



# INTUCKER

JULY 2023 | VOLUME 7 | ISSUE 1

**CITY OF  
TUCKER**

## **NEW YEAR, NEW SERVICE**

**FISCAL YEAR '24 BRINGS  
CHANGES AND EXCITEMENT**



# EDITOR'S NOTE



Nothing slows down here in the City of Tucker, even in the summertime.

Our staff is in constant motion to improve and add more to the services we offer to the community. This can be seen in the hours of steady coordination for a year to bring better Public Works services. From the coordinated communication and education outreach to the search and implementation of project tracking software for internal use and finally the launch of our very own Department of Public Works. It has been a year of hard work and high anticipation.

But that hasn't been the only thing we have been working on. Look to this space in the coming months for updates on what I like to call "The Year of Plans". We had several studies and plans spread out over the past year that are coming to a completion after months of public input, study and design. And now it is time to set all of the recommendations in motion.

I do love budget season and admire the process and effort that is put forth to present a fair and balanced budget. FY24 is something to really be proud of for our City. Through the coordinated efforts of staff and the Mayor and Council, this budget addresses new programming, staff and quality of life projects to further elevate our service levels. In full transparency you can find the budget from years past on our website and I invite you to look at not only how we have grown as a City but how fiscally responsible we are! As a citizen, an activist for the incorporation of Tucker and now a staff member, I am so proud of our work and the decision making of our electeds.

Stay safe this summer and have some fun, Tucker. See you on Main Street on July 3!

**SONJA SZUBSKI**  
INTUCKER EDITOR

# IN THIS ISSUE



### ON THE COVER

We are finally here! Learn about all things Public Works and what we have done to prepare to start on the right foot, on page 8.



### ON THE BEAT

It's summer and that means an uptick in automobile break-ins. Read up on some tips to keep your things safe this season on page 5.



### BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Have you checked out Tucker's newest hotspot of creativity? Scraplanta is making its mark in Atlanta for thrifty crafters on page 6.



### BUSINESS BOOM

The City of Tucker's Downtown Development Authority is excited to launch a Facade Grant Program. Read more on page 7.



# INTUCKER

Sonja Szubski - Editor-in-Chief  
Dede Musser - Design  
Marcus Etienne &  
Robin Stevens - Contributors

Printed and mailed by  
AtlantaPrintAndMail.com, Inc.

### VOLUME 7 ISSUE 7

INTUCKER is a monthly publication of the City of Tucker, Georgia.

All rights reserved.

MMXXIII



# From the Mayor

**CURRENT 2023 TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>City of Tucker</b>						
Real & Personal	2,014,182,897	2,203,807,447	2,318,066,346	2,592,211,677	2,968,896,015	3,420,000,000
Motor Vehicles	18,858,550	16,660,920	12,839,800	9,425,570	9,556,920	9,185,840
Mobile Homes					0	2,066
Timber - 100%			24,637			3,430,016,541
Heavy Duty Equipment	2,213	50,098	2,330,930,783	2,601,637,247	2,978,452,935	605,220,983
Gross Digest	2,033,043,660	2,220,518,465	2,350,072,45	302,238,645	461,815,202	2,824,795,558
Less M& O Exemptions	256,995,589	239,383,897	2,095,923,538	2,299,398,602	2,516,637,733	2,824,795,558
Net M & O Digest	1,776,048,071	1,981,134,568	2,095,923,538	2,299,398,602	2,516,637,733	2,284
					0.848	

The past six months have been very busy for staff, Council and me. Standing up a new department, drafting policies and approving how to fund the services we provide are the vital operations of what we do for our community of Tucker. We adjusted our normal meeting schedule from one business meeting and one work session a month to two business meetings a month so that we had time and opportunity to consider and weigh everything properly.

Two big decisions were made in June: approval of the budget for Fiscal Year 2024 and the City's millage rate. This month marks the end of seven years of City operations, and during that time we have worked hard to maintain a balanced and fiscally conservative budget. Through our efforts, we have grown our reserves and I can proudly say that we are secure and stable. And with our levelheaded decision making we have earned the trust of you, our constituents, to be responsible fiduciary stewards. This was made clear when we went to the polls and approved not only to assume management of a Public Works Department but also to raise the millage rate cap that the Council and I can approve from 1 mill to 3 mills.

During the months leading up to the referendum last November, we did our best to educate and explain what our vision of the new department and millage rate would be. We sent out citywide mailers, had a dedicated and in-depth webpage (that is still up), and hosted three in-person meetings that were recorded and shared on our social media platforms. We made predictions and estimates, and we plan on sticking to our promises. To that end, our millage rate has increased 191%. It looks and sounds like a lot, but it is actually less than we predicted last fall.

We first collected a City tax in 2018 when we started managing Parks and Recreation. Our initial millage rate was 0.9 mills, and we maintained that rate for three years. Due to an increase in the tax digest--that means property values inside the City went up--we were able to rollback our millage rate to .84 last year. Again, this year brought another increase in our tax digest, and we have approved a rollback from last year's .84 to .784. This millage is part of how we fund maintenance and improvements in our parks and various programs like our youth sports leagues.

The additional 1.5 mills that we approved will go directly to our roads here in the City. Since last fall we have always stated that we would increase our rates in order to provide better service than what we have been used to. You will find that in response to our addition, the rate with DeKalb County will go down. In addition to Roads and Maintenance we have also started providing Stormwater services. This is an annual fee per household and will be billed at \$96 per year.

We are so proud of the hard work our staff and City Management have put into standing up this department and setting a fair and balanced budget. You can read more about Public Works and our approved budget later in this issue and, of course, on our website.

**FRANK AUMAN  
MAYOR**

# City Council Update

June proved to be a very busy and productive month for Tucker's Mayor and Council.

The agendas for the two Monday business meetings were full. All details can be found on [tuckerga.gov/documents](http://tuckerga.gov/documents).

- A resolution to amend the Adoption Agreement for the City's Georgia Municipal Association 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan with a technical correction
- Renewal of our GIS software license agreement with ESRI for \$30,750
- On-call road and stormwater maintenance with TriScapes, Inc.
- MARTA bus pads and pedestrian connectivity with AF Concrete, Inc. for \$97,150
- Professional audit services with Nichols, Cauley, & Associates, LLC for \$43,650
- Addition of Pond & Company and Falcon Design to our list of on-call engineering services
- An ordinance to amend Tucker Code Chapter 30 to adopt a new Article VIII Unlawful Discrimination
- An ordinance to set the 2023 millage rate at 1.5 mills higher than the rollback rate of .784 and included a brief public hearing
- An ordinance to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2024
- A text amendment, which includes minor changes to the zoning ordinance such as the title of Planning and Zoning Director, number of members on the Zoning Board of Appeals, board appointment terms and removal of inaccurate references
- An ordinance to bring City zoning code into compliance with new state law requiring greater advance notice before certain public hearings
- An ordinance amending the City charter to change the maximum number of days between regular meetings at which an ordinance can be read for the second time from 60 to 65 days
- A contract for engineering design of the Kelley H. Cofer Park Loop Trail. The contract was awarded to KAIZEN Collaborative for \$143,400
- A resolution to authorize the Tax Commissioner to continue to collect and remit special district revenues to the City to fund maintenance of existing traffic calming and street lighting districts inside the City limits
- An ordinance to rezone from R-75 to R-60 to allow for two single family detached lots at 2022 Brockett Road, with slight amendments
- The adoption of the Tucker Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan Update, including Future Land Use Map amendments
- A resolution setting a fee schedule for FY2024
- A contract task order to update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, awarded to Barge Design Solutions for \$125,000
- An amendment to the existing InterDev Contract for GIS and IT services
- An amendment to the Jacobs Engineering Contract for professional services

Tucker City Mayor and Council meet at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month at City Hall, 1975 Lakeside Parkway, Suite 350B, Tucker, GA 30084, unless otherwise advertised.

## DATES TO KNOW

- **July 4**  
City Buildings closed in observance of Independence Day
- **July 10**  
City Council Meeting
- **July 12**  
Traffic Court
- **July 19**  
Traffic Court
- **July 20**  
Planning Commission
- **July 24**  
City Council Work Session
- **July 26**  
Environmental Court

## FOLLOW US



nextdoor





# ON THE BEAT with Sgt. Obester

*Lt. J. Ridling is Tucker's liaison to the DeKalb County Police Department and can be contacted by email at [jridling@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:jridling@dekalbcountyga.gov) or by phone at (678) 597-9040.*

When I was young, every summer my parents would jam my two sisters and I into our Chevrolet Impala and head off on a road trip to Wildwood, New Jersey. While not the most exotic location in the world ([wildwoodsny.com](http://wildwoodsny.com)), to me it was a wonderful place, with broad beaches and a boardwalk full of neon signs and busy arcades. I am grateful for these memories, even if my eyes would burn for days from the large amount of chlorine in our hotel pool.

One of the earliest memories I have from those days is a time we were eating at my mother's favorite restaurant, The Dolphin. My sister returned from getting something from our car and told my father she observed two people inside our vehicle. When my father went to investigate, sure enough he found a man and woman going inside the center console. The woman told my father that she was just "checking herself in the mirror". Fortunately, nothing was stolen from us that day. Many years later, I still vividly remember this early criminal encounter.

Nowadays, it should be common sense not to leave any valuables inside your car. Unfortunately, O.C.G.A. 16-8-18, "Entering Automobile", is still the most frequently reported crime handled by our Tucker Precinct officers. Typically, car break-ins come in small "sprees" occurring in residential neighborhoods or occasionally at one of Tucker's hotels. As

mentioned in previous On the Beat articles, these crimes can be both financially and emotionally hurtful to their victims.

It is heartbreaking to read a report of an out-of-town traveler who wakes up in the morning to find his luggage stolen or his

car disabled because of a broken window. I also think back to the story told by Lt. Berg of a hardworking local waitress who left several thousand dollars in cash inside her vehicle. The cash had been intended to be a loan to a needy friend. Unfortunately, the waitress came out during a meal break to find her window broken and her money stolen.



This summer, in addition to upgrading your first aid kit (see last month's On the Beat), I challenge you to bring one more item with you on vacation – a backpack. Inside this backpack, please place any items that you wish to keep safe such as a purse, laptop, gaming device, cash, etc. Having these items on you while you eat at a restaurant, walk down a beach, or window shop will keep them safer than leaving them in your vehicle. Even better – leave any valuable items at home!

While we all like to relax and not think about our responsibilities while out of town, a little prevention can help ensure a quiet (and crime-free) vacation.

## HAPPY RETIREMENT 'COACH'!

Last month, Tucker Precinct and the DeKalb County Police Department honored the service of Sergeant Steven Coachman, badge #1830. "Coach" as I call him, was my partner for many years, beginning with our stint together as members of the Interactive Community Policing team back in the 2010s. After his promotion, Sgt. Coachman and I were together again as supervisors here at Tucker Precinct's Day Watch team. Sgt. Coachman has also worked as a supervisor in our busy Homicide/Assault unit. Finally, after twenty-eight years of service to the citizens of DeKalb County, Sgt. Coachman has retired and turned in his duty belt. I will greatly miss Sergeant "Coach", someone who became a true friend to me and many others in the Department. Hope to see you fishing and playing golf my brother!



## BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

# SCRAPLANTA



In the City of Tucker, art is made and appreciated. It is a place where art is expressed and shared. Now the creative minds of Tucker have another resource to help them create more with Scraplanta. Scraplanta, a "creative reuse" store, recently opened its doors to provide the local arts community a wealth of inexpensive, "pre-loved" art supplies.

"Everybody is very receptive," Scraplanta Executive Director Jonelle Dawkins said. "We are grateful for how the Tucker folks have treated us since we have moved here."

Not only is Scraplanta a place where people can buy art supplies, it is a place where they can do so sustainably. They encourage people not to throw away their leftover art supplies or scraps, instead asking that those be donated.

"Scraplanta is a 501(c)(3) non-profit," Dawkins said. "What we do is inspire people to make art instead of throwing things away. We accept things like art, classroom, office and party supplies."

The community of Tucker has shown support to Scraplanta since before they even established a permanent location. Before Scraplanta established its roots in the Briarcliff Village Plaza, the company began with multiple pop-up shops in the Atlanta metro area. One of those spots was in the City of Tucker right beside Corner Cup. It was there that Scraplanta started to gain the support and interest of the Tucker community.

"We had some pop-ups at Corner Cup, and they just supported us from our earlier days as Scraplanta," Dawkins said. "They also help get the word out... My founders told me that when they did Corner Cup it was a great way to meet people. When I started, we had sort of a following already because people were excited from the times we had at Corner Cup and even at preschools."

After finding success with their pop-up shops, Scraplanta decided to open up shop at Briarcliff Village. The continued support of the Tucker community has flooded into the Scraplanta store. A line

of people waited outside for their doors to open for the first time.

"When I announced that we were going to be in Tucker, I saw even more excitement," Dawkins said. "There were so many people that were like, 'We know where that is! We're going to be there.'"

Dawkins said that she has many customers who come multiple times a week for their supplies and art classes, and she enjoys seeing their artwork when they are done. Dawkins has seen customers come in and buy random pieces of supplies that they then turn into masterpieces. She loves the support she has received from the Tucker community, and members of the community love the resources that Scraplanta provides.

"Tucker is a very nice city," Dawkins said. "It has a very friendly vibe. We have a lot of customers who come back every week or many times during the week. It is a very family friendly environment, so it is great for teaching classes. We have people who are excited about this in the community."

# BUSINESS BOOM

by Angela Brooks, Business Outreach Coordinator



The city of Tucker will soon begin accepting applications for its first facade grant program.

This matching program will provide from \$2,500 to \$10,000 in grants to eligible applicants to invest in renovating or repairing the street front

exterior of their commercial properties in the downtown area.

“The funds are intended to improve the aesthetics of downtown by helping owners upgrade, repair or even address safety issues that may have gone neglected due to lack of funding,” said Brian Chambers, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board Chair.

Crafted by the DDA and approved this spring by the City Council, the program allocates financial incentives for the renovation, restoration, and preservation of storefront businesses located primarily in the downtown area. The DDA is the development arm for the city of Tucker.

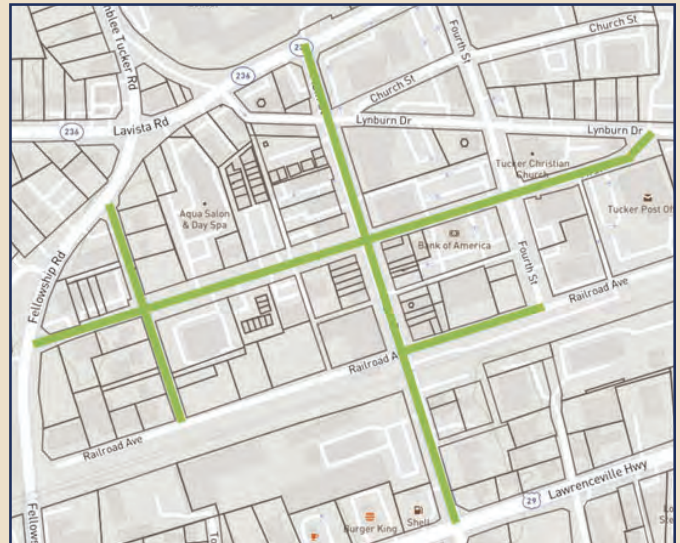
Business or property owners who qualify under the requirements can receive grants for new exterior improvements. Proposed projects can be as simple as a coat of paint or more involved construction. The program will provide reimbursement for up to 50 percent of those costs.

“The program is designed to enhance the front appearance of buildings to increase profitability, property values, and to draw additional business and patron traffic to the area,” said Chambers.

As part of the Board’s mission to promote and market the downtown area, Chambers added that this is one new tool that they can use to support that. “Helping these Tucker businesses to enhance and repair front facades and to improve their building front also serves to improving the sidewalk experience for patrons and the overall appearance of downtown.”

Facade improvement programs have proven successful in municipalities across the country for revitalizing the exterior of buildings and resulting in a more attractive location for new commercial and residential activity.

“The esthetics of a community and its business corridors are a key factor in visitors’ decisions to live, work, and shop in a municipality,” said DDA Board member Honey Van de



Kreke. Improvements, large or small, can make a dramatic enhancement not only to the property, but also to the whole of downtown Tucker.

Tucker’s facade program is also well aligned with some of the goals identified in both the city’s updated Comprehensive Plan and its newly adopted and first Economic Development Strategic Plan. Both plans can be found on [tuckerga.gov](http://tuckerga.gov) under Plans & Studies.

For fiscal year 2024, a total of \$50,000 is available through the program and will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis until funds are depleted or the fiscal year ends. Applications will be reviewed by the evaluation committee comprised of Board members and City of Tucker staff, and applicants must also be in good standing with local taxes, fees, and licensing.

“We are delighted to bring this investment opportunity to our business community at a time when their resources may be limited but the need to manage finances still exists,” said Van de Kreke.

When asked if the program’s scope will be broadened, Chambers said that if it is well received, they will look to expand its eligibility boundaries to include other strategic areas identified for revitalization.

Detailed program requirements and the application will be located on the [tuckerga.gov](http://tuckerga.gov) website soon. Also, watch the city’s main page and social media for links to the documentation.



# NEW DEPARTMENT HITS THE GROUND RUNNING



# City of Tucker

## PUBLIC WORKS

It's a busy season for the City. In addition to the TKR Summer of Fun, Parks and Recreation staff are busy operating multiple summer camps and regular programming. We've rolled into a new budget year. Our long-awaited Public Works department takes over roads and maintenance as well as stormwater from DeKalb County.

Following the referendum and vote to assume responsibility for roads and maintenance as well as stormwater management, we had to look at our 2023 millage rate. Prior to the takeover, our millage rate funded our parks. To accommodate paying for both our Public Works department and our parks, we needed to raise our millage rate. This process contained two parts. The first was a rollback of the portion of our millage rate that covered our parks from .848 to .784 mills. The second was an addition of 1.5 mills to pay for public works for a total millage rate of 2.284 mills. This resulted in an overall 191.33% increase in property taxes. It is a significant jump, but far below the maximum of three mills that voters authorized during the referendum. It is accompanied by a reduction in taxes paid to DeKalb County, as residents will not be "double dipping" and paying both the City and the County for these services.

Now that it is July, our new services begin in earnest.

See an issue on our roads or with our stormwater infrastructure? There are a few ways you can reach out to us. You can call the City on the phone, email our Public Works department, or contact us via fillable form on our website to create a service request. Our

lines of communication are open all day every day to hear your needs.

We will not be waiting for service requests from residents to start work; in fact, there are some known deficiencies we've already recorded and are beginning to fix. These range from potholes on our major roads to broken or faded signs to sidewalk and curb issues. We have a sizable list of existing needs to tide us over while we wait for the first service requests to come in, and we will prioritize reducing this backlog.

If you have kept up with our recent City Council meetings, you know we recently signed contracts for services related to our Public Works department. A few specialized contractors will provide assistance. You may see Sunbelt Traffic and subcontractor Big Apple Services in the field fixing traffic signals or restriping pavement. TriScapes, Inc. will be onsite completing right of way maintenance, road and stormwater repair and maintenance. CaJenn Construction & Rehab Services, Metals & Materials Engineers and Utility Asset Management, Inc. may also complete various stormwater repairs and maintenance. We are confident that these skilled contractors will help us provide our residents with the level of service you deserve.

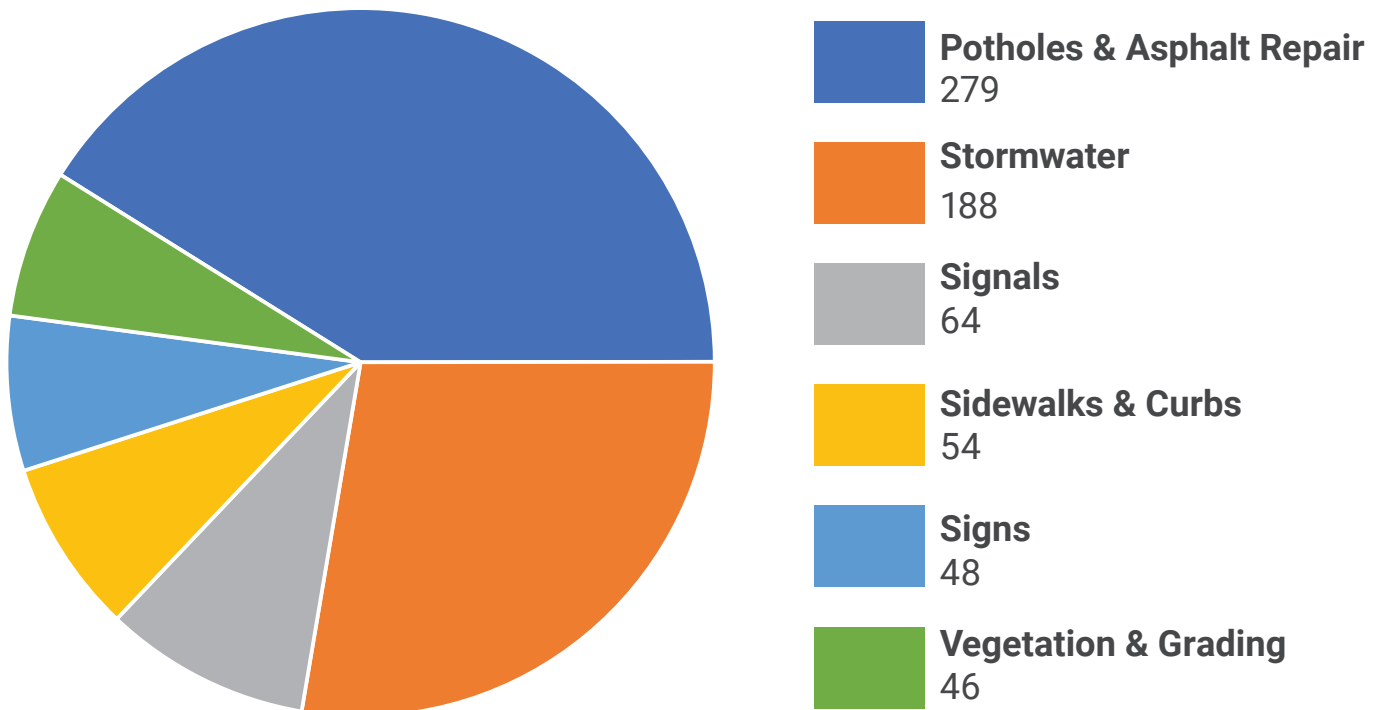
One major step in providing exceptional service was finding a location to serve as a local storage facility. This allows us to keep equipment in a centralized location and assists with our goal of ultimately reducing service delivery times by 50 percent or more. Management of public works remains at City Hall with dedicated staff from Lowe Engineering leading the service process.

## REPORT ISSUES AT 678-597-9040





# YEAR ONE PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS



## CITIZENS OF THE MONTH

# JOE & CAROLE KILPATRICK



We would like to nominate Joe and Carole Kilpatrick as The Tucker Citizen(s) of the month! We have known and worked closely with them since 2003. We met them with the reopening of the Drayton Woods Recreation Club.

Joe and Carole moved to the Tucker Community in the early 1970s from Decatur into the newly built Drayton Woods subdivision. They liked the area so much that in 1996 they moved to another home in the subdivision where they still reside. Their home has a large den addition that hosts family get togethers. Joe and Carole graciously allow it to be used as a meeting venue for community events. For example, meeting to discuss incorporation of the Tucker area into a city, DWRC Board and Club Membership Meetings, Neighborhood Watch Meetings, a neighborhood ladies party every December, etc.

They raised their two sons Joe, Jr. and Jeff while Joe opened a CPA firm and Carole worked as a secretary for the principal at Fernbank Elementary School. Joe, Jr., Jeff, and their families also reside in the Tucker area and are involved in the community.

Since moving to Tucker, the Kilpatricks have been very involved with the First United Methodist Church of Tucker. Joe serves on many committees and is very involved in Methodist Men's Ministries, including some in Africa, and has served as a delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist Church for many years. Carole volunteered at the Methodist Children's Thrift

Store until it closed, worked with other ladies at church making pillows for women with breast cancer and is involved in other church activities including a Ladies Bible Study. During COVID, Joe and Carole opened their home to host their Sunday School Class in the backyard so the class could still meet while ensuring that proper distance was maintained.

They were involved with the Drayton Woods Recreation Club (DWRC) from the time they moved into Drayton Woods subdivision until it closed in 1991. Carole was a stay-at-home Mom during the summer, and this allowed both of their boys to enjoy the pool and participate on the swim team among other activities. Joe served as the Club Treasurer for many years and continued to do so even while DWRC was closed. In 2003 many neighbors joined together to reopen DWRC. Joe and Carole were instrumental in helping the club secure a loan to cover the cost of repairing the pool and playground. Carole always served as Co-Treasurer because Joe traveled a good bit and as a CPA was especially busy during tax season. Their involvement with DWRC and the Idlewood area continues today.

Retirement has not slowed these two down. Joe works out in a local gym and continues his work with the Methodist Church. He still handles some of his CPA clients who refuse to let him retire. He was appointed to the Tucker Downtown Development Authority and has served as Chairman.

Joe and Carole have been primarily responsible for maintaining the entrance to Drayton Woods subdivision for the last twenty plus years. One reason for this is Carole's desire for the neighborhood to look good. For many years she was involved with the Drayton Woods Garden Club. Beautification also ties in with Carole's retirement because after she retired and started walking with some of our neighborhood ladies, she recruited them to bring along plastic grocery bags to pick up trash. It's a tradition that continues today. For this reason, we have a lovely, clean neighborhood.

We very much appreciate their community involvement and service to Tucker and are proud to call Joe and Carole Kilpatrick our friends and neighbors!

*Submitted by Jan Mixon and Jenny Emrich*



# NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

## WELCOME TO DR. DEVON HORTON TO DCSD

At a Called Board Meeting on April 19, the DeKalb County Board of Education overwhelmingly selected Dr. Devon Horton as the next superintendent of the DeKalb County School District (DCSD) by a vote of 6-1. Now that the Board has approved him, his contract will be negotiated to include salary, benefits, and an official start date.

Dr. Horton expressed his gratitude for being confirmed as the new DCSD superintendent and reaffirmed his commitment to improving student achievement with integrity and excellence.

“Being chosen as the superintendent of DeKalb County Schools and becoming a part of this vibrant school district and deeply caring community is both humbling and exhilarating,” Dr. Horton said. “Everything I have seen, everything I have learned, and everyone I have met throughout this process have done nothing but solidify my belief that this is a District with a substantial foundation upon which to build. Working with our Board, teachers, students, and many invested community partners, I am confident we will deliver on the promise to provide the finest public education for all students in every school.”

Board Chair Dijon DaCosta, Sr. explained the Board’s support of Dr. Horton’s experience, leadership, and vision to oversee DCSD’s nearly 93,000 scholars and 14,500 employees.

“Throughout the selection process, Dr. Horton stood out as an exceptional candidate. I am confident that he is the right person at the right time to lead our District and ensure that every scholar receives a high-quality education,” Mr. DaCosta said. “As a Board of Education, we remain determined to work together and find



consensus to improve on our current challenges while being intentional about building on the successes across our District.”

Dr. Horton is known for his dedication to student success and his ability to unite people to achieve common goals. An education veteran, Dr. Horton has over 23 years of experience and has held various positions throughout his career, including teacher, principal, and school and district administrator. Currently, Dr. Horton serves as superintendent of the Evanston/Skokie School District 65 in Illinois and brings a wealth of experience and governance to the district. Before accepting that leadership role in 2020, he was the chief of schools

for Jefferson County Public Schools in Kentucky, with over 100,000 students.

The selection process was extensive and included input from various stakeholders, including staff, parents, students, and community members. The Board of Education received many highly qualified applications and conducted multiple rounds of interviews before announcing Dr. Horton as its sole finalist on April 4.

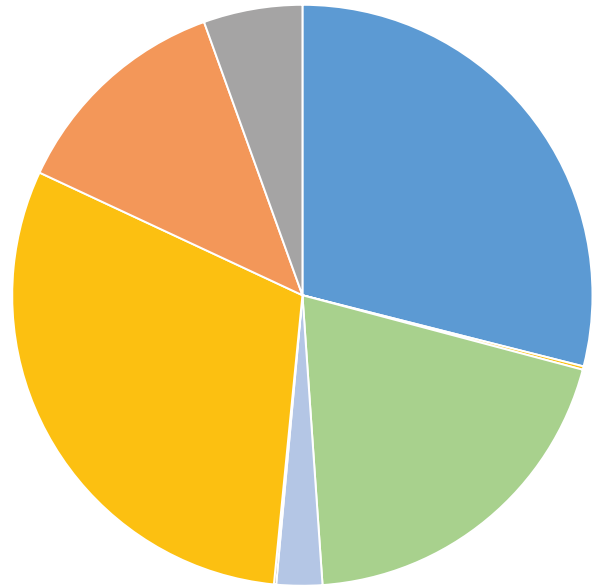
At its Regular Business Meeting on April 17, the Board extended Dr. Vasanne Tinsley’s contract through June 30, 2023, to ensure a smooth transition for the incoming superintendent. The DeKalb Board of Education wishes to thank Interim Superintendent Dr. Tinsley for her service to our District and her commitment to our scholars and the education profession.

# FY2024 BY THE NUMBERS

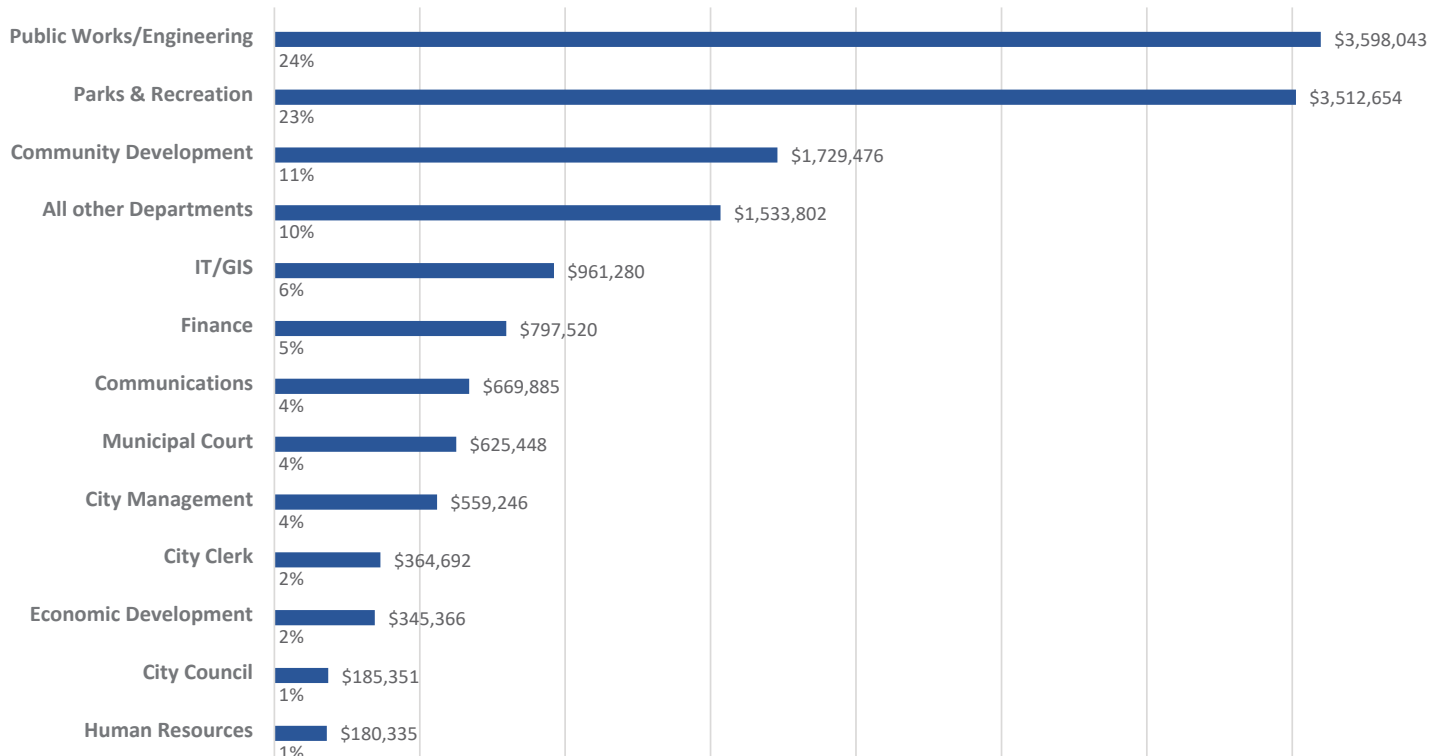
Last month the Mayor and City Council approved a balanced budget for Fiscal Year '24. The approved and complete budget was developed in accordance with state regulations and the City of Tucker Code of Ordinances, and can be found on the website at [tuckerga.gov/finance](http://tuckerga.gov/finance) and a printed copy is available for review at City Hall

## FY 2024 CITYWIDE BUDGET

General Fund .....	\$15,063,098
Tree Fund .....	\$100,000
ARPA .....	\$10,291,771
Hotel Motel Excise .....	\$1,330,000
Rental Motor Vehicle .....	\$64,800
Capital Expenditures .....	\$15,811,107
SPLOST .....	\$6,538,750
Stormwater .....	\$2,864,072



## OPERATING BUDGET - GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES





# TUCKER PARKS & REC INTRODUCES TEEN CAMP





# FIT & FUN INTUCKER

*contributed by Tucker Parks and Recreation*



July is National Parks and Recreation Month! Since 1985, we have celebrated National Parks and Recreation Month annually in July. It helps build strong, vibrant, and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation.

The City of Tucker is an active member of both the Georgia and National Parks and Recreation Associations (NRPA and GRPA). These professional organizations help local agencies meet national goals and standards to aid them in serving their communities.

Parks and Recreation professionals provide vital services—from protecting open spaces and natural resources to providing activities and resources for everyone. National Parks and Recreation Month encourages everyone to reflect on the exponential value parks and recreation professionals bring to their communities.

NRPA says:

- On national average, nearly three in four residents have at least one local park, playground, open space or recreation center within walking distance of their homes. These are standards that each local park and recreation agency strives to meet.
- Your local park and recreation agency serves as a community wellness hub, connecting members of the community to programs and services that improve health outcomes and enhance quality of life.
- Living close to parks and other recreation facilities is consistently related to higher physical activity levels for both adults and youth. Parks also provides a connection to nature, which studies demonstrate relieves stress, strengthens interpersonal relationships, and improves mental health.
- 92 percent of U.S. adults agree that it is important for youth and young adults to have access to employment opportunities. Parks and Recreation departments across the country are among the biggest employers of youth.
- Four in five U.S. adults say access to nearby parks, playgrounds, open spaces, or recreation centers is an important factor in deciding where they want to live.
- Nearly three in five adults say access to local parks and recreation is very or extremely essential to their mental and physical health.

The city has invested annually in our park system and continues to work toward meeting not just state and national goals but, more importantly, community goals. These local goals were part of the city's Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted in 2019. This plan has guided the department and is important to our efforts toward meeting the needs of the community.

We have also just approved a contract with Barge Design Solutions to update our Master Plan. Because of the extensive maintenance work and projects completed in our first five years along with the changes made in staffing and programming, this will be a vital step in positioning ourselves for the work to be done in the next 5 to 10 years.

Our parks are in great shape, and we love seeing everyone use them daily. We make every effort to maintain our parks in a safe and accessible way. We also continually look for ways to engage with our community. This month, we are encouraging everyone to visit our social media sites and tell us fun experiences you and your family have had in the parks and in any recreational programming in Tucker. We ask that you use the hashtag "#TKRwherecommunitygrows" when posting.

Come out and celebrate by visiting one of the many Tucker parks or attending one of our Summer of Fun events and activities. As always, you can contact us through our website at [tuckerga.gov/parks](http://tuckerga.gov/parks) or call us at 470-481-0205.







# TUCKER PARKS & REC FALL GOLF LEAGUE

**LEAGUE FEE - \$50**  
PLUS \$25 WEEKLY GREENS FEE



**COED - AGES 13 & UP**  
All Skill Levels Welcome

**THURSDAYS**  
**AUG. 17 - SEPT. 21**  
Shotgun Start 5:30 p.m.

**6 WEEKS**  
Weekly & Season Long Prizes

**HANDICAPPED STABLEFORD SCORING SYSTEM**

QUESTIONS: [JSTEWART@TUCKERGA.GOV](mailto:JSTEWART@TUCKERGA.GOV)



**HERITAGE GOLF LINKS**

4445 BRITT ROAD | TUCKER, GA 30084



## TUCKER Community Corner

### 7/8 – Tucker Cruise In

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Main Street

Come see a variety of cars, motorcycles and other antique and classic vehicles. The celebration ends with the presentation of awards around 2 p.m.

### 7/10 – Tucker Arts Alliance: Community Conversation

7-8 p.m.

Tucker Recreation Center  
4898 Lavista Road

Artist Sandy Teepen will share her experience promoting cultural life with the local arts community. See examples of her fabric artwork including her collages.

### 7/20 – Tucker Business Association Luncheon

11:30 a.m.

Smoke Rise Country Club  
4900 Chedworth Drive

Tucker Business Association holds a luncheon on the third Thursday of every month for networking purposes. Hear from relevant local speakers and network with your peers.