

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

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The increase in revenue over 2024, using the current millage rate of 3.50 mils, is the result of the reassessment of property values by the Gwinnett County Board of Tax Assessors and new construction added to the city tax digest over the last year, not an actual increase in the millage rate.

By keeping the millage rate at 3.50 mills, the proposed tax increase for a **homestead property** in the city of Sugar Hill, with an average fair market value of \$475,000, would be \$26.98 per year and the proposed tax increase for a **non-homestead property** in the city of Sugar Hill, with an average fair market value of \$500,000, would be \$28.40 per year.

All concerned citizens are invited to attend one or all the public hearings to be held at City Hall, Council Chambers, 5039 West Broad Street, Sugar Hill, Georgia on the following dates and times:

Public Hearing #1 **Monday, September 8, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.**

Public Hearing #2 **Monday, September 8, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.**

The Mayor and Council will hold a special-called meeting on **Monday, September 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** to conduct the **third and final Public Hearing** before taking public action to **set the city 2025 Millage Rate.**

CURRENT 2025 TAX DIGEST AND 5 - YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

The City of Sugar Hill does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 5039 West Broad Street, Sugar Hill, Georgia 30518 on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Pursuant to the requirements of OCGA 48-5-32 does hereby publish the current year's tax digest and levy along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

<i>INCORPORATED</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2025</i>
Real & Personal	\$1,080,727,240	\$1,146,238,870	\$1,465,112,990	\$1,699,621,520	\$1,810,360,604	\$2,119,039,040
Motor Vehicles	\$7,203,900	\$5,576,590	\$4,975,820	\$4,902,330	\$4,319,750	\$3,893,420
Mobile Homes	\$844,560	\$854,480	\$903,520	\$900,640	\$898,640	\$1,018,240
Timber - 100%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Duty Equipment	\$369,350	\$163,213	\$199,580	\$184,610	\$567,630	\$608,340
Gross Digest	\$1,089,145,050	\$1,152,833,153	\$1,471,191,910	\$1,705,609,100	\$1,816,146,624	\$2,124,559,040
Less M&O Exemptions	\$21,317,964	\$21,688,806	\$21,479,860	\$29,566,888	\$86,721,104	\$211,257,066
Net M & O Digest	\$1,067,827,086	\$1,131,144,347	\$1,449,712,050	\$1,676,042,212	\$1,729,425,520	\$1,913,301,974
Gross M&O Millage	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.69	3.50	3.50
Less Rollbacks						
Net M&O Millage	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.69	3.50	3.50
Net Taxes Levied	\$4,057,742	\$4,298,348	\$5,508,905	\$6,184,596	\$6,052,989	\$6,696,557
Total City Value	\$1,067,827,086	\$1,131,144,347	1,449,712,050	1,693,689,940	1,729,425,520	1,913,301,974
Total City Taxes Levied	\$4,057,742	\$4,298,348	5,508,905	\$6,184,596	\$6,052,989	\$6,696,557
Net Taxes \$ Increase	\$272,848	\$240,606	\$1,210,557	\$675,691	-\$131,607	\$643,568
Net Taxes % Increase	7.31%	5.93%	28.16%	12.27%	-2.13%	10.63%

NOTE: Some distortion in figures may occur data was obtained from City and County records.

Kemp: South American trade trip going better than expected

By Dave Williams
Capital Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The Georgia delegation on a trade mission to South America this week is working on prospective deals with three companies, Gov. Brian Kemp told Capital Beat Wednesday in an exclusive interview from Brazil.

"This trip has exceeded my expectations," Kemp said from São Paulo, where he has spent the first part of the week before heading to Argentina on Thursday. "The meetings we've had have been high quality."

Brazil is one of Georgia's major trading partners, accounting for \$748 million in exports last year. The Peach State's business ties to Argentina are less extensive, with \$120 million in exports in 2024.

"The U.S. has not paid enough attention to South America," Kemp said. "There's real opportunities here we need to take advantage of."

...The Chinese are in Brazil. We need to make our presence known."

Kemp said two of the three prospective deals with Brazilian companies the Georgia delegation is working on would be located in rural Georgia. Throughout his two terms as governor, he has made rural economic development a major priority.

More recently, the state Department of Agriculture has been looking to help Georgia industries devastated by Hurricane Helene — including timber, pecans, and poultry — recover from the damage the storm inflicted. Another economic blow fell just last week when International Paper announced plans to close two paper mills in the Savannah area, putting 1,100 employees out of work.

"We're looking to find new markets for commodities that have been significantly hit," said Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Tyler Harper, who is on the trip with the governor.

This week's trip is coming amid a backdrop of huge tariffs President Donald Trump has imposed on countries around

the world. Among the highest are the 50% tariffs the president has slapped on Brazil.

But Kemp said one of the companies the Georgia delegation met with has been able to convince Trump to reduce the 50% tariff on that company to 10%.

"The White House is talking to and working with these companies," he said. "Hopefully, there will be stabilization at some point."

Kemp said members of the delegation will look to land more trade opportunities with businesses in Argentina when the group travels to Buenos Aires. Argentinian President Javier Milei has transformed that nation's economy since taking office in December 2023, reducing inflation and growing the economy.

"There's something good going on in Argentina," Kemp said. "With what the new administration is doing, we want to go and learn more about that."

After visiting Argentina, the Georgia delegation will return to Atlanta on Saturday.

Police: Mother kept gun fired at Meadowcreek Elementary in broken lock box in closet

By Curt Yeomans
curt.yeomans@gwinnettdailypost.com



Deevasha Webb

The mother of a Meadowcreek Elementary School accused of firing a gun at the school earlier this month allegedly kept the firearm in a broken lock box, Gwinnett County Public Schools Police wrote in a warrant for her arrest.

School police have charged Deevasha Webb, 36, with misdemeanor reckless conduct. The charge stems from an Aug. 14 incident where her 9-year-old son allegedly took her Taurus G3Gmm handgun to Meadowcreek Elementary and shot a toilet.

The warrant for Webb's arrest asserts she kept the handgun in a lock box that she knew was broken. The box was located in her closet.

"Deevasha Webb did endanger the bodily safety or another person by consciously disre-

garding a substantial and unjustifiable risk that her act or omission would cause harm to or endanger the safety of said person," GCPSP Police wrote in the warrant.

"Such disregard constituted a gross deviation from the standard of care which a reasonable person would have exercised in the situation."

Webb's arrest means both she and her son are facing criminal charges stemming from the shooting at Meadowcreek Elementary.

School system police said the shooting happened before classes began for the day and that a toilet was damaged by the shooting. No people were reported to have been injured in the incident.

Webb has two sons who were enrolled in Gwinnett

County Public Schools, according to the warrant for her arrest. It is not clear how old the other son is or whether he also attended Meadowcreek Elementary.

"(Webb) stated that she routinely searches both of her juvenile sons before school, but failed to search on this date," Police said in the warrant.

GCPSP officials have come under fire from community members for how they communicated news of the shooting to the community. The district did not release a video statement explaining what happened until more than a day after the shooting occurred.

At the time, GCPSP officials said they initially knew the student broke the toilet but did not know the student had brought the gun the school until the next day.

GCPSP is installing weapons detection devices in middle and high schools this fall, but not in elementary schools.

Husband and wife team running for Grayson City Council seats

By Curt Yeomans
curt.yeomans@gwinnettdailypost.com

One household in Grayson is going to be a little extra busy during the municipal election season.

That's because it contains not just one candidate in Grayson's municipal election, but two.

Husband and wife team Zach and Shunverie Rushing are running for seats on the Grayson City Council — not the same seat, but two seats all the same. Zach is one of three candidates running for the open City Council Post 4 seat while Shunverie is running against incumbent councilman Bob Foreman for the Council Post 2 seat.

"While running separate campaigns for different seats, the Rushings share a vision for Grayson that balances growth with community values," the couple's campaigns said in a statement.

"Their combined expertise in business and education offers comprehensive solutions to our city's challenges."

Shunverie has nearly 20 years of experience in high education and leadership experience in diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives in educational and nonprofit settings.

She has two bachelor's degrees, one in political science and another in criminal justice, from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock; a master's degree in college student personnel services and administration from the University of Central Arkansas; and a Ph.D. degree in educational management from Hampton University.

Meanwhile, Zach is a youth soccer coach who previously ran for a seat on the Gwinnett County Board of Education in 2014.

The couple is running on a platform that economic empowerment, including supporting small business initiatives and incentives for business growth; educational partnerships; and transparency, including accessible communication and regular engagement with constituents.

Information about their campaigns can be found by visiting rushing.us.

AUBURN CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FIELD SET

Two incumbent Auburn councilmen will face some challenges as they try to win new terms this fall.

The Barrow County Elections Office released the candidate fields for all city cities. That includes Auburn, which is mostly in Barrow County but has a small portion that is located across the county line in Gwinnett County.

Auburn has two city council seats up for election this year. Incumbents councilmen Taylor Sisk and Robert Vogel III

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK



Photo: rushing.us

Husband and wife team Zach and Shunverie Rushing are running for seats on the Grayson City Council this fall.

who has served as the secretary of the Gwinnett county Democratic Party, is a member of the Young Democrats of Georgia and volunteered for the campaigns of U.S. Sens. Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock. He's also a Duluth Fall Festival and Kiwanis Club volunteer. He is a Kennesaw State University graduate has lived in Gwinnett for more than 20 years and is active with Indian-American and Asian-American organizations in Georgia.

Abraham said his campaign

ABRAHAM RUNNING TO BE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S CANDIDATE IN HOUSE DISTRICT 99 RACE

Another candidate is jumping in the ring for a shot at facing off against state Rep. Matt Reeves next year.

Shelly Abraham has kicked off his campaign for the Democratic nomination for Reeves' House District 99 seat. Abraham will face Michelle Kang in the Democratic primary next spring. Reeves, a Republican, will face the Democratic nominee in November 2026.

"Our community deserves a representative who listens, who shows up, and who puts families first, not wealthy out of district donors and corporate PACs," Abraham said in his announcement. "I'm running for State House because every child in our district deserves a great education just like I received in Gwinnett County, every family deserves affordable healthcare and housing, and every resident deserves to live in a safe and inclusive Georgia."

"Matt Reeves has championed policies that have made it more expensive to live in Georgia, far too often his legislative priorities have focused on rewarding Republican donors and special interests, and he's never had the backbone to stand up to his party when the MAGA far right promotes attacks on immigrant communities, women's rights, or seeks to defund our public schools and healthcare coverage. In 2026, I want to give this district a clear choice about which set of policies will allow our families to achieve and sustain the American Dream."

Abraham is a mechanical engineer for EV battery plants

will focus on: supporting and protecting local public schools; promoting affordable housing; reducing costs for healthcare, utilities and insurance; implementing anti-gun violence policies and investments for public safety; protecting reproductive and civil rights; easing tax burdens that families and small businesses face; and creating opportunities for careers and entrepreneurship.

"Our district represents what's best about Georgia, diversity, opportunity, and a deep sense of community," Abraham said. "But our values are under attack and the American Dream feels out of reach for more Georgians. I'm ready to stand up at the State Capitol and fight for the future we all believe in."

POPE KICKS OFF NEW CAMPAIGN FOR DACULA CITY COUNCIL

Erica Pope came tantalizingly close to winning a seat on the Dacula City council in 2023, so it is probably no surprise that she is giving running for public office another shot this year.

Pope, who is a licensed social worker, officially kicked off her new campaign for a seat on the Dacula City Council

just as candidate qualifying for the November municipal election began earlier this month. She is running against incumbent councilman Jason Shelton for his seat on the Council.

"I'm running for Dacula City Council because our community deserves thoughtful leadership that puts people first," Pope said. "As a Licensed Social Worker and mental health advocate, I've spent my life helping families navigate complex systems."

"I want to build a cleaner, safer, and more inclusive Dacula — supporting our small businesses, expanding educational opportu-

nities, and creating spaces where every resident feels supported and empowered. Let's move Dacula forward, together."

Two years ago, Pope lost her first bid for a seat on the City Council by just 10 votes to Councilwoman Ann Mitchell. City Council seats are at-large in Dacula.

Pope is running on a platform of connected communities, inclusive communication, supporting small businesses as a way to drive economic growth and strengthening mental health resources. She earned her bachelor's degree from Auburn University and her master's degree in human resource leadership from Capella University.

Pope's campaign website can be found at www.ericapopefordacula.com.

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NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the City of Dacula will conduct a meeting pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 22-2-10 on September 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. to consider a resolution to authorize the exercise of eminent domain for the parcels of property listed below:

Tax Parcel R5301 128 Aaron Ballard 2535 Sanjo Street
Tax Parcel R5301 084 Osorio Sanchez and Janeth Carmen 2535 Sanjo Street

A portion of the properties are needed for storm water drainage easements and associated temporary construction easements to construct stormwater drainage and street improvements. The meeting will take place at the City Council Chambers at the Dacula City Hall, 442 Harbins Road, Dacula, Georgia at 7:00 p.m. on September 4, 2025.

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