

# 2010 candidate questionnaire

NAME: **Lynette Howard**

PARTY: Republican

SEEKING: Gwinnett County Commission,  
District 2



## **1. Why are you seeking your office?**

I believe a proven community leader should serve as County Commissioner. The citizens feel their concerns aren't being heard and they've lost trust in their leaders. The problems facing us are often least-worst choices, and trust is essential to resolving these problems. I am a proven community leader with a lot of experience in listening and resolving issues. The people want someone to represent them that they know and trust, not a career politician who will continue the same old ways. I am excited to run for office, because I know I can make a difference.

## **2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

First, I want to help restore trust in the County Commission's leadership. No one Commissioner can go it alone so working together is essential. But the citizens of District 2 can be assured that I won't just follow along with the "way things have always been done." Second, I will use the analytical skills I developed as a research chemist and the listening and conflict resolution skills I learned as a community leader to address the many issues facing the County. Last, I will always keep the citizens informed and involved. I commit to open and transparent government.

## **3. What distinguishes your candidacy?**

I am a seasoned community leader and experienced in working with both citizens and developers to resolve conflicts. I led our community in realizing an amazing development, the Forum at Peachtree Corners, that everyone is very proud of and is an example of what can be accomplished when both sides work together. In my six years as President of the United Peachtree Corners Civic Association, we established this philosophy of working with developers, the community, and the County to achieve the best outcome instead of just opposing development. I used these same skills as a three-term Planning Commissioner.

## **4. What are the key issues in your race?**

My key issue is restoring trust. Trust that the budget can be met without a tax increase; trust that

public safety will never be in doubt; and trust that land use decisions are ethical and fit our long range plan.

**5. Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

Redevelopment – District 2 was in the first wave of development in the 70's and 80's. Our shopping centers, offices, apartments and homes are beginning to look dated. While we are still a desirable location, many areas need a face lift. Our aging communities need senior housing and mixed use that truly reduces traffic on our congested roads. We need to balance the tax digest by getting Gwinnett back to a healthy ratio of residential to commercial development. I will work together with all those concerned to create ideas that will generate development dollars to invest in our community

**6. Give a 100 word summary of your background.**

I currently serve as a Planning Commissioner for District 2. For six years, I was President of the United Peachtree Corners Civic Association, representing over 4,000 residents in 33 homeowner associations. In that role, I led our community through numerous development, transportation, and rezoning challenges. Professionally, I am currently program developer and specialist for the Gwinnett Environmental Heritage Center. Prior to that, I was a successful research chemist, having landed the biggest accounts in the history of my company. Most importantly, I have been happily married to Pat for 17 years and we have two wonderful children Nathalie and Alex.