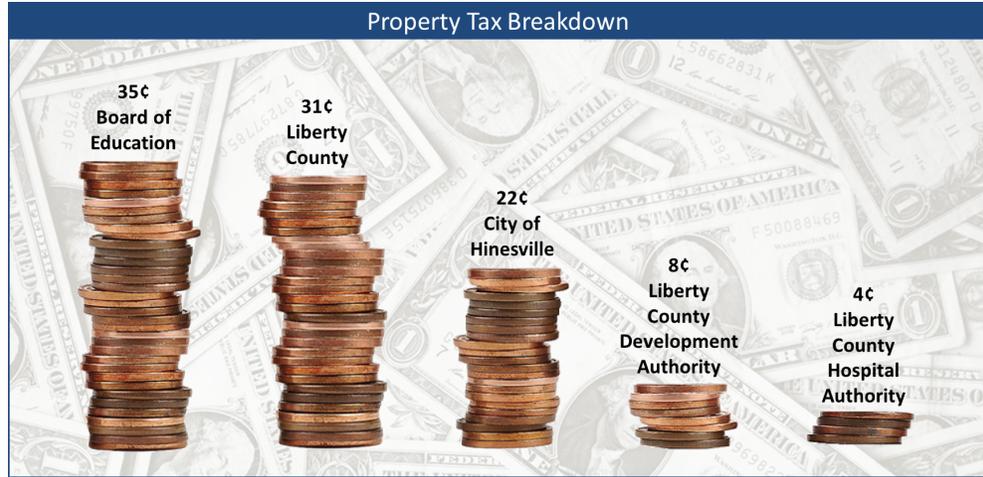
Financial Review

Fiscal Year 2019

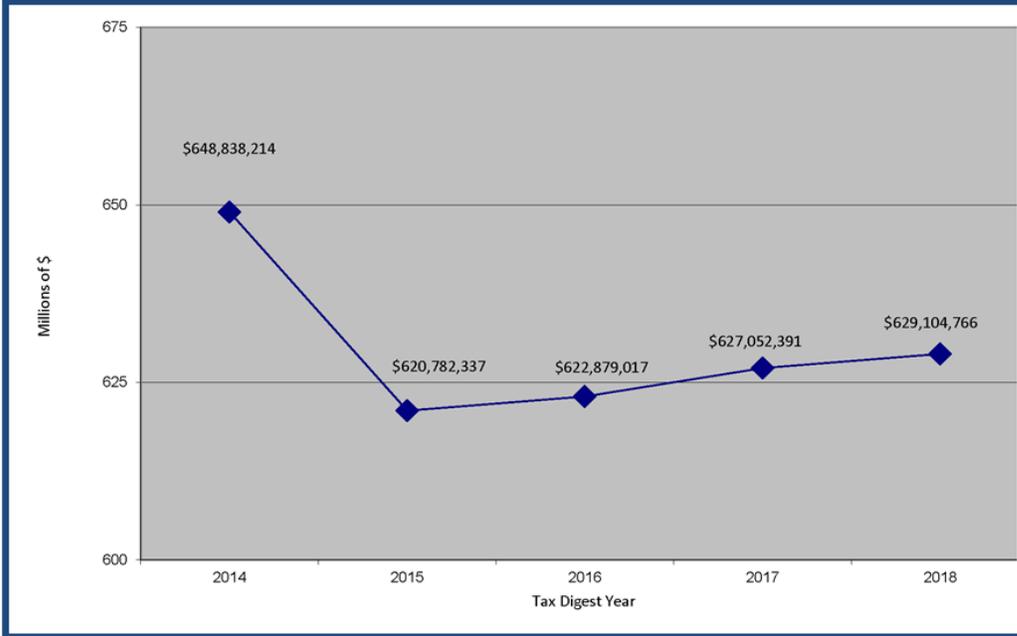
The City's total net position is categorized. The largest portion of net position (\$74,623,917) is net investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, infrastructure, machinery and equipment less any related outstanding debt used to acquire these assets). An additional portion of the City's net position (\$3,957,520) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining portion of the City's net position (\$16,407,267) is unrestricted and may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

Property Tax Breakdown

The illustration to the right depicts how each one dollar of property tax revenue collected is distributed to the various taxing entities. The City of Hinesville receives \$0.22 of every \$1.00 collected from taxpayers in the City.



Property Tax Digest



Property Tax Digest

The graph on the left tracks the change in the tax digest over the past five (5) years.

For more detailed financial information, you can view the City's CAFR online at www.cityofhinesville.org or contact the Finance Department at 912.875.3564.

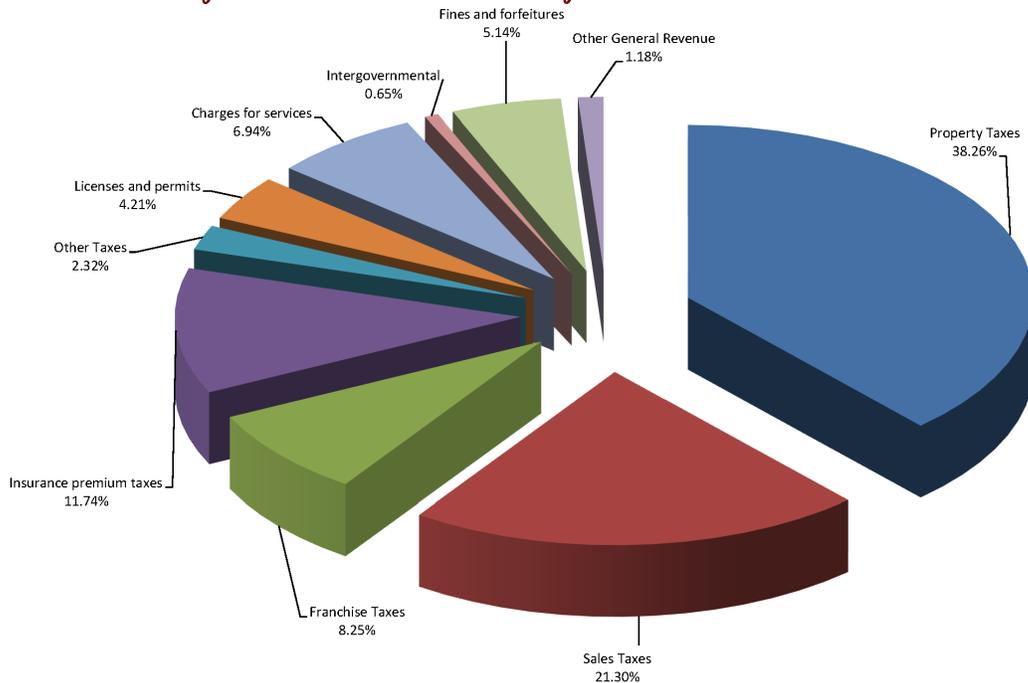
Property tax is the City's single largest source of revenue. The City's millage rate remained level at 11.30 mills from 1997 to 2005. In 2006, the City decreased the millage rate to 10.90 mills. In 2007, the City again decreased the rate to 9.50 mills, where it remained level through fiscal year 2012. The City increased its millage rate to 10.50 in fiscal year 2013 and increased to 11.51 in fiscal year 2015 and 2016. The City decreased the millage rate the past three (3) years; to 11.00 mills in fiscal year 2017, 10.75 mills in 2018 and to 10.70 mills in fiscal year 2019.

Financial Review

Fiscal Year 2019

For fiscal year ended October 31, 2019, the City of Hinesville received revenues for the General Fund totaling slightly over \$18.5 million. The four (4) largest sources of revenues are Property Taxes, Sales Taxes, Insurance Premium Taxes and Franchise Taxes. The following section provides a brief description of the City's revenue sources by category:

General Fund Fiscal Year 2019 Revenues



- Property Taxes 38.26%**
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 21.30%**
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 1% sales and use tax collected.
- Insurance Premium Taxes 11.74%**
Taxes levied based on the gross direct premiums collected by all insurance companies doing business in the City.
- Franchise Taxes 8.25%**
Taxes imposed on corporations or businesses for using public property for private purposes.
- Other Taxes 2.32%**
Taxes not classified under any other taxes.
- Fines, Forfeitures and Fees 5.14%**
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.
- Charges for Services 6.94%**
Fees collected for general government services.
- Licenses and Permits 4.21%**
Fees collected for the issuance of licenses and permits by the City. One of the large components included in this is business licenses.
- Other General Revenue 1.18%**
Other revenue received from sale of surplus, investments or not otherwise classified.
- Intergovernmental 0.65%**
Revenue from other governments in the form of operating grants, shared revenues, etc.

Community Development Department

A Lifetime of Leadership

Hinesville's Inaugural Youth Council formed on September 9, 2019 with the Honorable Judge Nancy Aspinwall administering the Oath of Office. Councilmembers were selected through a rigorous application process which included writing a 500-word essay detailing an issue currently affecting youth in Hinesville and how to best address the concern. After careful review of all applications and a panel interview with the Youth Council Advisory Board, eight (8) students were chosen to collaborate and serve as one united voice for local youth.

Youth Council affords the tools, training, and encouragement for teens to apply creativity and energy to affect change in their community. Since taking office, the Council has worked diligently to create a mission statement that exemplifies their vision of representing and supporting youth in the community as well as working bilaterally with City government while learning about leadership, responsibility and the importance of community service. This dedicated group of youth have monthly closed working sessions to discuss and address the needs of their peers. The Council holds quarterly open meetings which provides the opportunity to update the community on activities, upcoming initiatives, as well as take comments directly from Hinesville's youth.



While the Council's focus is advocating for youth, this body also recognizes the need for a strong community presence through service. The Council has volunteered during various local events to encourage civic responsibility and to give back to the community.

The Youth Council will continue to look for new ways to be involved and be of service which have positive impacts—large and small. The group hopes that through their hard work and dedication other youth will be inspired to get engaged, be an optimistic voice and advocate for the changes young adults would like to see in Hinesville.



For more information about the Hinesville Youth Council, please visit cityofhinesville.org.



Hinesville Police Department

Inside the Other Side of HPD

You may already know that the Hinesville Police Department (HPD) is one of the largest law enforcement agencies in Georgia. It is composed of a diverse group of 110 men and women who work diligently to provide high-quality services for the over 35,000 residents and thousands of annual visitors to the Hinesville-Ft. Stewart area.

In addition to the HPD's Patrol Division, Criminal Investigation Division, and Administrative Services Division, it also has a Traffic Section, Training Section, Narcotics Unit, Crime Suppression Unit, Office of Professional Standards; a crime analyst, a school resource officer, a community resource officer, a full-service front desk; and many other ancillary functions that foster proactive and positive community relationships.

Additionally, did you know that technological advances, specialized training, and progressive leadership have made HPD one of the premier law enforcement agencies in Georgia? What people see is only a small portion of our operational capabilities. This is a profession that requires its workforce to make life-altering decisions—merely being good is not good enough. Therefore, training, training, and more training is an essential, ongoing, and ever-evolving component of our business. In addition to obtaining our annual training hours, HPD officers frequently travel across the state, and around the country, to receive advanced, specialized, and executive leadership training from world-class state and federal law enforcement training facilities.

HPD is multifaceted. We prepare for high-profile incidents that directly affect the community, such as active shooter training and natural disaster response. We participate in low-profile incidents that often go unnoticed, such as assisting GBI, FBI, U.S. Marshall Service and other government agencies in tracking and apprehending wanted subjects or conducting classified cyber operations and other mechanisms to promote intelligence-led policing. Regardless of where you're looking, this is a side of HPD you haven't seen.

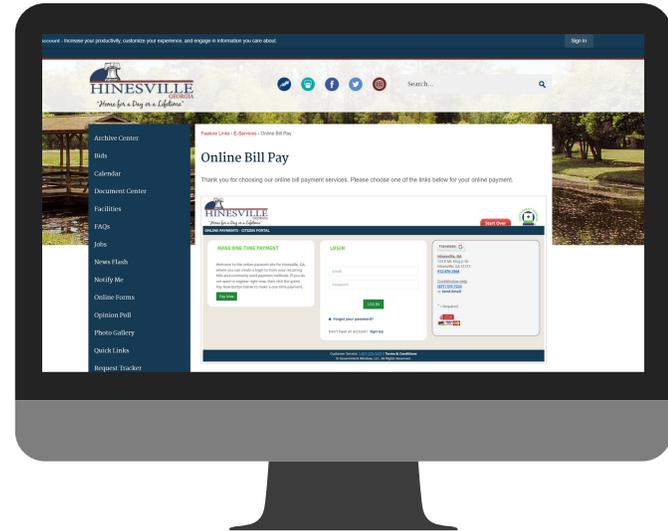


Water Department

Using Technology to Navigate a Crisis

When COVID-19 tilted the world on its axis in March 2020, it quickly became apparent that the need to modify our approach to foot traffic inside City Hall. The interior of the building closed to the public on Friday, March 20 in an effort to protect both staff and citizens and suddenly, we needed to ensure everyone understood how to use alternative methods of bill payment for Hinesville water bills.

There are five (5) ways to pay your water bill with the City of Hinesville: in-person, by mail or dropbox, over the phone, at the customer service counters of several area grocery stores and via the City's website. In light of the public health emergency in the state of Georgia, the City is discouraging in-person payments and encouraging residents to utilize the other four (4) methods of payment - primarily electronic ones! While the other methods do offer simple ways to pay your bill, utilizing the City's website ensures a one-stop shop to track your bill payments over time. Follow the steps below to use our online payment system!



In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic's arrival in the states, the expansion of online services has been crucial to the City. With these expansions come upgrades. We are happy to bring a better platform to our customers to make online payments easier and faster. Working with Government Windows, the City has ensured a smooth experience for all with a readily accessible system that can accept payments over the phone or via the internet. All it takes is having your account number and house/street number!

City of Hinesville
Water Department
115 East ML King Jr Drive
Hinesville, GA 31313

CHARLES HINES
115 E ML KING DRIVE
HINESVILLE, GA 31313

For questions regarding your bill:
Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
(912) 876-3564

ACCOUNT NUMBER	12345-678901
INVOICE NUMBER	00000000
BILLING DATE	03/23/2020
PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$0.00
PAST DUE BALANCE	\$0.00
CURRENT CHARGES	\$69.46
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	\$69.46
DATE DUE	04/15/2020
AMOUNT DUE IF PAID AFTER 5:00 pm 04/15/2020	\$76.41

Account Number

Late Fees (if any)

Prior Reading Date

02/14/2020

Current Reading Date

03/12/2020

To make a payment over the phone, please call 844.229.2184 and follow the prompts. For more assistance with online bill pay, please contact the Water Department at billserv@cityofhinesville.org or call 912.876.3564.

Public Works Department

Keeping Bugs at Bay

Our Mosquito Control Pesticide Discharge Plan uses a multipronged approach of Integrated Pest Management. It affords us the ability to effectively target species that can vector arboviruses such as West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), Lacrosse Encephalitis (LAC) and Zika, if necessary.

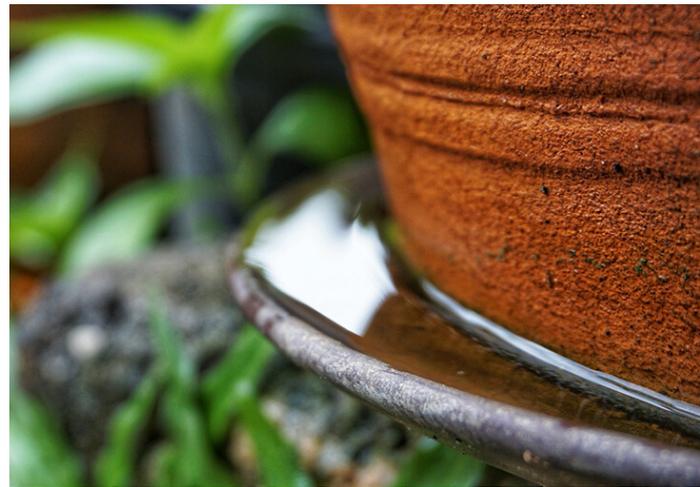
The state of Georgia has over 60 different species of mosquitoes. We try to focus on the most dangerous species that can get people sick. We trap with assistance from the Georgia Department of Public Health Vector Surveillance Coordinator if necessary. We use CDC light traps to lure female mosquitoes using CO₂ (dry ice). These traps can hold from one (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 to treat the affected area.

This method is effective and our last line of defense against flying adult mosquitoes. However, the City of Hinesville needs the help of all its residents to suppress mosquitoes within city limits. This area is surrounded by wetlands and the Salt Marsh; these mosquitoes do not need any help with breeding sites.

What You Can Do to Help

- Practice tip and toss methods, especially when it comes to removing standing water from your yard (i.e. kiddie pools, flower pots, old tires and anything that can hold water)
- Mosquitoes are drawn to CO₂ and heat. Wearing dark colored clothes will make you more likely to be bitten by them.
- Use insect repellent with an active ingredient of DEET to keep insects away.



Inspections Department

Greasy Business

Federal and State laws and regulations pertaining to the collection & disposal of fats, oils and grease (FOG) are an effort to protect our environment, sewage systems and wastewater treatment facilities. An increasingly common cause of overflows and backups in sewer pipes is blockage by FOG. Grease from household and business drains and poorly maintained restaurant grease traps build up in sewer pipes of residences, businesses and the City of Hinesville's Sanitary Sewer System.

Myths and Facts About Grease

Myth: I don't create enough grease to clog pipes.

Fact: Once grease is deposited inside a pipe, it doesn't go anywhere.

Over time, even little bits of grease will build up and clog pipes.

Myth: Running hot water will dissolve the grease so that it flows down the drain.

Fact: Hot water cools causing the grease to congeal or solidify and stick inside the pipe.

Myth: Soaps and chemicals dissolve grease so that it is safe to dispose in the drain.

Fact: Soaps, detergents, chemicals and additives that claim to dissolve grease, in fact, just pass grease down the line to clog the sewer lines in other areas.

Myth: Garbage disposals prevent grease from going down the drain.

Fact: Garbage disposals only shred solid material into smaller pieces.

They do not remove grease.

What You Can Do to Help

- Don't pour oil or grease down sink drains or into toilets. Pour cooled oil or grease into a container; then seal and discard with your regular trash or recycle it.
- Don't wash fryers, pots, pans and plates in the sink until oil and grease are removed. Wipe off oil and grease from pots, pans, and dishes before washing them in the sink.
- Don't disregard this notification. Talk with your friends and neighbors so that the community is aware of the risk.



Contain, don't drain.

Flood Protection Information

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.

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

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.

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 of pollutants so they are not sent down the storm drain.
- 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 kxcb@libertycountyga.com.

Protect Your Property from Flooding

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

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).

Flood Protection Information

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.
- Begin clean-up as soon as possible.
- Make any temporary repairs as necessary to stop further losses from the elements or looting.



Check out the 2020 calendar of annual events for Hinesville!

Hinesville Military Affairs Committee meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month at the LaQuinta Inn at 7 p.m. For more info, call 912.368.8211.

The Market @ Bradwell Park is anticipated to open in June 2020 and will be held on Thursdays from 3 - 7 p.m. in Bradwell Park. Contact the HDDA for more information at 912.877.4332.

Visit www.cityofhinesville.org for detailed information on city events. Information on community events can be found at www.libertycounty.org.

2020 Annual Hinesville Events

Peanut Butter & Jelly Collection for Food Pantry* will be on Thursday, June 4 from 3 - 7 p.m. in Bradwell Park during the Market @ Bradwell Park. Contact the HDDA for more information at 912.877.4332.

U.S. Army's Birthday Party* will be on Thursday, June 11 from 3 - 7 p.m. in Bradwell Park during the Market @ Bradwell Park. Contact the HDDA for more information at 912.877.4332.

National Night Out will be on Tuesday, August 4 from 5 - 8 p.m. in Bradwell Park. For more information, contact the Hinesville Police Department at 912.368.8211.

Back-to-School Supply Giveaway will be on Thursday, August 13 from 3 - 7 p.m. in Bradwell Park during the Market @ Bradwell Park. Contact the HDDA for more information at 912.877.4332.

Downtown Fall Festival (formerly Pumpkin Patch) will be on Saturday, October 3 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in downtown Hinesville. Contact the HDDA for more information at 912.877.4332.

Downtown Tailgate will be on Saturday, October 10. Time will be determined by the kickoff time for the Georgia vs. Auburn football game. Kids activities downtown for the 2 hours prior to kickoff. Contact Public Relations for more information 912.408.3569.

Scarecrow Stroll & Beggar's Night will be on Friday, October 30 in downtown Hinesville. Contact the HDDA for more information at 912.877.4332.

18th annual Mayor's Thanksgiving Service will be on Sunday, November 22 at 6 p.m. Location is TBD and will be announced at cityofhinesville.org. Contact Public Relations for more information at 912.408.3569.

3rd annual Hinesville for the Holidays Celebration will be on Thursday, December 3 from 5 - 8 p.m. in downtown Hinesville. Contact Public Relations for more information at 912.408.3569.

24th annual Illuminated Christmas Parade will be on Friday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Hinesville. Contact the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce for more information at 912.368.4445.

***Please note:** dates and times are subject to change and cancellation. Visit our City calendar in order to see the most complete and up-to-date listing of upcoming events in Hinesville. View the calendar at www.cityofhinesville.org.



HINESVILLE
GEORGIA

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.

Follow Us Online!

Keep up with all the happenings in Hinesville by signing up to follow us with the following platforms:

 www.cityofhinesville.org

 facebook.com/HinesvilleGA

 @hinesvillega

 @hinesvillega