

NAME: Marlene Fosque
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: County Commission, District 4



Why are you seeking your office?

I am seeking the Gwinnett County Commissioner District 4 seat as a caring unifier, ready with each citizen's assistance, to change our County's course from status quo or "Middle of the Pack" to building more diverse partnerships, increasing representation, engaging and improving the quality of life for all citizens as I reinvest through our economic development and business decision making into the future of Gwinnett County, which allows our citizens dynamic opportunities to grow, flourish, prosper, raise a family, retire, collaborate, and utilize a host of other County vital resources. I care and am truly passionate about our citizens well-being.

What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I expect to make positive changes by amplifying expansion efforts of Gwinnett County Transit heavy rail, bus rapid, express bus and local busing needs, reducing completion times and phases vs. the projected 5 to 30-year timeframe. I also plan to create engagement opportunities with our citizens by hosting periodic District townhalls and leveraging information technology enhancements and utilization of communication modes via social media applications such as podcasting, twitter, videos, hyperlinks or cloud base accesses, our citizens could receive tweets about budget proposal meetings or other hot County topics. Increase diversification through appointments to various boards and committees.

What distinguishes your candidacy?

"Are you IN? I Am. INtegrity, INclusive, INSightful and INnovative" are my candidacy, as well as lifelong ideals. As an ordinary citizen, I must have practical and inspirational values that are relatable and relevant to others through life and workforce experiences. My decisions will be based on 360-degree perspectives reflecting our citizens' impact as the essential focal point. I believe in engaging, equipping, empowering and informing citizens and local business owners. Thus, fostering better community relationships, connections, outcomes, efficiencies and effectiveness that would allow viable Gwinnett County programs, reasonable distribution of resource allocations, short and long-term plans to fare well.

How can we improve school safety?

Preventative school safety measures provided collectively at home, schools, to students and communities via public service announcement campaigns by parents, law enforcement, mental health and other experts go a long way towards saving

lives, causing safety nets to be formed prior to crossing school perimeters. School faculty, administrative and other staff should constantly review and enforce their visitor management programs from the parking lot to use of electronic video, intercoms, controlling access of main doors exit and entry points, and visitor check in stations. Increasing visibility of all personnel, especially school resource officers, would be another deterrent in school safety.

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

Gwinnett County inform property owners primarily via mail regarding their upcoming property bills. I recommend utilizing effective technology methods when notifying over 250, 000 plus personal and business property owners of property taxes by sending a brief video or hyperlink to a video, explaining millage rates, purpose, revenues and distribution of funds collected, after April once property assessments are released and prior to August when property tax bills are mailed to property owners. Earlier millage rate explanations allow property owners to better understand and communicate how their tax dollars are being utilized to support local school board and county operations.

Please give a 100-word summary on your background

My strong Christian compassionate faith, humble beginnings as a foster child growing up in New York, married, divorced, raised a son who serves in the Air Force, twenty years of employment with a health care insurance carrier while receiving a Bachelor of Science in Management from Shorter University and Master of Public Administration, with PI Alpha Alpha Honors from Regent University, former Gwinnett County Elections Poll Asst. Manager and Poll Manager, canvassing for Barack Obama's and GA Rep. Dar'shun Kendrick's campaigns, all signifies inclusiveness, tenacity, stability, consistency, firmness and strength leadership attributes beneficial to governing all citizens and business leaders.