

September 30, 2009

Dear Engage Gwinnett Committee Member:

First, thank you in advance for your service on the Engage Gwinnett committee. We look forward to working with you during the next six months, learning about our county and its government, and making recommendations for improvement. In the first meeting, on October 8, we will talk about the mission of Engage Gwinnett and our roles as committee members. You'll have an opportunity to meet your fellow committee members (there are 42), and we'll talk about how we can accomplish our work in the months ahead. We'll start learning about the history of Gwinnett and how much our county has changed in the last 30 years.

Several important notes:

- It is very important that you be present at the meetings. Each meeting will build on the work of the previous one, so if you miss a meeting, you may find it hard to catch up. We will post presentations on the engagegwinnett.com web site, but it won't be the same as being there, so we strongly urge you to make all of the meetings. (A list of meeting dates is attached.)
- After several meetings in which we meet as a full committee, we will likely divide into a number of work groups to look at different services provided by county government. It is possible that your work group may want to meet more frequently than the attached schedule, so please keep that possibility in mind.
- All of the regularly scheduled meetings will be at the Gwinnett Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Duluth, GA 30097. (For directions, please go to the gwinnettcenter.org web site.) We will have a light breakfast and refreshments at these meetings.
- We will be respectful of your time, beginning our meetings promptly at 8:00 a.m. and ending no later than 11:30. We urge that you be at the Gwinnett Center by 7:45 a.m., so we can get started on time.

Circumstances do change in people's lives, and if you believe you cannot participate as fully as you had hoped, we ask that you let us know as soon as possible. We have a number of "alternates," people who have indicated their interest in serving on the Engage Gwinnett committee, and at this point it would be fairly easy to fill a vacancy. As we get deeper into our work – particularly as we divide into work groups – this will become much harder.

Finally, a thought about your role. We'll talk at length about the role of committee members on October 8, but we want to offer you some assurance. We do not expect you to be an expert in county government. We ask only that you care about our county's well-being (and that of its 800,000 citizens), listen carefully to the presentations of county officials and others, listen respectfully to the thoughts and opinions of your fellow committee members, and apply your

best judgment. If we do so, we will make great recommendations next March and do our county a wonderful service.

We look forward to seeing you on October 8 at 7:45. If you have questions, please contact Jann Moore, (770) 822-7052.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mike Levengood in black ink.

Mike Levengood, Co-Chair

Engage Gwinnett

Handwritten signature of Bill McCargo in black ink.

Bill McCargo, Co-Chair

Engage Gwinnett