



❖ upcoming

Gwinnett Place CID extends support for TAD corrective

Leaders of the Gwinnett Place CID officially extended the District's support for legislation ensuring the full viability of tax allocation districts (TADs) for future local and statewide redevelopment.

The CID Board of Directors approved a resolution urging lawmakers to provide a legal remedy following a recent State Supreme Court ruling stating that local boards of education cannot participate in TADs. The General Assembly needs to take action during this legislative session in time for the community redevelopment question to appear on the ballot statewide during the current election cycle, the CID board said.

Joe Allen, CID executive director, said while the recent court ruling has no direct impact on existing projects at Gwinnett Place, the District wants to maintain a full complement of options for future redevelopment.

"We want to be ready so that when it comes time for their need, we have the full impact and availability of TADs if they are deemed appropriate for this area," Allen said.

The CID Board also entered an agreement with Massey and Bowers LLC to

provide governmental consulting and advocacy in the General Assembly relative to TADs. Certain other CIDs, including those in Gwinnett, as well as some private property owners are spearheading the effort

Connie Wiggins is speaker for Success Lives Here breakfast

Speaking at the March 14 Success Lives Here breakfast will be Connie Wiggins, executive director of Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful. The breakfast will be at 7:45 a.m. at the Sugarloaf Country Club.

Ms. Wiggins will share her secrets to success of her program over the years. She has been the key executive of the organization since 1985.

Cost is \$45 for Chamber members; \$55 for non-Chamber members. To reserve space, contact RSVP to Scott Burkholder at sburkholder@gwinnettchamber.org.

❖ notable

Three CIDs get grants for promoting tourism industry

"Sometimes you don't realize that some of your strongest partners are already in your own backyard." Caryn McGarity, executive director of the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau (GCVB), recently described Gwinnett's three Community Improvement Districts as partners that will help promote Gwinnett County as a destination for meetings, sporting events, conventions and leisure travel.

Over 40 percent of Gwinnett hotels are located within a Gwinnett CID, which is a primary reason why the success of the CIDs is so important to the hospitality community. The CIDs have made amazing progress in their missions addressing the individual challenges of each district including infrastructure, transportation and crime issues. "All three should be commended for the hard work and progress they have made," adds McGarity.

The CIDs were recently awarded tourism grants totaling \$20,000 to assist with creating destination maps and brochures which will highlight the attractions available in each area. The marketing pieces will highlight restaurants, hotels and retail opportunities within in each Gwinnett Community with the intent of encouraging residents and visitors to shop and enjoy the accommodations within the respective districts.

The Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau is Gwinnett County's official tourism organization and is dedicated to strengthening Gwinnett County's economy by marketing the county as a destination for conventions, sporting events, meetings and leisure travel through sales, marketing and promotion.

Suwanee promotions win three awards from Southeast group

The City of Suwanee took home an array of awards from the 2008 Southeast