



Around the Well

April 2021

Vol 12 No 4

City Updates

FY2022 Budget Calendar

The City budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year will be presented during the City Council meeting on April 20th and will be made available on the City web site. Public comment on the proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) will be received at the April 20th council meeting. Public comment on the proposed budget document will be received at the May 18th council meeting. There will also be a public hearing opportunity at the June 15th council meeting.

District 3 Seat Vacancy

The City Council of Social Circle is seeking letters of interest from citizens to fill the vacant District 3 Council seat for the balance of the current term which ends January 2022. Under the City Charter, the vacancy must be filled by Council appointment because the remainder of the term is less than 12 months. The District 3 Council seat will be on the ballot during the regular election of November 2, 2021 for the term beginning January 2022.

Citizen Police Academy

The Social Circle Police Department is holding CPA classes on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Community Room starting on April 27th. Applications are due by April 21st and are available at the SCPD or by emailing Lieutenant Rose at rose@socialcirclega.gov. Instruction will include such things as structure of the department, uniform patrol functions, criminal investigations, use of force considerations, and firearms training. Only 10 citizen positions are available so don't take long to decide to join this exciting class.

Coffee with the City Manager

Wednesday, May 5th, 8am to 9am
Get yourself a cup of coffee and call into the City Manager during this hour at 770-464-6901

To suggest a news topic, an update topic, or to submit news items of community interest, please email aroundthewell@socialcirclega.gov

TextMyGov - Now Available 🔄 Skip the phone call and text the City the next time that you have a question or need to report an issue. A new service is being rolled out by the City starting April 1st. Text HELLO to 470-900-3966 to be introduced to the service or text REPORT, CONTACT, or FAQ for more information. Using TextMyGov, you can get forms, report issues, or search the web site. For example you may report a pothole allowing the system to ask questions about the location and your contact information. You can provide descriptions or pictures to allow for better service. The report will be sent to a City employee to respond to your concerns or contact you for more information.



A separate feature is the ability to receive Notifications from the city about breaking information such as road closures, accidents, or other incidents. You can Opt-In to the Notification List by texting SOCIALCIRCLE to 91896. There will typically be less than 4 notifications per month. The notifications can be stopped at any time by texting STOP in response to a notification.

Now it is even easier to report a pothole, or a blocked sign, or even a deer in the road, if you happen to come across one today. No need to look up a number on the web site, wonder if it is the right number, and have to talk with someone on the phone. You can now text all of the information, including pictures of the deer. Be assured that your report will be directed to the proper people and the issue will be addressed. Just remember, this is the real world and every report might not get an immediate response, rest assured, your concerns have been noted and will be followed up.

Just a reminder, standard data and message rates from your carrier may apply. Any suggestions or comments about the TextMyGov service can be directed to Young Martin at communications@socialcirclega.gov.

Return of The Well 🔄 The Well is back. After being struck yet again, it was determined that The Well was no longer structurally sound and needed to be replaced. The Well has been removed and built anew in the same location. The City of Social Circle has the iconic well back in place on Cherokee St between the Social Circle Grocery and Well Mannered.

What's Hoppin' in the Circle 🔄 Thank you to everyone who participated in the "What's Hoppin' in the Circle" promotion! We had great success and appreciate your support of our Downtown Businesses! This promotion led up to our Easter Movie which was moved to The Church at the Grove because of the rain! Thank you to W. H. Stanton Memorial Library and The Church at the Grove for partnering with us on the movie and for hosting the Easter Egg hunts! Peggy Brown was the winner of "What's Hoppin' in the Circle" and went home with a basket of goodies from downtown businesses and a \$200 gift card! Congratulations Peggy!



Financial Reporting Awards 🔄 The City of Social Circle is a proud member of both GFOA ([Governments Finance Officer's Association](http://www.gfoa.org)) and GGFOA ([Georgia Government Finance Officers Association](http://www.ggfoa.org)). For the Fiscal Year 2020 the City of Social Circle has submitted, not one, but two applications for awards through GFOA. This is the first time the City has met the criteria to apply for the awards and has done so with the public's interest in mind. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Reporting is a thorough and detailed presentation of the City's financial condition, including activities and balances of the City's major funds. This involves compiling statistical data for the City for the current through prior 10 years data and making it available in the Audited reports provided to the public. This information goes above and beyond the requirements to achieve sound financial reporting by the auditors. The second award that was applied for is the Popular Annual Financial Report, which encourages and assists state and local governments to extract information from their Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to produce high quality popular annual financial reports. The reports are specifically designed to be readily accessible and easily understandable to the general public and other

interested parties without a background in public finance. We encourage our citizens and any others interested to please review these documents on our website (socialcirclega.gov/government/budget-and-rates/), or a hard copy can be requested by contacting City Hall (770-464-2380).

Any comments or suggestions are welcome on how we can make the Popular Annual Financial Report better in the future, please submit to Jennifer Fricks at jfricks@socialcirclega.gov.

Utility News

Help Us Watch Out for Snakes! Please keep the bushes and grass trimmed around the gas and water meters on your property and keep pine straw away from water meters. This makes it easier to get an accurate reading while avoiding the possibility of snake encounters. The warm winter means more snakes, which are out and about and may be hiding in bushes, pine straw, or tall grass. With your help we can keep the meter readers safe!

Community Calendar

Farmer's Market in Friendship Park The Friendship Park Farmer's Market will be opening on April 1st. The market will be every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9 am to 6 pm. We are still accepting applications for vendors, so if you are interested please contact Amber at amckibben@socialcirclega.gov

The Lions and the Lion-Hearted Golf Tournament The annual golf tournament to support the Social Circle Police Department and the Social Circle Lions Club will be held on Friday, April 30th at The Creek at Hard Labor. The registration can be found on the socialcircle.gov web site.

Main Street Car Show The show will be happening in Downtown Social Circle on Saturday, May 1st from 9 am to 3 pm. This will be an awesome day to come out and stroll through Downtown and check out some amazing cars! For more information on this event, please call the Welcome Center at 770-464-1866.

Concert Series in Friendship Park A concert will be presented in Friendship Park on the 2nd Friday of the month in May, June, and July. The first concert will be on Friday, May 14th with local favorites Chris, Jon, and Scott.

City Reminders

Leaf and Limb Pickup Spring is here, now is a great time to remind everyone of the leaf, limb, and brush pickup schedule, weather permitting. Remember, wet leaves do not vacuum very well:

- ▶ **Monday:** North of East Hightower Road and east of North Cherokee Road.
- ▶ **Tuesday:** West of North Cherokee Road and north of West Hightower Trail and Alcova Drive.
- ▶ **Wednesday:** South of Alcova Drive and West Hightower Trail and west of South Cherokee Road.
- ▶ **Thursday:** East of South Cherokee Road and south of East Hightower Trail.
- ▶ **Friday:** Make up day to pick up brush and leaves that were missed during the week due to equipment malfunctions, emergencies, etc.

If you pile leaves or brush after your designated day of pick up listed above, city crews will pick them up on your designated day the following week, not on Friday make up days. View the pickup map online at socialcirclega.gov/leafpickup.

City Calendar

Agendas for ALL meetings, regular and called, are available
Visit the city website socialcirclega.gov or at City Hall.

April 8	8:30 am	Social Circle Development Authority (2nd Thu)	Cancelled
April 8	1:00 pm	Downtown Development Authority (2nd Thu)	City Hall
April 13	8:00 am	Main Street Commission (2nd Tue)	Church at the Grove
April 13	10:00 am	Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (2nd Tue)	Zoom
April 13	6:00 pm	Historic Preservation Commission (2nd Tue)	City Community Room
April 19	6:00 pm	Planning/Corridor Commission - Work Session (3rd Mon)	Social Circle Theatre
April 20	6:30 pm	Mayor and Council Regular Meeting (3rd Tue)	Social Circle Theatre
April 21	1:00 pm	Municipal Court (3rd Wed)	City Community Room
April 22	6:00 pm	Tree Board (4th Thu)	City Community Room
April 27	6:00 pm	Planning/Corridor Commission (4th Tue)	Middle School Activity Center
May 6	6:30 pm	Mayor and Council Work Session (1st Thu)	City Community Room

Library Calendar of Events OUR STACKS ARE OPEN!

	Curbside	TCOB Stacks
Monday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Tuesday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Wednesday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Thursday:	1 pm - 3 pm	3 pm - 7 pm
Friday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Saturday:	10 am - 12 pm	12 pm - 2 pm

Follow the W. H. Stanton Memorial Library on Facebook. Visit the link below.

[W. H. Stanton Memorial Library](#)
[Home](#) | [Facebook](#)

Utility and Tax Payment Options

In-person at City Hall Drive - Thru:
Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone:
1-877-840-5562

Online:
socialcirclega.gov/payment-options/

Night Deposit:
Open 24/7. Do not deposit cash.

Dates:
Apr 26 - Last day to pay to avoid cut-off
Apr 27 - Cut-off
Apr 29 - Current payment due date
Apr 30 - Late fees applied

Utilities cut off in error?
Call 770-464-6938 or
Text CUT-OFF to 470-900-3966.

Utility Deposit Refunds

Can be applied to account or a check processed after 12 on-time payments. Request your refund by calling City Hall 770-464-2380 and press 1

Mayor David Keener
404-713-1279 dkeener@socialcirclega.gov

District 1 Traysa Price
770-728-5893 tprice@socialcirclega.gov

District 2 Tyson Jackson
770-885-9483 tjackson@socialcirclega.gov

District 3 (vacant)

District 4 Steve Shelton
678-410-7971 jshelton@socialcirclega.gov

City Manager Adele Schirmer
770-464-6901 aschirmer@socialcirclega.gov

City Clerk Susan Roper
770-464-6902 sroper@socialcirclega.gov

Police Chief William Brinkley
770-464-2366 wbrinkley@socialcirclega.gov

Fire Chief Ken Zaydel
770-464-0621 kzaydel@socialcirclega.gov

Public Works Director Robbie Groves
770-464-6908 rgroves@socialcirclega.gov

Finance Director Jennifer Fricks
770-464-6925 jfricks@socialcirclega.gov

Downtown Director Amber McKibben
770-464-6924 ... amckibben@socialcirclega.gov

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