

## City adopts Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing program

[Want daily summaries and Breaking News alerts?](#)

By [Chris Stephens](#)

Tuesday, August 19, 2014

© Copyright 2014 Gwinnett Daily Post

### PEACHTREE CORNERS — The Peachtree Corners

City Council adopted a resolution in support of the Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing Program during Tuesday's regularly scheduled meeting.

The program, headed by officer David Martinez, is aimed at reducing crime in multi-family housing areas, most notably apartment communities.

"The goal is to keep crime and drugs off the property," Martinez said. "Part of the program requires managers to do background and credit checks on people who want to lease apartments."

Once an apartment community is certified to carry the logo, certain responsibilities must be met and maintained in addition to background and credit checks for potential residents.

Applicants will be immediately disqualified if they've had any violent felonies, three or more non-violent felonies, or are on active parole/probation, among other things. If tenants are found to be breaking the law, the lease agreement gives property management the rights to civilly terminate leases.

"The benefits are huge," Martinez said. "We've seen crime reduction in areas that have done this of up to 70 percent, there are lower maintenance and repair costs, and improved personal safety for tenants and managers."

Gwinnett County Commissioner Lynette Howard said this program is something that is key for Peachtree Corners to continue to thrive and avoid criminal activity.

"When it was first implemented in some apartment communities around Gwinnett Place Mall, crime dropped 50 percent in that first year," she said.

Other items discussed included:

The tabling of discussions on a contract agreement for the provision of public works services for the city and an intergovernmental agreement between the city and Johns Creek for routine road maintenance. The contract was for upper-level management that would schedule jobs and coordinate after-hours services. The council needed more information and breakdowns of job descriptions and costs for the public works services as it would incur \$560,000 of overhead for management work done by 3.8 people.

"I need to know what value they are going to bring," Councilman Jay Wright said.

The council approved a contract agreement with Vision Internet for a website redesign.

Alcoholic beverage licenses were approved for Sprout's Famers Market and Cue's Barbecue.