



Around the Well

April 2020

Vol 11 No 4

City Updates

FY20/21 Budget Calendar

The City budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year will be presented during the City Council work session on April 21 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 21 council meeting. Public comment on the proposed budget document will be received at the May 27 council meeting. There will also be a public hearing opportunity at the June 16 council meeting. Full budget calendar available on our web site: socialcirclega.gov/documents/fiscal-year-2020-2021-budget-calendar/

Upcoming Events

City Hall Closed

Friday, April 10

Taste of Social Circle

[Canceled]

City-Wide Clean-up Kick-off

[Canceled]

City-wide Yard Sale

[Canceled]

Coffee with the City Manager

Wednesday, May 6, 8-9 am

City Hall Conference Room

Independence Celebration

Saturday, June 27

Back to School Bash

Before School Starts

26th Annual Friendship Festival

Saturday, October 3

Tree Lighting

Friday, November 20

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

Dear Residents and Businesses of Social Circle,

Thank you for taking the actions you have, and continue to take for your safety, and for the safety of your friends and neighbors and family. It is incumbent upon each of us to comply with the guidance being provided by the Governor, the Georgia Department of Health, the CDC, and the President to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, support our health care workers and do our part so that our local health care system can support us. We appreciate our local restaurants continuing to serve the community with drive through, carryout and pick up orders in a safe and careful way. We appreciate our grocery stores staying open and maintaining limits on shoppers to help us maintain social distancing. The Governor's Order allows our essential services and other businesses to continue to operate – with strict adherence to practices that limit concentrations of people. We appreciate our local businesses, industries, and organizations and encourage them to participate in the programs, grants, and loans established to help our economy weather this storm.

The City will continue to provide essential services to the community, in compliance with the Governor's Order, and in a safe and responsible manner. We welcome calls, emails, and suggestions to help us serve you better.

We wish to all of our community good health, safety, and that we maintain communication to help each other through this crisis. We are proud to be a part of Social Circle, a City in which we pull together for the benefit of all in our community.

COVID-19 Updates

If you have questions about the novel Coronavirus, the State of Georgia has a new COVID-19 hotline: 844.442.2681

If you believe that you are experiencing symptoms, or have been exposed to the virus, call your primary care doctor, an urgent care facility or your local federally qualified healthcare center. Please do not show up unannounced at an emergency room or healthcare facility.

Georgia Governor Kemp's Executive Order

On April 2, Governor Kemp issued an executive order requiring that all residents shelter-in-place.

- ◆ Please stay home, except to go to work or get necessary supplies.
- ◆ Restaurants can continue to provide food to delivered or taken to-go.
- ◆ Businesses can continue to operate as long as they follow social distancing guidelines.

For details, see the documents on our website. <https://socialcirclega.gov/city-covid-19-resources/>

If you observe a local business violating this order, please call 9-1-1.

City Updates

All City facilities are closed to the public. The City will provide essential services while minimizing the risk to the public.

- ◆ For everyone's safety, drive-thru, email, phone calls are encouraged for City business. If that does not meet your need, please call City Hall to schedule an appointment (770) 464-2380.
- ◆ If you need help with code, zoning or permits, please call (770) 464-6905.
- ◆ City public works and public safety services are continuing as usual.

Utilities

You can pay your utility bill at the drive-thru, drop-box, online or by phone. For new Utility Service, call City Hall (770-464-2380) or email rrobertson@SocialCircleGA.com.

The collection of household bulk items service has been suspended at this time. Do not put extra garbage bags outside of the cart. You can schedule a special pick up with the City for an additional fee, if needed.

Transit

Social Circle Transit service has been suspended. If you need to go somewhere and have no other way to get there, please call (770) 464-2953.

Senior Center

The Senior Center is closed through April 30. They are providing frozen and shelf-stable food items to members on Mondays.

Elections

The Georgia Secretary of State, Brad Raffensperger, announced that the March 24 election is being moved to May 19, the date of Georgia's other primary elections. This does include our local election for the District 3 City Council position. All votes that have already been cast will be counted for the May 19 election. Look for details on voting in the May newsletter.

Court

If you were scheduled for a court date for March 18 or April 15, you should receive a letter about the status of your case. Many cases are rescheduled to May and June. Please call the Court Clerk at 770-464-6904 if you have questions or have not received a letter.

Gov. Kemp, UGA's SBDC Provide Overview of CARES Act Funding

Congress passed Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, a \$2.2 trillion stimulus package, and SBA programs designed to lead the way in small business recovery. Yesterday, Governor Kemp announced the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the Georgia Department of Economic Development, and the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) are partnering to make sure that every small business in Georgia is aware of these programs.

Beginning next week, the Georgia SBDC will conduct a series of webinars to help explain the small business assistance in the CARES Act. More information about these webinars and other tools to assist Georgia's small businesses can be found at:

<https://www.georgiasbdc.org/georgia-small-business-recovery/>

Resources

Walton County Updates - <https://www.waltoncountygga.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?sort=date>

Georgia DPH Updates - <https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus>

CDC Updates - <http://coronavirus.gov>

FEMA Coronavirus Rumor Control - <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus-rumor-control>

CDC Tips to keep children healthy while school's out - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/children.html>

Walton County Chamber of Commerce SBA Paycheck Protection Program Information - <https://www.waltonchamber.org/Walton-Strong>

Census 2020

National Census Day was April 1, but you have until April 30 to reply. If you do not reply by then, they will send a Census worker to your house to collect your information. Complete the census today by visiting my2020census.gov. If you have questions about completing the Census, call Barbara Schlageter at (770) 464 - 6905.

Volunteers Needed!

All the wonderful events we hold each year are made possible through the help of our awesome volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amber McKibben at amckibben@socialcirclega.com or 770-464-1866 or complete the form at socialcirclega.gov/volunteer/.

School News

City Calendar

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

April 9	8:30 am	Social Circle Development Authority (2nd Thurs in Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)	CANCELED
April 9	10:00 am	Downtown Development Authority (2nd Thu bi-monthly)	Teleconference
April 14	8:00 am	Main Street Commission Board (2nd Tue)	Church at the Grove
April 14	10:00 am	Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (2nd Tue)	CANCELED
April 14	6:00 pm	Historic Preservation Commission (2nd Tue)	CANCELED
April 15	1:00 pm	Municipal Court (3rd Wednesday)	CANCELED
April 21	5:30 pm	Mayor and Council Work Session (3rd Tue)	Teleconference
April 21	6:30 pm	Mayor and Council Regular Meeting (3rd Tue)	Teleconference
April 23	6:00 pm	Tree Board (4th Thu)	CANCELED
April 28	6:00 pm	Planning/Corridor Commission (4th Tues)	Community Room

City Hall will be closed: Friday, Apr 10, Monday, May 25, Friday, July 3, Monday, Sept 7, Thursday, Nov 26, Friday, Nov 27, Thursday, Dec 24, Friday, Dec 25, Friday, Jan 1, 2021.

Library News

The W.H. Stanton Memorial Library team is still hard at work ensuring that our community stays well informed and connected during this difficult time. Library Manager, Amy Hicks, has been connecting with the community by offering live Facebook story times every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10:30 am. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates and library news, fun craft ideas, and entertaining story times! We would like to thank our loyal patrons and the entire community for your continued support and understanding as we strive to make the best of this current situation. We remain hopeful that the library will be able to safely reopen to the public soon.

Utility and Tax Payment Options

Drive-thru City Hall:

Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone:

1-877-840-5562

Online:

socialcirclega.gov/payment-options/

Night Deposit:

24/7. Do not deposit cash.

Dates:

Apr 27 - Last day to pay to avoid cut-off
Apr 28 - Cut-off
Apr 29 - Current payment due date
Apr 30 - Late fees applied

Utilities cut off in error?

Call 770-464-6938

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

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

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

District 3 (vacant)

District 4 Steve Shelton
678-410-7971 jsshelton@socialcirclega.com

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

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

Police Chief Jeffrey Fuesting
770-464-2366 policechief@socialcirclega.com

Fire Chief Ken Zaydel
770-464-0621 firechief@socialcirclega.com

Public Works Director Jason Langley
770-464-6912 jlanglely@socialcirclega.com

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

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