



City of South Fulton Government

PRESS RELEASE

Department of Public Affairs

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South Fulton Recognized as a Georgia Municipal Association City of Civility

(City of South Fulton, GA – May 2, 2023) – The City of South Fulton has been designated as a City of Civility by the Georgia Municipal Association.

A recent poll by Weber Shandwick revealed that more than 90 percent of Americans believe that incivility is a problem, with nearly 68 percent identifying it as a major problem. Civility is more than just politeness. It is about disagreeing without disrespect, seeking common ground as a starting point for dialogue about differences, listening past one’s preconceptions, and teaching others to do the same.

“Over the last decade, there has been a noticeable decline of common courtesy and respect for others across the nation,” said District 2 Councilwoman Carmalitha Gumbs, who sponsored a civility resolution adopted by South Fulton’s city council in February. “It’s time we revived those values, which have been key to our success and growth locally and across America. I’m proud South Fulton has taken a step in this direction.”

The Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), in partnership with its nonprofit organization, Georgia City Solutions, created the Embrace Civility program to equip Georgia’s cities with resources to create more civility in their meetings and among their residents and meeting attendees. Civil behavior and speech are critically important to a healthy, functional, and respectful society. For public service to be effective, there must be an atmosphere of respect and tolerance and a commitment to a healthy public exchange of diverse ideas and viewpoints.

“I commend the City of South Fulton for embracing civility and adopting the resolution to become a City of Civility,” said GMA CEO and Executive Director Larry Hanson. “We believe that Georgia’s cities have a great platform to model open free and vigorous debate while maintaining the highest standards of civility, honesty, and mutual respect.”

To become a City of Civility, city councils are required to adopt a Civility Resolution and pledge to engage in civil behavior with each other as well as with residents and meeting attendees. Cities also have a civility pledge that can be published or recited at meetings. Learn more about the Embrace Civility program at www.gacities.com/civility.

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About the City of South Fulton

Home to nearly 108,000 residents, the City of South Fulton is Georgia's fifth-largest city. It covers over 85 square miles and features urban and rural landscapes, with the most undeveloped land on metro Atlanta's southern side. Incorporated on May 1, 2017, South Fulton is among Georgia's youngest and fastest-growing cities – on the rise and recognized as the place you want to be. Visit our website or connect with us on social media at cityofsouthfultonga.gov.