

FULTON COUNTY

Fulton County Government 2009 ANNUAL REPORT





Vision without action is merely a dream;
Action without vision just passes the time;
Vision with action can change the world.
Author Unknown



VISION, VALUES, CULTURE

Our Vision

To become an organization that simultaneously delivers quality programs and services, outstanding customer value, and sound financial performance.

Our Operating Values

- Prevention & Proactivity
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Service Excellence
- Equity
- Ethics

Organizational Culture

- Create alignment - all departments and employees working towards the same mission and goals
- Drive accountability from the top down- each employee takes responsibility for his/her area of influence
- Improve customer service- treat each customer as a V.I.P. (including fellow employees)
- Encourage employee involvement/communications- using focus groups, user groups, and meetings to listen to and communicate with employees



Fulton County Arts Council



Fulton County Fire Fighter

lead-er-ship [lee-der-ship] noun - an act or instance of leading; guidance; direction.

The Fulton County Board of Commissioners

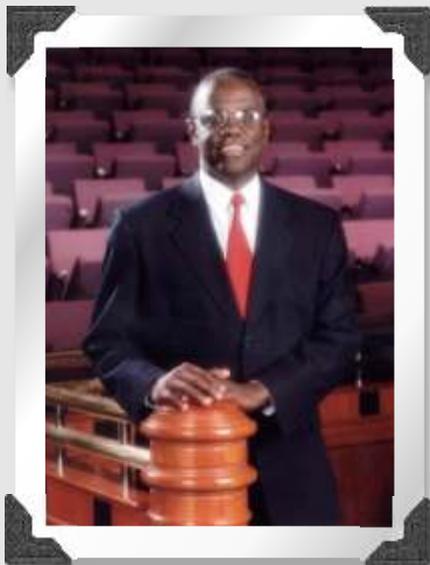
Fulton county is governed by a 7-member Board of Commissioners. Fulton County is a County Manager system of government in which the County Manager is responsible for the overall administration of all County departments as the combined organization implements the policies of the Board of Commissioners.

John H. Eaves
Chairman, District 1, At-Large

As the Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, I have the privilege of serving all of our one million residents. I am proud of the leadership role Fulton County has taken in the region on issues such as healthcare and transportation. And I am proud of the services we provide to our residents. In tough times, they should know that we are here to stand in the gap. As we move into 2010, I remain committed to our County remaining strong as we balance demands and resources.



John.Eaves@fultoncountyga.gov
404-612-8206



William "Bill" Edwards
Vice Chairman, District 7

Thank you, citizens of Fulton County, for your unwavering support and for continuing to stand strong in 2009. We are excited about the opportunity to provide services that will enhance your quality of life.

A few of our major projects in 2009 were:

- Southwest Performing Arts Center drew over 40,000 people.
- The Wolf Creek Amphitheater is 98% complete.
- Canine Crossing, the first dog park located in unincorporated Fulton, opened in October.
- A number of parks were renovated, along with renovation of Fire Station No. 7.

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Good things continue to happen in Fulton County!



Robb.Pitts@fultoncountyga.gov
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Commissioner Robert L. "Robb" Pitts District 2, At-Large

As Fulton County is faced with issues including unemployment and foreclosures, it is incumbent on all of us to make sure we respond to our citizens' needs and exercise due diligence in managing their resources. I am particularly proud of our efforts to make County proceedings more accessible to residents by holding two evening sessions of the Board of Commissioners last year. This government belongs to the people of Fulton County – they need to be at the table as we make decisions about our future.

Commissioner Lynne Riley District 3

Looking back at the previous year, it is clear to see that we are at a critical point in Fulton County's history. Our emphasis must continue to include review of our services to ensure that they truly meet residents' needs and that they are managed within our resources. Of special importance in the last year was the substantial completion of the Johns Creek Environmental Campus, slated to go online in 2010. Moving forward, I ask citizens to continue to provide feedback about their priorities, particularly in these challenging economic times.

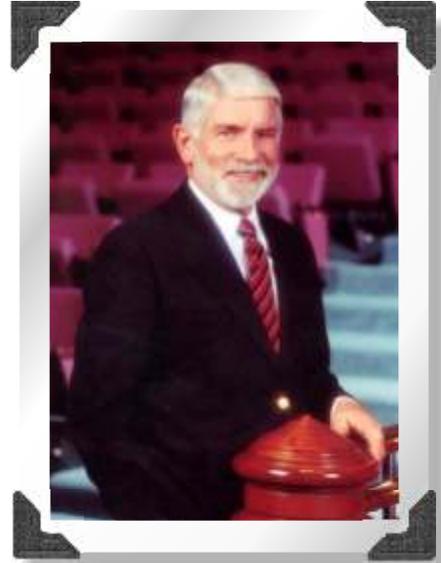


Lynne.Riley@fultoncountyga.gov
404-612-8213

← LEADERSHIP

Commissioner Tom Lowe
District 4

We have tightened our belt financially, made some cuts without materially reducing services to the public and will continue to watch the purse strings on your behalf. Fulton County is one of best run counties in our state, if not the best. Only two counties in our state have a higher financial rating. You are in good hands.



Tom.Lowe@fultoncountyga.gov
404-612-8218



Emma.Darnell@fultoncountyga.gov
404-612-8222

Commissioner Emma I. Darnell
District 5

It is important that, according to the public record, Fulton County is number 1 in growth, number 1 in population and number 1 in financial condition.

However, in the end, government is not about WHO we are - government is about WHAT we are, what we believe and what we stand for: "One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all."

It is a proven formula for success!



Nancy.Boxill@fultoncountyga.gov
404-612-8226

Commissioner Nancy A. Boxill District 6

There is no doubt that 2009 posed challenges for Fulton County as we worked within budget constraints to meet an increasing demand for services. My colleagues on the Board and I remained committed to making sure the services we had worked hard to enhance over the years were maintained during the current economy. In some cases, we were able to enhance services. The re-opening of the renovated Neighborhood Union Health Center was among the special accomplishments in District 6 in 2009. The new center combines a number of key services under one roof for the convenience and improved wellbeing of our residents. As we move into a new decade, I am asking citizens to stay informed, stay involved and stay in touch.



A Board of Commissioners Meeting
at the South Fulton Annex

From the County Manager

I am pleased to present this annual report on behalf of the men and women of Fulton County Government. My role as Fulton County Manager is to ensure that we blend best practices from business and government - to provide innovative public service with a vigilant eye on resource management. We provide a network of local government services with a team of more than 5,000 employees serving more than 1 million Fulton County residents - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Service is delivered to Fulton County residents through the framework of a strong County government with outstanding fiscal management and a strong commitment to efficient and measurable programming.

Fulton County maintains a AA high investment grade credit rating. We have maintained a strong fund balance and have not increased our millage rate in more than a decade.

We are able to achieve these accomplishments by focusing on four key areas:

- Sound leadership
- A system of accountability
- Citizen accessibility to resources they need
- Continuous improvement in service delivery

Leadership, Accountability, Accessibility and Service is what makes Fulton work for its citizens. Recent economic downturns have posed challenges for Fulton County and other local governments across the U.S. But we persevere, we plan, and we know that prosperity will continue in Fulton County.

Most importantly, we are proud of the work we do and of the communities we serve. Whatever the circumstances, we are there when you need us.



FULTON COUNTY - THE ECONOMIC ENGINE OF THE STATE

Fulton County, with Atlanta as its largest city, is often referred to as the economic engine of the state of Georgia. Indeed, Fulton is the central hub for government and industry in the state and the Southeast. According to the Georgia Department of Economic Development, since 2008, 52 companies have chosen to set up shop in Fulton County. This translates into a total investment of \$998 million and the creation of 4,857 jobs.

According to the Georgia Department of Economic Development:

There are 13 Fortune 500 companies and 26 Fortune 1000 companies with headquarters in Georgia, in particular Fulton County, including such names as CNN/Turner Broadcasting, Coca-Cola, Delta Air Lines, Equifax, Internet Security Systems, Ciba Vision, Intercontinental Hotels and Resorts, Earthlink and UPS.

76 governments from throughout the world have consular offices and/or trade representation in Fulton County and 39 bi-national chambers of commerce call the County home.

The Georgia World Congress Center in Metro Atlanta is the fourth largest convention center in the U.S.

Georgia has three general-purpose Foreign Trade Zones in Fulton County, Brunswick and Savannah, where firms can delay, reduce and, in certain cases, eliminate U.S. customs duties on imported items.

Georgia boasts almost 70 public colleges, universities, and technical colleges around the state in addition to more than 45 private institutions of higher learning. Several of the highest ranked and nationally recognized colleges are located in Fulton County including: Georgia State University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Morehouse College and Spelman College.

The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum, located in Fulton County is one of 12 national presidential libraries across the country and the only one in the Southeastern United States.

A study, sponsored in part by Georgia State University, shows the number of charitable non-profits in the state grew 36% from 2000 to 2005. Fulton County has long been home to notable philanthropic institutions including: The Arthritis Foundation®, The American Cancer Society®, CARE® and nearly half of the state's other non-profit organizations.

The Atlanta-Athens region is in the 97th percentile for Research & Development funding nationally and Georgia Tech-Emory Department of Biomedical Engineering ranked 2nd in the US (*U.S. News & World Report*).

Along with attracting large businesses and organizations, Fulton County also draws multiple nationally-recognized events each year:

The 2009 BIO International Convention, the world's top gathering for the biotechnology field. The Convention included 14,352 attendees and 190 companies.

Chick fil-A Bowl - generated \$35.8 million

SEC Football Championship - generated \$33.4 million

Bank of America Football Classic - generated \$28.3 million

ACC Basketball Tournament- generated \$22.8 million

FULTON AND THE STATE OF GEORGIA.... OTHER ECONOMIC TIES THAT BIND

Fulton County is home to the state's largest city, and as a major business, tourism, and transportation hub for the region, is a major force in the state's convention and visitor industry.

The metro Atlanta region as a whole receives an average of 35 million visitors per year. Of these, one-third are business convention visitors.

Tourism is a driving force in Fulton County and across the state. Each Georgia household pays \$518 less in local and state taxes due to direct tourism expenditures. In October 2009, a study prepared by the U.S. Travel Association and commissioned by the Georgia Department of Economic Development was released on the 2008 Travel Economic Impact on the State, County and Region. Fulton County ranked first among Georgia counties by expenditure levels.



According to the 2009 U.S. Travel Association Study, the economic impact of tourism in Fulton County in 2008 totaled approximately \$6.6 billion comprising more than half of tourism dollars spent in the metro Atlanta area (\$11.6 billion) and nearly one-third of the economic impact in the state (\$20.8 billion). Domestic and international travelers' expenditures brought in \$1.3 billion in direct payroll income in Fulton County, compared with \$6.3 billion in the state and \$4.7 billion in metro Atlanta.

Fulton County's funding of the arts is a major contributor to tourism dollars. Contracts for services with arts agencies from the High Museum, Alliance Theater, and grass-roots arts non-profits, all help enhance Fulton County's attraction as a tourism destination.

Domestic and international travelers' expenditures in Georgia generated nearly \$1.5 billion in tax revenue for state and local governments in 2008. Of that, nearly \$925 million was generated from Metro Atlanta, including \$493 million generated in Fulton County.

The following chart offers a closer look at the numbers:

Economic Impact of Domestic Travel in Georgia by State, Region, and County-2008

Region/County/State	Expenditures (\$ millions)	Payroll (\$ Millions)	Employment (Thousands)	State Tax (\$ millions)	Local Tax (\$ millions)
State of Georgia	19,025	6,339.7	220.8	850.6	574.6
Atlanta Metro	11,574.34	4,685.7	138.6	571.9	351.6
Fulton County Percentage	34.72	28.40	26.24	34.21	35.21

(For the purposes of the Study, the metro Atlanta Region includes: Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Henry counties.)

Source: 2008 Economic Impact Study - U.S. Travel Association in Washington D.C.

STEWARDSHIP

stew·ard [stoo-erd, styoo-]noun - a person who manages another's property or financial affairs; one who administers anything as the agent of another or others.



The Fulton County Board of Commissioners is responsible for ensuring good stewardship of taxpayer dollars whether that be funds received through federal, state or local government sources. The economic challenges of 2009 resulted in Fulton County receiving additional federal funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

On February 13, 2009, Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 at the urging of President Obama, who signed it into law four days later. A direct response to the economic crisis, the Recovery Act has three immediate goals:

- Create new jobs and save existing ones,
- Spur economic activity and invest in long-term growth, and
- Foster unprecedented levels of accountability and transparency in government spending.



Workforce Development



Workforce Development

STEWARDSHIP

In 2009, Fulton County received \$14,745,109 in Stimulus money. The projects below are examples of the work funded by Fulton County's Stimulus dollars.

- Georgia's first ARRA highway stimulus project was the resurfacing of four miles of U.S. Highway 19/State Route 3 in Hapeville. The project cost an estimated \$940,000.
- The Fulton County Arts Council received \$250,000 to save or preserve arts jobs threatened by the economic downturn.
- The Department of Housing and Community Development was awarded \$13,358,410 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Urban Development Neighborhood Stabilization. The grant money will be used to counter real estate foreclosures and other recession related community revitalization needs. \$10,333,410 was awarded prior to the Recovery Act. The remaining \$3,025,000 was awarded as part of the Recovery Act.
- Human Services received \$896,069 to provide case management and support services to prevent homelessness.
- Human Services received \$1.4 million dollars to provide training and employment services for dislocated workers.
- Human Services received \$655,710 to provide employment and training to youth ages 16-24 that are low income and have barriers to employment (i.e., juvenile offenders).
- Human Services received \$198,415 to provide congregate and home delivered meals for seniors.
- The District Attorney's office received \$82,956 to hire additional staff assigned to addressing the backlog of cases pertaining to violence against women.
- The Fulton County Police Department received \$1.2 million dollars to hire 7 new police officers.
- The Fulton County Police Department received \$398,140 to purchase new laptops and high speed wireless modems for officers to use in their vehicles.



U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation John D. Pocari at kick-off of first Stimulus DOT project in Georgia in Hapeville.



DOT Board Member Emory McClinton, representing Fulton County

OUR BUDGET

One of the top priorities of Fulton County's leadership team is to manage the County budget with financial transparency so that County residents will know exactly where their money is going.

Total expenditures for the 2009 General Fund, which includes countywide services, are budgeted at \$665,839,742. The General Fund budget was based on a continuation of the 2008 millage rate of 10.28 mills.

Highlights in the 2009 General Fund budget include:

- Funding to Grady Health System at \$76.5 million, contingent upon satisfaction of certain accountability and reporting requirements. \$26.5 million of the total allocation was held in contingency until a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is negotiated between the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority and Fulton County,
- A grant of \$100,000 over the 2008 funding amount for the National Black Arts Festival to support programming and debt management,
- An additional \$400,000 for expansion of the senior home repair program managed by the Fulton County Human Services Department's Office of Aging,
- An additional \$125,000 to provide home-delivered meals to an additional 100 frail elderly persons, through a program managed by the Fulton County Human Services Department's Office of Aging,
- An additional \$70,000 for the Transforming the Lives of Children early childhood behavioral health program, managed by the Fulton County Human Services Department's Office of Children & Youth-serving 2,800 children in 2009,
- An additional \$50,000 for the Fulton County Youth Commissioners program managed by the Fulton County Human Services Department's Office of Children & Youth, and
- An additional \$150,000 in contingency to support mosquito control activities of the Fulton County Department of Health & Wellness, to prevent West Nile Virus.



Art class at the Dorothy C. Benson Senior Multipurpose Complex



Creative College with Karin Mervis at Sandy Springs

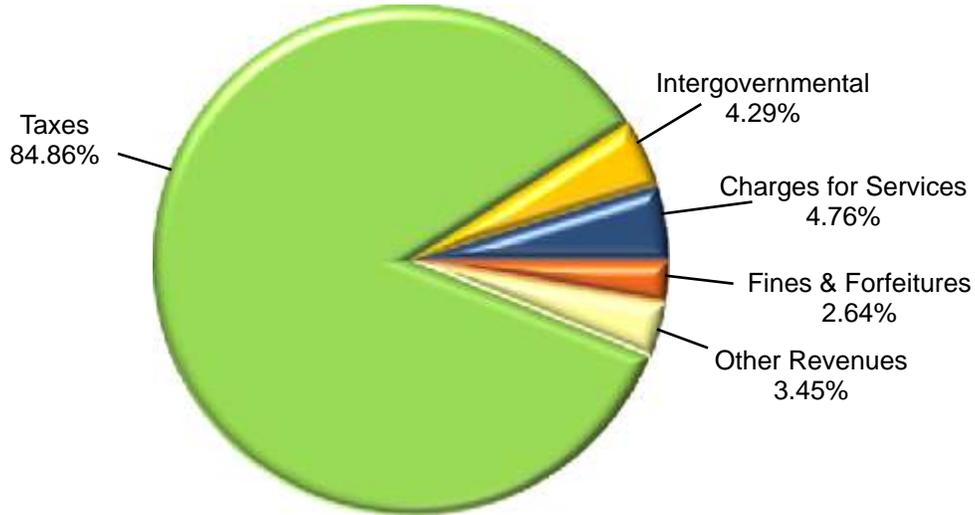
General Fund Expenditures

Arts Council	\$5,427,549
Board of Commissioners	\$3,210,344
Clerk to the Commission	\$1,060,201
Cooperative Extension	\$565,369
County Attorney	\$3,699,984
County Manager	\$12,388,142
County Marshal	\$5,510,187
District Attorney	\$20,911,797
Environ. & Comm. Dev. Svcs.	\$2,720,764
Family & Children Services	\$13,020,283
Finance	\$6,549,788
General Services	\$33,790,878
Grady Hospital Transfer	\$50,000,000
Health Fund Transfer	\$15,267,106
Housing & Comm. Dev.	\$1,239,299
Human Services	\$31,928,489
Information Technology	\$25,850,143
Juvenile Court	\$14,307,782
Library	\$32,376,475

Medical Examiner	\$3,583,747
Mental Health MM/DD/AD	\$14,845,417
Non Agency	\$121,987,099
Personnel	\$3,890,679
Police	\$4,450,264
Probate Court	\$2,732,261
Public Defender	\$11,943,460
Public Works	\$6,864,377
Purchasing	\$3,750,819
Registration & Elections	\$2,661,156
Sheriff	\$93,460,186
State Court - General	\$13,702,730
State Court - Judges	\$3,978,355
State Court - Solicitor General	\$6,084,094
Superior Court - Clerk	\$14,792,160
Superior Court - General	\$19,640,631
Superior Court - Judges	\$4,877,663
Tax Assessor	\$12,956,252
Tax Commissioner	\$13,931,736

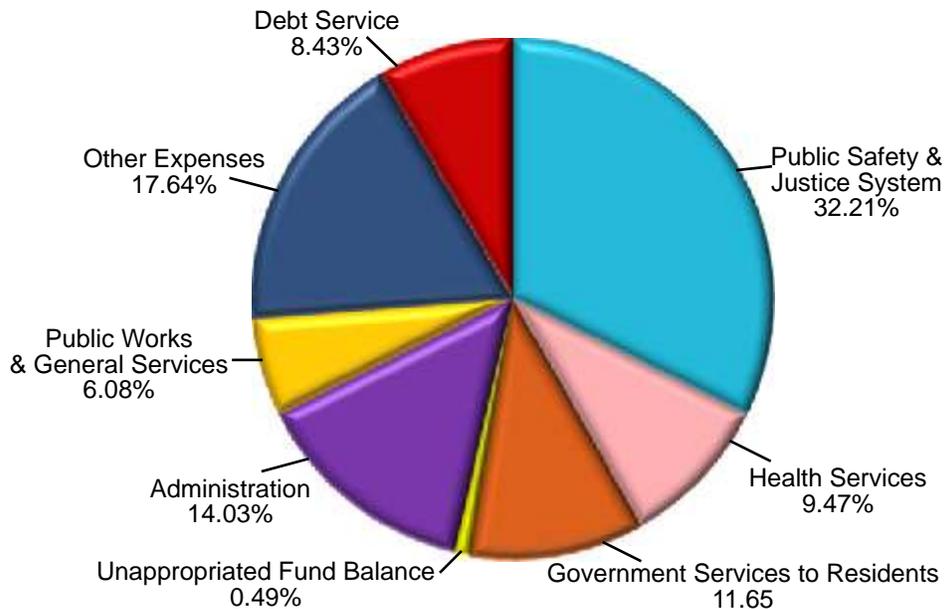
Subtotal of Expenditures \$639,957,666

2009 General Fund Revenue Budget
\$669,138,036



The Taxes category includes Real Estate Tax, Motor Vehicle Registration Tax, Intangible Tax, Local Option Sales/Insurance Premium Taxes, Excise/Mixed Drink Taxes, and Hotel/Motel Taxes.
Intergovernmental Revenue includes payments from Federal, State and Local governmental entities.

2009 General Fund Expenditure Budget
Including Unappropriated Fund Balance
\$669,138,036

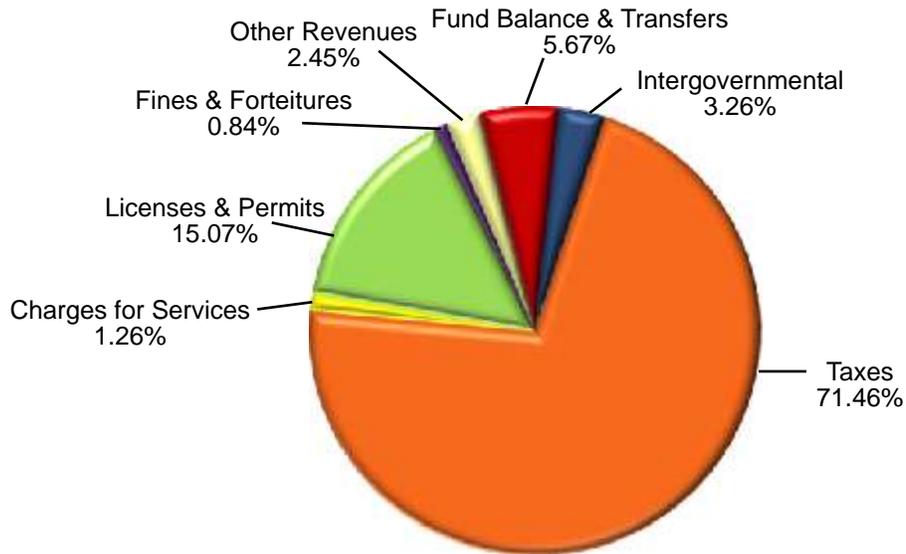


Government Services Category includes the following departments: Library, Parks & Recreation, Human Services, Family & Children Services, Arts Council, and Cooperative Extension.

Administration Category includes the following departments: Information Technology, Tax Commissioner, Tax Assessor, Finance, County Manager, Personnel, Environment & Community Development Services, County Attorney, Board of Commissioners, Purchasing, Registration & Elections, Economic Development, and Clerk to the Commission.

STEWARDSHIP

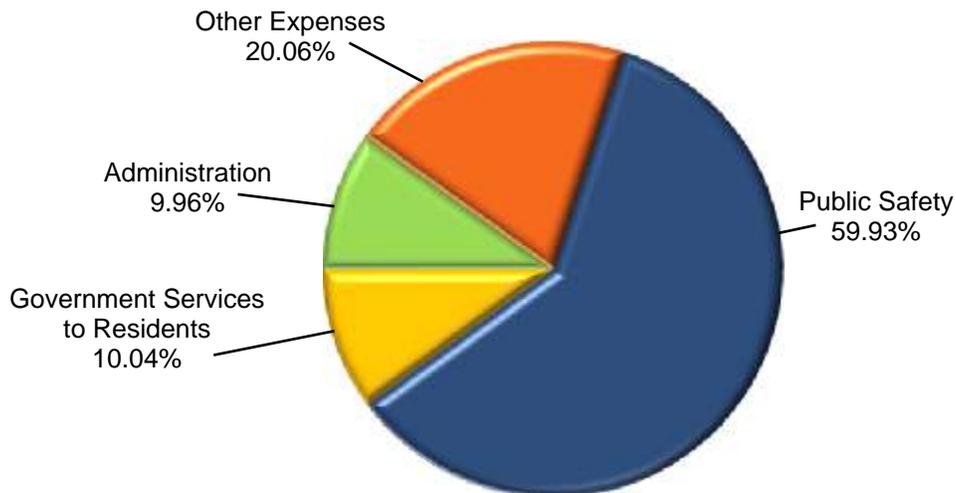
2009 South Fulton Tax District Fund Revenue Budget \$47,347,836



The Taxes category includes Real Estate Tax, Motor Vehicle Registration Tax, Intangible Tax, Local Option Sales/Insurance Premium Taxes, Excise/Mixed Drink Taxes, and Hotel/Motel Taxes.

Intergovernmental Revenue includes payments from Federal, State and Local governmental entities.

2009 South Fulton Tax District Fund Expenditure Budget \$47,347,836



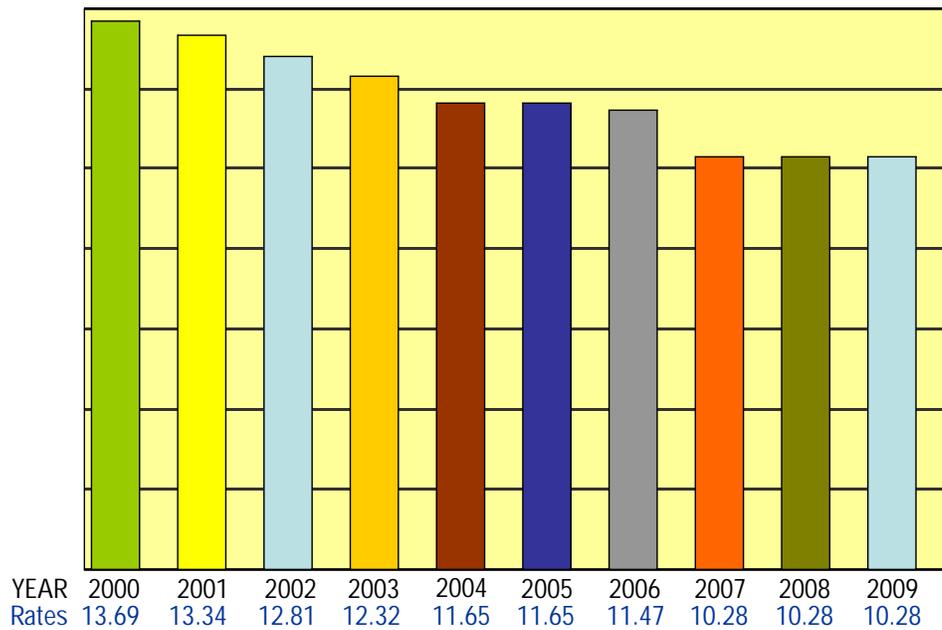
Government Services Category represents the Parks and Recreation Department's budget.

Administration Category includes the Tax Commissioner, Environmental & Community Development Services.

Public Safety includes Fire and Police Departments' budgets.

Other Expenses represents the Non Agency part of the South Fulton District's budget including Non recurring capital expenses.

Fulton County Millage Rates for the Years 2000 through 2009



ACCOUNTABILITY

ac·count·a·ble [uh-koun-tuh-buhl] adj. - liable to being called to account; answerable; responsible

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Fulton County taxpayers can be confident that their county government is managing their resources effectively, efficiently, and ethically. The County has taken a number of steps to document the impact of resource management, and to enhance transparency in County operations.

Performance

Performance matters...with the challenges of current economic conditions and increasing demand for services, the need for an integrated performance management, business planning and budgeting system is critical for the allocation of resources to satisfy public service needs. The Performance management system was implemented in 2009 and focuses on the development of a family of performance measures for funded programs and projects. These measures provide multiple indicators of the effectiveness of Fulton County's service delivery and create opportunities for the County to make adjustments as necessary.

The performance management system also facilitates business planning aligned with the County's strategic priorities and budget/resource allocations. Incorporated in the system is training and coaching, benchmarks, and best practice methodologies for process improvement initiatives and emphasizes ongoing data tracking and analysis to reinforce accountability for performance, customer satisfaction and taxpayer value.

Internal Audit

The Office of Internal Audit, was redirected from the Finance Department to the County Manager's Office in 2009. In doing so, the aim is to increase government accountability by conducting performance audits, evaluating internal controls, and reviewing processes. Through performance auditing, the Office of Internal Audit adds value to Fulton County by recommending improvements in the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of programs.

These goals are accomplished in the following manner:

- Ensuring accountability for financial commitments made by Fulton County to other agencies,
- Testing compliance with County-wide policies and procedures,
- Reviewing departmental standard operating procedures to determine if adequate internal controls exist, and
- Monitoring implementation and testing compliance of federal, state, and local regulations.

OUR GOALS

In 2008, the Board of Commissioners developed goals for Fulton County in FY2009. Priorities within the strategy included an emphasis on customer service, a focus on preventative health services and programs for children and youth and improved collaboration between departments. The strategy also included several focus areas.

Health and Human Services

GOALS:

- Coordinate health and social services in collaboration with the justice system and community partners
- Provide prevention programs to needy and at-risk populations that enhance the quality of life

OBJECTIVES:

- ☑ Increased the number of seniors who received home repair assistance
- ☑ Increased the number of home-delivered meals to seniors

Children and Youth Services

GOALS:

- Coordinate children and youth services in collaboration with the juvenile justice system, schools, libraries and community partners

OBJECTIVES:

- ☑ Provided programs that support the development of families, children and youth
- ☑ Expanded library's GED program

Juvenile Justice

GOALS:

- Provide services that support diversion programs, restoration boards and involvement of families

OBJECTIVES:

- ☑ Increased the number of juveniles receiving early intervention services
- ☑ Increased accountability of juveniles through community restorative boards

← ACCOUNTABILITY

Criminal Justice

GOALS:

- Coordinate criminal justice through a unified collaborative approach with courts, public safety and community partners

OBJECTIVES:

- ✔ Completed Master Plan for jail to determine needs through 2026
- ✔ Completed installation of video visitation system at Fulton County jail

South Fulton Special Services Tax District

GOALS:

- Provide cost effective municipal services to sustain the quality of life in unincorporated Fulton County

OBJECTIVES:

- ✔ Completed road improvements at Reynolds Road and Westlake Parkway
- ✔ Completed South Fulton TrailNet Plan
- ✔ Implemented three new athletic programs through Parks and Recreation

Internal Services

GOALS:

- Provide programs and services that contribute to and enhance employee, health, safety, professional development and overall job satisfaction
- Provide support services that enable the timely, cost-effective and equitable delivery of programs and products to Fulton County citizens
- Provide services that promote accessibility, transparency and citizen engagement
- Reduce and/or mitigate the negative impact of Fulton County operations on the environment

OBJECTIVES:

- ✔ Designed County Wellness Strategy
- ✔ Published Fulton County @ Your Service Resource Guide
- ✔ Increased the number of e-transactions available through Fulton County website

ISSUE/SOLUTION

Fulton County strives to address residents' concerns head on and with their best interest in mind. During 2009, there were several key issues that Fulton County made significant strides in addressing.

Grady Memorial Hospital

The Fulton County Board of Commissioners entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital in April 2009. The purpose of the MOU was to clarify the provisions of an operating agreement from 1984 as amended. The MOU provided stricter guidelines of oversight to ensure that funds paid to the Grady Hospital Corporation were being used to pay for quality indigent care for Fulton County residents.

To achieve this end, a comprehensive review process was initiated which required the Corporation to provide data regarding income eligibility, residency and standards of care of patients treated at Grady.

Fulton County 9-1-1 System

In 2009, Fulton County took a number of steps to improve 9-1-1 operations including:

- The development of a Strategic Plan to improve the Department's efficiency,
- The hiring of a new agency Director, and
- Re-organization of the department to enhance overall effectiveness.

As a result of these changes, in 2009, Fulton County 9-1-1 achievements included:

- An average call answer speed of 2 seconds, and
- An average dispatch time on emergency calls of 1 minute and 6 seconds.





ACCOUNTABILITY

Housing and Community Development

In 2009, Fulton County Office of Housing & Community Development achieved significant progress in addressing previous issues with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. Fulton County recruited and hired a new Director and re-organized the department. The Office of Housing and Community Development created a new policy and procedures manual for the County's housing initiatives funded through HUD's Home Investment Partnerships Program. The manual was approved by HUD's Atlanta Regional Office.

Justice System IT Integration

Fulton County Justice Agencies are working with the Department of Information Technology to develop an integrated technology solution to help streamline the entire justice process from arrest to disposition. A Request for proposals was developed for a unified case management system, with a planned Phase 1 to include technology infrastructure upgrades to support the new system. The County is currently exploring financing options for the project.

Asset Management

In 2008, Fulton County hired a consultant to objectively review the system by which Fulton County was managing the accountability of its fixed assets. The consultant's report made a number of recommendations, including an update of policies and procedures, and a physical inventory of the County's fixed assets. Many of those recommendations were implemented in 2009.

The County has invested in inventory tracking software and implementation of asset tracking and monitoring procedures. Asset Coordinators have been identified and trained in each department, who are responsible for updating all assets for their respective departments. A new audit system is now a part of the software where samples of the records are regularly tested and results immediately provided to the coordinators.

Board of Assessors Audit

Since 2006, the Fulton County Board of Assessors has instituted a number of operational improvements in areas including qualifications and training, ethics, assignment of appraisals, tax appeal process, tax digest, appraisal methods, information technology, and IT security controls. In 2009, downturns in the real estate market continued to create significant interest in the appeal process. The Tax Assessors' office works with the Boards of Equalization to implement that process.

Library System Improvements

There have been significant increases in both service and usage of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System. The system serves all corners of Fulton County with 34 libraries. The libraries had 4 million visitors 2009 (up from 3.7 million in 2008) and over 4.2 million items were circulated in 2009 (up from 3.3 million in 2008).

More than 7,000 programs were attended by 250,000 patrons. The library system's website had 4 million hits, and patrons used its public computers for over 1.8 million sessions. More than 500,000 Fulton County residents have a library card.

Registration and Elections Audit

In 2009, the State Elections Board commissioned an audit of the Fulton County Department of Registration & Elections. The auditor's final report was complimentary of Fulton County's handling of the 2009 Election. The auditor commented in his report, "The conduct of the 2009 elections in an orderly manner with administrative integrity should go a long way to regaining the confidence of Fulton County voters." Moving into 2010, the department plans additional improvements to the absentee ballot process.

Fulton County Jail Leadership

For several years, the Fulton County Sheriff's Department faced a number of infrastructure and staffing challenges at the Fulton County Jail. On January 5, 2009, Ted Jackson was sworn in as Fulton County Sheriff. Jackson brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Fulton County Sheriff's Office. He served with the F.B.I. for 32 years in several roles and was personally involved in the establishment of an F.B.I. office at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. He has several degrees and professional certificates including a certificate for Senior Managers in Government from the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Fulton County has also taken great strides in 2009 to address concerns about the Fulton County Jail raised in a federal consent decree.

- The Fulton County Jail has a new organizational structure with span of control to give staff a clear understanding of their duties and to whom they report thus increasing efficiency and accountability.
- The development of educational programs at the Fulton County Jail is a vital part of compliance to the Federal Consent Decree. Inmates now have the opportunity to earn a G.E.D. and participate in vocational programs to improve themselves.
- The completion a \$59 million renovation project at the Fulton County Jail. The 3-year-project focused on the repair of mechanical, electrical, elevators, and plumbing systems.
- A decrease in the number of inmates outsourced to other facilities leading to a reduction in spending.
- A contract was negotiated with a new food vendor has granted inmates and staff access to heart-healthy meals at the Fulton County Jail.

ACCESSIBILITY

ac·ces·si·ble [ak-ses-uh-buhl] adj. - easy to approach, reach, enter, speak with, or use.

Weathering the Storm

Fulton County is committed to making information and services convenient and readily available to residents. From the location of facilities to the availability of information online, Fulton County is continually working to keep the lines of communication open with residents.

On Saturday, September 19, 2009, as much as five inches of rain fell in parts of Metro Atlanta. Over the next 48 hours, the rain continued to fall, throughout Fulton County and the metro area, overwhelming storm drains, creeks and streams. Fulton County activated the Emergency Operations Center and opened the doors to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, opening a Disaster Recovery Center at the Fulton County Government Center in downtown Atlanta. The County remained in constant communication with the 14 cities within the County to coordinate response and relief. Additional Disaster Recovery Centers operated in Sandy Springs and in South Fulton.

On the ground, the Fire Department responded to 47 emergency events. Public Works crews responded around the clock repairing roads that had been washed out by rising waters.

The Office of Aging worked with partner agencies to serve seniors affected by the flood. The STARline provided intake and referrals based on seniors' needs for health assistance, home repairs, or other assistance. The STARline is an information hotline dedicated to providing resources to senior citizens.



Heavy flooding in Fulton County, Sept. 19, 2009



Roads in Unincorporated Fulton County impacted by flooding.



R.M. Clayton Water Treatment Facility

Recovering from the Flood

It was September 21, 2009 when the water from a raging creek behind 84-year-old Janie Miller's house on Argyle Drive in NW Atlanta, began rising. She looked out her kitchen window and watched as her backyard flooded. Then the water began seeping into her home. Inch by inch the flood waters began to rise around her. Soon Janie's furniture began to float from one room to another. It wasn't long before two and a half feet of muddy, polluted water covered every room in her house.

Janie was taken to a relative's house, leaving behind everything she owned. Once the flood waters receded she returned to her house to survey the damage. "There was mold in every room," she said. All my furniture was ruined and debris was everywhere. I didn't know what to do."

Janie had lived in the house for 48 years and the thought of having to find another place to live frightened her. But she soon found help among her friends at the Senior Citizens Service Center in NW Atlanta. It became a case of volunteers helping a volunteer. For six years Janie has been a volunteer working at the center helping out with whatever needed to be done to make her fellow seniors' lives a little easier. Other volunteers at the center pitched in and spent days cleaning out debris from her home. "They carried 39 boxes of salvageable stuff out of my house and then put it back once the repairs were done."

FEMA funds helped Janie put her house back together and she is once again living in the place she's called home for almost five decades. Janie Miller's story is one of Fulton County volunteers helping out others...and one another.



Mrs. Miller's home before renovation



Mrs. Janie Miller stands in front of her home after its restoration with help from FEMA.

ACCESSIBILITY

Common Ground - The Philosophy

“Common Ground” is the name of the initiative launched by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to address health disparities among citizens in the County.

Its goals are to:

Assist the community in understanding the causes of health disparities,

Develop inter-departmental strategies to deliver services that reduce health disparities, and

Further the cultivation of governmental and non-governmental partnerships to assist in these efforts.

Recognizing the value of centralizing services to significantly increase access to care, Fulton County is establishing “one stop shop” facilities throughout the county.



Neighborhood Union Health Center
ribbon cutting ceremony

Neighborhood Union Health Center

Through a \$3.5 million renovation, the Neighborhood Union Health Center is a shining example of the “one stop shop” concept. The facility held its grand re-opening on February 6, 2009. This innovative facility provides centralized access to preventive health services, primary care, substance abuse, behavioral health, and career counseling. The renovation was made possible through a partnership with the Westside Tax Allocation District of the Atlanta Development Authority.

A second effort, Primary Lite, opened in March of 2009. The new walk-in clinic at Aldredge Health Center provides affordable, limited primary care services to adults with a focus on education, prevention and screenings for chronic diseases.

Client Geraldine Dodson provided this testimonial:

“Within minutes, I was behind the doors getting my blood pressure taken. When the first nurse saw the initial numbers, she reached for her cuff to take a second reading manually. The numbers were high, so after informing the doctor, blood was taken and I was directed to an examination room. Dr. Day went through some preliminary tests, and asked a lot of questions. She immediately sent medication in for me to take and instructed me to sit quietly for about 30 minutes, so that they could take another reading. Needless to say, this team literally prevented so many things that could have happened to me, including the obvious medical things like stroke, heart attack, etc., but they saved my emotional life!”

*Geraldine E. Dodson
Fulton County Resident*

CANINE CROSSING

In October of 2009, Fulton County celebrated of its first county owned and operated dog park, Canine Crossing. It covers more than five acres and is located on Camp Drive near the South Fulton Service Center. The park features separate areas for large and small dogs, water fountains for dogs, as well as walking trails and a covered pavilion for people. Canine Crossing was designed and built solely by Fulton County employees.



Residents and their pets enjoy the grand opening of Canine Crossing



ACCESSIBILITY

@YOUR SERVICE!

Housing

Fulton County received \$11 million dollars through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and contracted with three agencies to put those dollars to work to benefit Fulton County families facing housing needs.

Partner agencies were charged with providing acquisition rehabilitation housing counseling, down payment assistance and asset management services for single family and multi-family foreclosed properties.

Environment and Community Development negotiated with the banks and the sureties to complete two abandoned subdivisions without any cost to the County. One is now complete while the second remains under construction. The County is continuing to negotiate for other subdivisions.

Employment

Unemployment in the metro Atlanta area climbed to 10.3% in 2009, compared to 6.4% in 2008. Across Fulton County, library computers were at capacity every day with residents working on resumes and seeking jobs. Job recruitments at the County's career centers were consistently at capacity.

Fulton County received funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment act to protect and create jobs for veterans, in the arts community, and in law enforcement.

Through the Office of Workforce Development, Fulton County partners with businesses to recruit highly qualified workers through its career centers.

The Office of Workforce Development reported that the Average Wage Rate for clients hired through on-site recruitments hosted by the top hiring employers was \$10.55.

Through a program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 250 youth ages 14-24 were placed in with summer employment opportunities. Additionally, 10 at-risk youth obtained Green Job Awareness and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Certifications.

In 2009 the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System partnered with the Governor's Office of Workforce Development and the Georgia Public Library Service to provide the Georgia Work Ready Program at all 34 library branches, offering out-of-work residents a way to improve their skills and help prepare them to re-enter the workforce.

The Library also expanded the GED program to the College Park library, allowing residents to prepare for and take the General Equivalency Diploma at the library. Since beginning the program in July, more than 500 residents took their GED test, improving their employment prospects.

Community Outreach

The Cooperative Extension Services' energy agent assisted residents in reviewing energy bills and securing energy refunds for seniors.

A community vegetable garden was constructed in Wayside Park in Palmetto.

Fulton County 4-H partnered with the East Point Community Action Team to offer programs on nutrition, character education, and drug and alcohol prevention at Camp Fulton Truitt Education Center.

Fulton County 4-H offered Health Living programming in Fulton County Schools.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PAYS OFF FOR LOCAL JOB SEEKER

"It was like getting a Christmas present." Those are the words of Shelley Walker, describing how she felt after accepting a job she got thanks to the training she received at the North Fulton Career Center. The facility is operated by the Human Services Department's Office of Workforce Development.

Shelley, like many people, was a victim of the economy. Laid off in April 2009, she spent the next six months searching for a job. When a friend suggested that she visit the North Fulton Career Center on Roswell Road, she was skeptical at first, but agreed to give it a try.

Shelley went through an extensive job testing and training program. When she completed the program, the staff at the North Fulton Career Center combed their database and came up with a list of companies looking for someone just like her. A few months later, Shelley was working at a job she loves.

"They gave me all the help I needed," she says. "If you are serious about getting a job, they offer you all the tools you need."



Shelley Walker at the North Fulton Career Center

ACCESSIBILITY

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE INSPIRES URBAN GARDENING

Ms. Kalena Smith, a College Park resident, is a vegetarian who was paying a premium every week buying fresh produce at the supermarket.

Kalena attended a workshop on vegetable gardening at the East Point Cooperative Extension location held every month.

She immediately put the information into action. Three months later she reported that she had planted six raised garden beds and has harvested several pounds of vegetables. She estimates that growing her produce instead of buying it resulted in her saving about \$300.

Not only did gardening help with the bills, it inspired Kalena's creative spirit. She launched a blog about her experiences in the garden.



Kalena Michele Smith
and her garden



COORDINATED EMERGENCY RESPONSE BRINGS MISSING ELDERLY WOMAN HOME SAFELY

Gloria P. Hood, a 70-year-old Fulton County grandmother was discovered missing on October 29, 2009.

Gloria's son and grandchildren left the home and went through a wooded area in the back of their home. Unknown to them Gloria, a diabetic with memory problems, followed them apparently falling a couple in her efforts to keep up with them.

A few hours later, when her son and grandchildren came back home they discovered she was missing and searched for her for about three hours. It started to get dark and they realized they needed to call the police.

Fulton County Police received the 911 call and arrived on the scene within minutes with a rescue helicopter and Fulton County Fire personnel.

After an intensive nine-hour search, rescuers found Mrs. Hood thanks to volunteer rescue dogs that picked up her scent. Mrs. Hood was found with only minor injuries, despite having no food or water and enduring several bad falls while trying to find her way home.

"My family and I are forever grateful for the rapid and extremely competent service provided by the Fulton County Police Department when we were unable to locate my mom. The decision by the police to classify the situation as an official "Mattie's Call" prompted the police to exhaust all available resources to ultimately locate my mother.

Because we are a typical family of modest means, we once believed that to receive VIP treatment during a legitimate emergency, we would need to have some type of celebrity status. However, every representative of the Fulton County Police Department handled the overall situation as if they were dealing with some type of upper level dignitary!

If this is a typical scenario for assisting a Fulton County citizen, I feel genuine pride & peace of mind knowing we have access to this type of public service if the need ever arises."

*Leamon Hood, Jr.
Son of Gloria P. Hood*



ACCESSIBILITY

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

For many Fulton County residents, the spirit of service is irreplaceable. And the residents of Fulton County are the beneficiaries of thousands of such individuals, who give tirelessly to support many programs and services.

Whether they are shelving books at a library, tutoring a child, assisting visitors to the Fulton County Courthouse, or teaching a class at a senior center, volunteers enhance the services provided by Fulton County Government each day.

Students at Morehouse College conducted a Service Learning Project on homelessness and clothing drive with the Department of Health & Wellness.

Thirty-four residents received training from the R.E.A.C.H.(Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health) for Health Program and are serving as Health Advocates in the community.

Thirteen resident volunteers received training and certification and now serve as aerobic instructors for communities in Fulton County, with a commitment to serve a minimum of 40 hours to conduct classes at R.E.A.C.H. Wellness Centers.

Seniors from Fulton County senior centers partnered with employees with several federal government agencies in an initiative entitled Celebrating Public Service Excellence through the Art of Quilting. The initiative resulted in a total of 16 beautiful quilts featured in a public exhibit at the Atlanta office of the National Archives.



Volunteer assists in Arts class at the Dorothy C. Benson Senior Multipurpose Complex



Giny Baethke logged more than 4,000 volunteer hours

VOLUNTEER RECEIVED PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARD

As a child, Giny Baethke was an avid reader who spent many hours at her community library. In college at the University of Illinois, where she studied music, she worked in the library's browsing room.

After working for more than 40 years as a church organist and music teacher, Giny retired and wanted a way to stay busy and "give back." She considered a number of volunteer opportunities but chose the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System. The Roswell Branch was convenient and she had a good rapport with the library staff. Most of all, she knew she could make a difference with her work there.

After more than 10 years, Giny has served more than 4,000 hours, and will be awarded the Presidential Service Award in April 2010. She spends about eight hours a week shelving books or staffing the book sale. Giny's adult children aren't surprised that she gravitated toward the library for her volunteer service, knowing her love of reading.

Giny says of her experience, "It's great to have something like this where I know I'm giving something...but also getting something in return. I've met all kinds of people who visit the library." Giny's advice to others in the community who might want to volunteer: "Get involved. You find that it rewards you and also helps out the community."

SERVICE

serv·ice [sur-vis]noun, adjective - at someone's service, ready to be of help or use to someone; at one's disposal.

BY THE NUMBERS

Service is at the core of Fulton County's mission. From health services to libraries, from elections to the arts, Fulton County remains committed to ensuring that residents' lives are enhanced daily through their county services.

Arts and Culture

- Fulton County Arts Council celebrated 30 years of service to the community.
- 40,000 citizens attended events or participated in programs, performances and exhibitions at Southwest Arts Center.
- More than 5,000 people took part in Arts Council events and programs in 2009.
- Summer Camp art programs had more than 1,000 children registered at Fulton County Arts Centers.

Cooperative Extension

- More than 7,000 students are enrolled in Fulton County's 4-H program.
- 74,000 residents took part in the Agriculture and Natural Resources education programs.
- Natural Gas Education program reached more than 120,000 people.

Emergency Communications

- Fulton County 9-1-1 maintained its 2 second call answer speed during the September 2009 floods despite a 30% increase in call volume.
- 100% of employees obtained Emergency Medical Dispatch Certification within six months of employment.

Environment and Community Development

- South Fulton's first county-owned dog park, Canine Crossing, opened in 2009.
- The Business Development program created and retained more than 8,300 jobs.
- Code Enforcement conducted more than 7,800 inspections.

Fire

Fulton County Fire Department provided Fire Safety Education to more than 20,000 children and senior citizens.

Fulton County Fire Department responded to more than 11,000 incidents in South Fulton County.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

725 contracts were approved by the Board of Commissioners.

59 resolutions were approved by the Board of Commissioners. (53 resolutions were approved.)

178 proclamations were presented by the Board of Commissioners.

Health and Wellness

The Adolescent Health program served more than 8,500 clients.

The Dental Program saw 8,000 patients at clinics and community events.

The Health Check Program provided preventative health care to more than 11,000 clients.

The Immunization Grant Program immunized nearly 46,000 clients.

More than 169,000 families participated in Fulton County's WIC program.

More than 84,000 clients came to Fulton County Health Centers (and mobile units) for preventative medical care.

The Office of Health Behavior educated more than 2,000 women about breast and cervical cancer prevention.

The Office of Healthy Behavior coordinated four National Awareness events reaching more than 2,000 residents.

For the first time since 2001, Fulton County reported zero human cases and deaths from the West Nile Virus.

Human Services

500,000 citizens were served through Human Services Grants programs.

20,000 citizens were served through Fulton Roundtable Expanded Service Headquarters (F.R.E.S.H.) Grant programs.

Senior Transportation Program provided 297,000 trips to senior citizens.

On an average day, 1,100 senior citizens came to Fulton County's Multi-purpose facilities

Office of Emergency and Transitional Housing provided emergency housing to 965 people.

SERVICE

S.T.A.R.T. (Services To Advance, Reach and Teach Youth) established 15 new partnerships with local agencies and non-profits.

SPARC (Sickness Prevention Achieved through Regional Collaboration) held 18 events and provided more than one thousand residents with preventative health services.

The Office of Children and Youth expanded child care services from 33 to 43 centers.

Adult Day Care program serves 233 clients and has a 94% customer satisfaction rating.

Internal Departments

The Office of Communications handled more than 4,000 media inquiries.

The Customer Service team responded to more than 146,000 calls.

FGTV airs 32 different original programs.

General Services completed 93% of the funded renovation projects.

General Services completed 96% of the scheduled preventative maintenance at the Fulton County Jail.

The Personnel Department processed 30,000 job applications.

Jail/Sheriff's Office

The Fulton County Jail processed paperwork for more than 41,000 defendants.

The \$59 million renovation project at the jail was completed in 2009.

Fulton County Sheriff's Office cleared 41,000 warrants.

Libraries

3.7 million people visited the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System facilities in 2009.

More than 4.2 million items were circulated.

More than 56,000 residents took part in Adult Education and Career Readiness Classes.

More than 1.6 million work sessions were conducted on library computers.

Parks and Recreation

206,000 residents took part in Parks and Recreation programs.

Parks and Recreation operated eight Recreation Centers, 31 athletic fields, and two pools.

Police

The Fulton County Police Department was awarded more than \$2.5 million in grants. Officers responded to 90,964 calls for service.

Public Works

Crews inspected and cleaned roughly 2.3 million linear feet of wastewater collection systems. Public Works crews resurfaced more than 36 miles of roads in unincorporated South Fulton County. 1.1 miles of SR 139 from West Whitehall Street to Cascade Avenue was resurfaced from funds provided by the Stimulus Program through the Georgia Department of Transportation. 2.3 miles of Fulton Industrial Boulevard was widened for additional lanes and intersection improvements from west of Interchange Drive extending to US 278/SR 8. Services to facilities impacted by the September 2009 floods were restored in just three days. Residents brought in more than 200 tons of disposable trash on "Bulk Waste Amnesty" Days. More than 20,000 were reached through community events including Drinking Water Week, Public Works Week, Arbor Day and Earth Day.

Registration and Elections

Fulton County has more than 600,000 registered voters. The Department of Registration and Elections mailed out more than 90,000 precinct cards.

Superior Court

Fulton County judges heard a total of 35,999 cases. 136,200 Fulton County residents appeared for Petit (trial) and Grand Jury Duty.

Unincorporated Fulton County

Fulton County provides municipal services to 90,000 residents in unincorporated South Fulton County. The Fulton County Fire Department installed more than 900 smoke detectors in South Fulton homes during community smoke detector blitzes. Fulton County Police Initiatives reduced crime in the Fulton Industrial Boulevard corridor by 32%. Fulton County Public Works Department resurfaced 36.65 miles of roadway.

JUSTICE SYSTEM

Fulton County Sheriff's Office

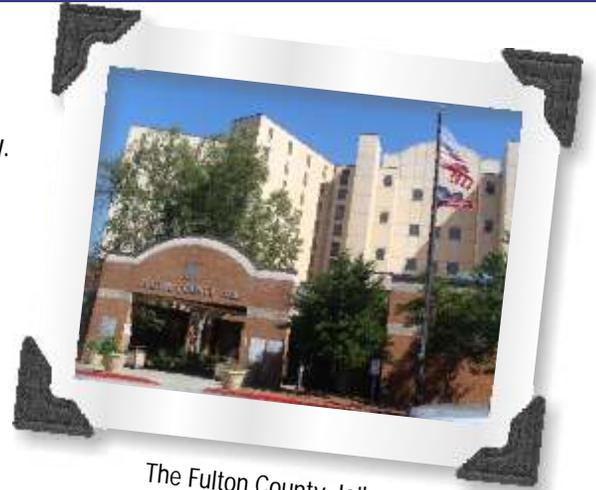
The Fulton County Sheriff's Office proudly serves its community. The leadership, deputies and staff work diligently to keep residents safe. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for operating the jail, providing security for judges and courtrooms and serving warrants.

2009 Highlights

This year marked the 20th Anniversary of the jail at 901 Rice Street in Northwest Atlanta and the completion of a \$59 million dollar renovation project of the facility. The work was managed by Fulton County's General Services Department and concentrated on mechanical, electrical, elevators, and plumbing systems.

The Court Services Division earned approval of a comprehensive security plan in 2009 as required by Georgia Law.

In May 2009, Sheriff Jackson swore in the newest member of the K-9 Unit, Marco. The Belgian Malinois is trained as an all-patrol dog which means he can sniff for illegal drugs, search for suspects, and track. This is the first time the Fulton County Sheriff's Office has had an all-patrol dog.



The Fulton County Jail



Sergeant Kirk Markham with K-9 Mokey at bomb scare in Sandy Springs, June 29, 2009

2009 Accomplishments for the Superior Court of Fulton County

The 19 Judges of the Superior Court served citizens seeking justice and fairness in 35,999 cases. 136,200 Fulton County Residents appeared for Petit (trial) and Grand Jury Duty in 2009.

Civil

General Civil - The judges handled 10,584 civil cases in addition to criminal assignments.

Business Court - This innovative pilot program heard 57 complex cases in 2009.

Family Division

- The Family Division Judges handled 9,268 cases.
- The Family Law Information Center assisted 34,814 people who were representing themselves in domestic litigation or seeking information about domestic legal matters.

Criminal

General Felony - These Judges handled 16,129 criminal cases in addition to their civil cases.

Backlog Reduction Program - The Court received a \$1.2 million Justice Department Grant to reduce the backlog of defendants in the Fulton County Jail.

Felony Fast Track - This innovative felony case management program reduced the time to resolve virtually all non-violent property and drug cases. The program reduced the Court's total pending felony caseload by 44%.

JAG/Recovery Act Funds - The Court was awarded \$500,000 for a circuit-wide crime-reduction project.

Pre Sentence and Diversion Alternatives

Pre-Trial Release Program - The staff screened 14,220 felony defendants in the Fulton County Jail. Judges assigned 4,435 defendants to the supervised release program.

Drug Court/Mental Health Court - These court-administered correctional programs changed the lives of 610 defendants.

Fulton County Clerk of Superior Court

The Clerk of the Superior Court maintains records of all civil and criminal actions of the Superior Court. The Clerk of the Superior Court is also responsible for recording deeds relating to the sale of real and personal property.

Office of Child Support - An e-filing system was established to better serve constituents and the Office.

Civil and Criminal Courts - The office staff was restructured to provide more efficient and expedient service to all Fulton County citizens.

JUSTICE SYSTEM

Juvenile Court

The Juvenile Court of Fulton County is organized to have jurisdiction over most children under age 17 who are charged with violating any criminal law. The Court also has jurisdiction over children under age 18 who are alleged to be deprived or status offenders.

2009 Highlights

- Judges presided over 20,857 hearings
- 98% of court orders were processed within 30 days of hearing

State Court

State Court operates under the laws of the State of Georgia to try all criminal cases below the grade of felony, and all civil actions regardless of the amount in question that are not within a Superior Court's exclusive jurisdiction. The Magistrate Court of Fulton county is a division of the State Court and has jurisdiction over traffic cases, ordinance and code violations, jail and warrant first-appearance proceedings, and warrant applications. The Court also has jurisdiction in dispossessory/landlord-tenant cases and small-claim actions involving \$15,000 or less.

2009 Highlights

- 191,418 cases filed
- 5,244 subpoenas served

Probate Court

The Probate Court of Fulton County holds hearings and makes judicial determinations regarding estate conservators, guardianship and power of attorney. The Court also receives, reviews and issues marriage licenses and firearms licenses.

2009 Highlights

- 70,750 court filings
- Probate court conducted approximately 35,000 weddings in 2009



Mass weddings at Fulton County Court House

Fulton County District Attorney's Office

The District Attorney is elected by the citizens of Fulton County to serve the Atlanta Judicial Circuit. District Attorney Paul Howard has held the position since 1997. The District Attorney prosecutes all adult felonies and juvenile crimes committed in Fulton County, represents the State in all cases appealed to higher courts, enforces child support awards and conducts civil forfeiture proceedings to condemn illegal contraband.

2009 Highlights

National District Attorney's Association-District Attorney Howard named Director-at-large (2nd Term). In this role, he represents the professional interests of prosecutors throughout the state and assists the executive team with furthering the goals and initiatives of NDAA.

Association of Government Attorneys in Capital Litigation

Deputy District Attorney Shondeana Morris receives a top national honor for "Outstanding Advocacy in Capital Cases" for the prosecution of State vs. DeKelvin Martin

Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA)

Zenith Award for Service to the Community

Atlanta Victim Assistance

District Attorney Howard received Paula Bevington "Helping Hand" Award for outstanding victim advocacy

North Fulton Community Prosecution Office

A sixth Community Prosecution Office was established in North Fulton County

Voices for Victims Awards Ceremony

12th Annual Celebration recognizing law enforcement and "every day" heroes who risked their lives or safety for persons in danger

Office of the Solicitor General

Georgia Law authorizes the Office of the Solicitor General to investigate, charge, and prosecute misdemeanor violations of Georgia Statutes and County Ordinances that occur in Fulton County. The Solicitor General ensures that all persons involved in the criminal process are treated in a courteous and professional manner.

rec·og·ni·tion [rek-uhg-nish-uhn] - noun, the acknowledgment of achievement, service, and merit

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Thanks in part to its efforts to exhibit leadership, be accessible, accountable and serve its residents well, Fulton County and its employees were recognized for that work in the following ways:

Southwest Arts Center named Best New Theater Venue for 2009 by Creative Loafing

Fulton County Police Department - CALEA Meritorious Accreditation Award

Fulton County Police Department Time Saver Award Outstanding Safe and Quick Clearance

Fulton County Public Works Department - 2009 Platinum Award from the Georgia Association of Environmental Professionals for Johns Creek Water Reclamation Facility

Fulton County Public Works Department - 2009 Gold Awards from the Georgia Association of Environmental Professionals for Camp Creek and Little Bear Water Reclamation Facilities

Atlanta Fulton Public Library - Technical College System of Georgia's award for "Largest Growth in Number of GED Test-Takers"

Atlanta Fulton Public Library's Auburn Avenue Library on African American Culture and History - National Historical Publications and Records Commission Grant

Atlanta Fulton Public Library's Auburn Avenue Library on African American Culture and History received the James Bryant Smith / Tuskegee Airman Collection, Donald Lee Hollowell papers, and Duncan Teague papers

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for 2009

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting

Communications Officer LaToya Hinton received the "Telecommunicator of the Year" award at the Georgia Emergency Communications Conference held September 17, 2009, in Athens, Georgia

Fulton County Business Court received a Justice Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties.



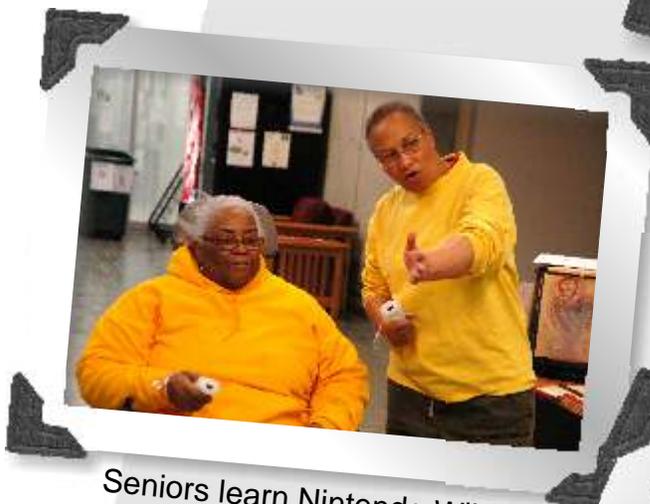
LaToya Hinton



New library cards are great!



Art class at the Dorothy Benson C. Senior Multipurpose Complex



Seniors learn Nintendo Wii at H.J C. Bowden Senior Multipurpose Facility



North Fulton community gardens in Alpharetta

