

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

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I am running for re-election to continue working to promote smart growth and bringing county government closer to all residents. It is vital that our residents know that we are good stewards of taxpayer funds, and serious about improving the quality of their lives while protecting their lives and investments. During my time on the commission, we opened the Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center, created the Police Citizens Advisory Board, and created Project RESET and RESET 2.0 which helped over 22,000 Gwinnettians remain stably housed, among other successes. I want to build on our accomplishments for a brighter future.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I will definitely work to improve our infrastructure, address traffic congestion, amplify sidewalks additions and pedestrian mobility, and increase sustainability with the purchasing of a biosolids dryer while adding other new long-term initiatives. Gwinnett is steadily growing in population because we have wonderful residents, schools, and communities. I will continue to work to ensure Gwinnett grows in responsible and prosperous ways. That includes making residential and commercial zoning decisions that maintain the character of our communities and promote initiatives that will spur business and economic growth.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

My life experiences fashioned me into becoming a dedicated and committed public servant leader. I lost both of my parents at a very young age and my siblings, and I went into foster care. However, many people helped me throughout my life in small and large ways to propel me forward. My experiences also showed me how incredibly impactful and compassionate it is to help others. I have always worked to repay the assistance I received, by being of service to others. This is true fulfillment I found as an elected official and working on behalf of my neighbors.

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

Sustaining and building infrastructure is a top policy priority. Infrastructure includes people, innovated technology, stormwater, water, roads, airport, transportation, parks, trails, etc. Everything is built on infrastructure. It must be available for this generation and for generations to come. Infrastructure, Jobs, Population, Housing and Transportation

all work hand in hand. I worked hard to ensure there is not overdevelopment areas yet adequate improvements to support new construction. I have also voted to deny projects that I did not think would fit within our community and I will continue to do so if projects do not align with our long-term vision.

5. What are your ideas on curbing all the many area-wide shooting?

I led the effort to create the Gwinnett County Police Advisory Board to strengthen the bonds between residents and law enforcement. Gwinnett County Police Department is comprised of competent and dedicated law enforcement professionals, but the residents are the backbone of policing. We have seen a significant drop in major crimes in Gwinnett County due to the tenacity of our LEO's and the vigilance of our residents. I will continue to ensure that our public safety officials have the resources they need to perform their jobs and our community remains engaged in crime reduction efforts.

6. Give a 100 word summary on your background.

I am an 18-year resident of Gwinnett County and elected as the first Black District Commissioner in 2018. I served as Vice Chair of BOC in 2020 & 2021. I also served as 2021 vice chair and 2022 chair of the NACO's Transit/Rail Subcommittee of the Transportation Steering Committee and the International Economic Development Task Force. In Georgia, I serve on the ACCG's Policy Council as 2022 chair of the Health and Human Services Policy Committee; serves as 2021 – 2022 vice chair of the board of directors for the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau Inc., and 2020 Leadership Gwinnett Alumni.