

From: news@gwinnettforum.com
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To: jallen@gwinnettplaceid.com
Subject: 1/18: Tech trends; Secession anniversary; more

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GWINNETT CALENDAR

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TODAY'S QUOTE

:: [Bad place to view what's happening](#)



BIG SHOW: Less than a month from now, the 15th Annual North Atlanta Home Show opens its doors at Gwinnett Center. Dates for the show are from Feb. 10 to Feb. 12. For more information, see [Upcoming](#) below.

when they graduate. The certificate will appear on transcripts. The certificate recognizes a student's knowledge and understanding of a region of growing importance, both economically and culturally. The course of study is designed to be interdisciplinary and complementary to existing undergraduate programs.

United States' relations with Latin America have been altered significantly by global and regional economic diversification and growth. The Southeast is one of the US regions most integrally linked to the rapidly evolving Latin American nations. State officials estimate that more than 700,000 Latinos live in Georgia.

NOTABLE

Gwinnett travelers want better alternatives for transit

Those traveling in Gwinnett's central business district would make better use of transit alternatives if more options were available, according to a recent survey.

Input was gathered as part of the 10-year update to the Gwinnett Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) study undertaken by the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District (GPCID), Gwinnett County and Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC).

Opinions were focused on alternative modes of travel within a 12-mile area that includes Gwinnett Place Mall, Discover Mills, Gwinnett Center and Gwinnett Technical College. The survey was open to the general public and available online in the fall with approximately 240 people participating.

The greatest percentage of participants (47 percent) identified convenience of service as the chief influence on whether they would use transit services. The majority of respondents (50 percent) stated better options for commuting are needed while better coverage and connections to regional transit also received notable responses, 25 percent and 22 percent respectively.

According to Gwinnett Place CID Executive Director Joe Allen, the survey results positively indicate a need for the transportation enhancements already sought for the greater Gwinnett Place area.



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"In addition to the LCI update, the GPCID is partnering to identify transportation alternatives and opportunities along the I-85 corridor from I-285 to the Gwinnett Center," Allen says. "There is a definite need to expand the services available to our residents and to make it easier to access those options. These study efforts are an important part of making changes in the future."

Survey respondents also overwhelmingly identified the Pleasant Hill Road corridor as an area needing transportation improvements with the most-favored idea being a new interchange at I-85. The GPCID's diverging diamond interchange project for Pleasant Hill Road at I-85 will begin this year.

RECOMMENDED

Foreign to Familiar, by Sarah H. Lanier

"This book was recommended to me after a discussion I had about the different cultures we have in Gwinnett County, especially in Norcross. As a transplant from Barbados by way of New York, I have experienced several cultures as described in the book. Most noted is the comparison of 'hot climate cultures' versus 'cold climate cultures.' The author was right on point. Barbados is a 'hot climate culture' and I was shocked when I first moved to this country and made a 'cold climate culture,' New York, my port of entry. A simple 'Good morning' was frowned upon and I remember telling my Mother that the folks in New York had no manners. Back then I didn't know I was experiencing culture-shock. Fast-track my move to Norcross, a 'hot climate culture,' I felt right at home with the Southern hospitality that reminded me of my upbringing. "'When in Rome,' still applies, but I think it should be updated to 'When in

