

**NAME: Ben Ku**  
**PARTY: Democratic**  
**SEEKING: County Commission, District 2**



**Why are you seeking your office?**

Our county has big transportation problems, our Board doesn't reflect our citizens, there has been an inequitable allotment of county resources, and it's difficult to connect with our representatives. I'm running to improve transportation, representation, and communication here in Gwinnett. I want to improve our community, and I will bring a unique, forward-thinking perspective to the Board of Commissioners.

**What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

We have a lot to work on. I will collaborate to implement solutions to make transportation in and around the county easier, improve our community engagement and communications, increase transparency, ensure accessibility of county resources for all citizens, strengthen our non-discrimination policies, and encourage equitable hiring processes.

**What distinguishes your candidacy?**

I am the only candidate who grew up living and breathing technology. I have consistently been on the cutting edge of technology, having developed some of the first websites and apps. I know how to identify and define problems, collaborate to create solutions, and I have the capability to implement those solutions. Technology is changing society and I will position Gwinnett to take advantage of those changes. I will use my experience and vision to make sure that Gwinnett is a world leader in transportation, representation, and communication.

**How can we improve school safety?**

We need to improve communication between students, parents, teachers, and administrators so that when anyone sees a problem, they are comfortable enough to tell someone about it. Moreover, everyone needs to be educated about what 21st Century bullying looks like so that they can know when their children are bullies or the bullied. Parents need to have an active role in their children's education, and helping to ensure people's basic needs (like food, housing, and health) are met will make that easier. Having regular opportunities for parents, teachers, and students to work together is important.

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

We need to improve transportation by tackling the problem from multiple angles. We must diversify our options so that we don't have all our eggs in one basket, which was made clear by the I-85 bridge fire. We can spread our resources throughout the county so that we can create an exemplary interconnected network of roads, trails, and transit. In the short term, we can rework the existing bus routes to be more useful and efficient. And in the long term, we should be investing in rapid transit to bring in jobs and reduce congestion throughout Gwinnett.

**Please give a 100 word summary on your background:**

I am the grandson of Chinese immigrants who helped engineer the original MARTA rail. I have been on the forefront of technology with over 20 years of software development experience. I graduated from Georgia Tech with a degree in Computer Science and have enjoyed a career solving problems and helping people, both as a consultant and as a local small business owner. I stepped up to save my HOA from bankruptcy, serve on the Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy Alumni Advisory Board, and mentor students in the Georgia Tech Mentor Jackets program.