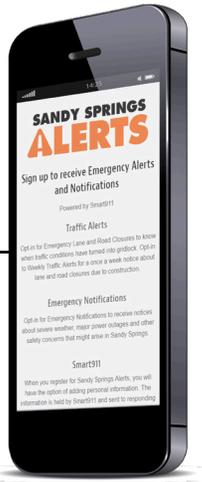


# HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO BE NOTIFIED? SANDY SPRINGS ALERTS

Find out how to register to receive emergency notifications from the city via email or text message — *Page III*



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By Sandy Springs Mayor Rusty Paul

## STATE OF THE CITY

### MAYOR EMPHASIZES NEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TRANSPORTATION

As I looked out on the full room during my State of the City address last month at the Westin, I marveled at this group of engaged residents and business owners who, I believe, share my goal of making Sandy Springs the most envied community in the metro area. Our quality of life, our people, and our prime location are the connective tissue essential to achieving that goal. We are witnessing a boom in development. Cranes are part of the City's skyline, but with the growth, we also are experiencing some growing pains.

While rapid growth has brought with it some positives, it has also caused consternation and uncertainty. The City's Next Ten Comprehensive Land Use Plan is one program designed to bring better balance. The Next Ten plan allows us to remain a vibrant, neighborhood-centered community with the essential, ongoing revitalization and

redevelopment needed for a healthy community. Regarding the current efforts to refine the development code, our goal is to simplify the zoning process and make the code easier to understand and administer, creating more

corridor - the City's main thoroughfare. I've described Roswell Road as a broken tiara that needs to be re-jeweled. There's been powerful transformation on Roswell Road beginning on the south end at the Gateway complex and

achieve the vibrancy and quality of life that will further establish Sandy Springs as the metro area's most desirable community. The metro area's population increased 1.1 million between 2006 and 2016, and the prediction is another million in the next ten years and eight million total by 2040. Over the next five years, through T-SPLOST funds, the City will receive an estimated \$103 million to use for transportation improvements. Congestion could eventually push people out. People will not tolerate the loss in quality of life and that is one of the reasons why I think this community supported the T-SPLOST initiative in the commanding way that it did. We need to invest in creating systems to provide future generations with a thriving community with economic prosperity. We can't make change in one person per vehicle increments. We have to rethink change, including rail transit.

The other day, my wife Jan and I were driving along Mount Vernon Highway and caught the sun setting  
*continued on page II*



Cranes rising above City Springs, the city's new downtown district.

certainty for everyone. The Next Ten plan also includes small area plans for the revitalization and redevelopment of the Perimeter area - the economic engine; the Powers Ferry area of the City that will take on new significance with the Braves; and the Roswell Road

working its way north. The crowning jewel will be City Springs. I urge you to attend one of the code development meetings scheduled for later this month (*see page III*).

Transportation and regional planning is another essential element to help

## TEASE YOUR TASTEBUDS AT FOOD THAT ROCKS

Celebrate the warmer and longer days at the second annual Food That Rocks! This year's event scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 2017 will showcase more than 20 Sandy Springs chefs and restaurants and three bands under

two large tents. An additional treat this year will be New York Times best-selling author and former AJC feature reporter Mary Kay Andrews, who will release a new cookbook, *The Beach House Cookbook* (*St. Martin's Press*) in

early May and will be offering tastings of some of her favorite recipes. Food That Rocks, set for 6:30 to 11:00 p.m. at Hammond Park, is for 21-years and older. General admission tickets are \$50 per person in advance, \$55 after April

24 and \$60 at the door. First-taster VIP tickets are \$65 per person in advance, \$70 after April 24 and \$75 at the door (if available). You can learn more about the event on the Food that Rocks website: [FoodThatRocks.org](http://FoodThatRocks.org)

# VOLUNTEER FOR A BETTER SANDY SPRINGS

Volunteer for a Better Sandy Springs, the flagship community-wide service day for Sandy Springs. Through the work of 500+ community volunteers, partnering with parks, schools and nonprofit organizations to landscape, plant, paint and do light cleanup of their grounds and facilities. Now in its 15th year, the organization has provided materials and volunteer hours worth more than \$600,000 in city-wide improvements. This year's works sites include:

- Abernathy Arts Center
- Big Trees Forest Preserve
- Community Assistance Center
- Crooked Creek (future park)
- Dorothy Benson Center
- Dunwoody Springs Elementary
- Hammond Park
- Heards Ferry Elementary
- Heritage Sandy Springs
- High Point Elementary
- Keep Sandy Springs Beautiful
- Lake Forest Elementary
- Lost Corner Preserve
- North Springs High School
- Ridgeview Charter School
- Sandy Springs Library
- Sandy Springs Middle School
- Sandy Springs Tennis Center
- Watershed Alliance Projects
- Woodland Elementary

The event will take place on Saturday, April 22 from 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. rain or shine. You can contact the organization via email at [vbss@leadershipsandysprings.org](mailto:vbss@leadershipsandysprings.org) for more information.

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on the Performing Arts Center. It was magnificent. City Springs will be a gathering place for everyone; it's the City's gift to itself. And while I expect to see everyone from every corner of the City there, there is one person who will be notably absent and that is the City's founding mayor, Eva Galambos. She would be so proud of this project and of the great people who call this great community home.

# BRAVING THE BRAVES

In a couple of short weeks, SunTrust Stadium opens in Cobb County. The first exhibition game for the Atlanta Braves is March 31, 2017, followed by its first official home game against the Padres on April 14, 2017.

The City continues to work in collaboration with Cobb County and the Georgia Department of Transportation on traffic management plans which

will provide for safe, efficient vehicular travel and minimize traffic impacts to nearby neighborhoods and businesses. The City's Traffic Management Center will provide a base for operations which includes additional signage, traffic control support as well as adaptive signal management.

It is expected to take several weeks as patrons determine favored routes

to the stadium to fully modify and implement traffic plans to appropriately handle traffic flow. Following each game, traffic teams from Cobb and Sandy Springs, along with the GDOT, will meet to discuss improvements to help with traffic flow. Additional details on planning efforts can be found online: [sandyspringsga.gov/braves](http://sandyspringsga.gov/braves).



The City will monitor and respond to traffic in real-time from its Traffic Management Center.

## STARS AND STRIPES FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

A community tradition and highlight of the summer, the Stars & Stripes Fireworks display is one the biggest annual events in Sandy Springs. Pack a picnic and frisbee, and head to the lawn beneath the iconic King & Queen



## SECOND ANNUAL RHYTHM & BREWS

buildings. The evening begins with danceable live music and ends with one of the area's most dazzling firework displays illuminating the skies of the city. This year's event will take place on Sunday, July 2 from 7:30–10:30 p.m.

Heritage Sandy Springs announces the return of Rhythm & Brews, on Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 1-7 p.m. This year's event will feature a full day's line up of original artists whose music is deeply rooted in the South, along with exposure to area brewers. Rhythm & Brews not only celebrates the sips and sounds of the region, but also presents an opportunity for audiences, both young and young at heart, to kick back and relax in a beautiful outdoor setting. Rhythm & Brews tickets are available online: [spr.gs/RandB](http://spr.gs/RandB)

# SANDY SPRINGS ALERTS

Don't Be the Last to Know! Last year the City launched an emergency notification system called Sandy Spring Alerts to keep the community in the know about traffic and road closures, severe weather, power outages and other safety concerns. Sandy Springs Alerts will alert you via text or email

notifications of emergencies: public safety and weather alerts to a weekly traffic advisory. You choose the alerts you want to receive. The system also features Smart 911 that allows registrants to provide medical and other pertinent information about themselves and their family members that would

be critical for first responders to have in an emergency. For example, emergency medical personnel would want to know about allergies or medications an individual has or is taking; or the fire department would want to know about pets in an effected household. Sign up at [sandyspringsga.gov/alerts](http://sandyspringsga.gov/alerts) today.

## SUMMER SEASON

### RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

When it comes to summer activities for children and adults alike, it's impossible to beat the value of the City's recreational programming:

#### SUMMER CAMPS

Spring break is just around the corner and before long, school will be out for the summer! Now's the perfect time to start thinking summer plans, and the City's Recreation and Parks Department offers summer day camp sessions catering to wide variety of ages, interests and special needs. Before and After Camp Care is available. See the full list on page IV.

#### CELEBRATE OUR PARKS

National Kids to Parks Day is an ideal way to get outside, meet new friends and celebrate the City's beautiful parks. This year's event will be on Saturday, May 20 from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. at Hammond Park. Don't miss this free community event!

#### GET OUT ON THE RIVER

Time to play in the river! The Chattahoochee River runs along 22 miles of Sandy Springs and it's quite a fun neighbor to get to know. For those wanting to learn more, Canoe, Kayak and Paddleboard Intro Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Overlook Park. This is a free event for ages 10 and up. For the more competitive set, the 6th Annual Standup Paddleboard Race is scheduled for Sunday, June 25 from 8 a.m. to noon at Overlook Park. The fee for this event is \$55/\$65/kids are free.

#### LEARN TO BE A BETTER PHOTOGRAPHER

Whether you are looking to buy your first Digital SLR camera or want to begin using more than your camera's automatic setting, join us on Saturday May 6 at Lost Corner Preserve for a photography workshop followed by a nature photography walk. Learn more about the program online by visiting: [spr.gs/photography](http://spr.gs/photography)

## DEVELOPMENT IN SANDY SPRINGS IS ABOUT TO GET SMARTER

Sandy Springs is making changes to its Development Code to guide future growth in our city and effectively implement the planning priorities articulated in the Next Ten Comprehensive Plan. The new Development Code will unify existing development regulations—zoning, subdivision and environmental standards—into a single, graphically-rich document that is easy to use and understand. The document will bring more predictability and certainty to the development approval process.

### WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS...

#### OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC MEETING

You can view the Development Code framework from a city-wide perspective on Monday, March 20 at City Hall. The Open House starts at 4 p.m. followed by the Meeting at 6 p.m.

#### DISTRICT MEETINGS

To learn more about changes in your neighborhood, we are hosting the following meetings based on City Council Districts:

##### DISTRICT 1 MEETING

Wednesday, March 29 at 6 p.m.  
Davis Academy - Lower School  
Media Center, 8105 Roberts Drive

##### DISTRICT 4 MEETING

Monday, March 27 at 6 p.m.  
North Springs Charter High School  
Media Center, 7447 Roswell Road

##### DISTRICT 2 MEETING

Wednesday, March 22 at 6 p.m.  
City Hall - Council Chambers  
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500

##### DISTRICT 5 MEETING

Wednesday, March 22 at 6 p.m.  
Church of the Atonement  
4959 High Point Road

##### DISTRICT 3 MEETING

Wednesday, March 29 at 6 p.m.  
SSUMC- Activity Center, Parlor  
Room, 85 Mt Vernon Highway NW

##### DISTRICT 6 MEETING

Monday, March 27 at 6 p.m.  
Holy Innocents School  
805 Mt Vernon Highway

#### SANDY SPRINGS COUNCIL DISTRICTS



If you are unsure what district you live in you can view a map detailing residential streets and Council Districts online: [spr.gs/councildistricts](http://spr.gs/councildistricts)

#### OPEN OFFICE MEETINGS AT CITY HALL

If you are not able to attend the city-wide or district meetings, you can visit us at City Hall. Though walk-ins are welcome, you are encouraged to schedule a 15-minute appointment with staff to avoid waiting. Appointments can be made by emailing the Planner of the Day at [pz@sandyspringsga.gov](mailto:pz@sandyspringsga.gov). These meetings will be held: **April 3 from 1–5 p.m., April 5 from 8 a.m.–12 p.m., April 7 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.** Please enter City Hall through the front entrance adjacent to Roswell Road.



## EVENTS

- » Gymnastics Team Tryout 
- » Fulton Golden Games 
- » National Kids to Parks Day 
- » 6th Annual Standup Paddleboard Race 

## SUMMER CAMPS

- » Day Camp 
- » Sports Day Camp 
- » Discover Nature Camp 
- » Theater Camp 
- » Theater Production Camp 
- » Musical Theater Camp 
- » Soccer Camp 
- » Lacrosse Camp 
- » Hangout Camp 
- » Gymnastics Camps 
- » Rhythmic Gymnastics Camp 
- » Anime & Cartooning Camp 
- » Archeologist Camp 
- » Oceanography Camp 
- » Studio Painter Camp 
- » Video Game Maker Camp 
- » Video Game Lovers Camp 



## SPORTS AND FITNESS

- » Volleyball 
- » Lacrosse 
- » Baseball 
- » Softball 
- » Flag Football 
- » Pickleball 
- » Track 
- » Fitness 



## GYMNASTICS

- » Gymnastics Classes 
- » Gymnastics Clinics 
- » Gymnastics Team 
- » Rhythmic Gymnastics 
- » Parent and Me Playdate 
- » Parents Night Out 



**SANDY SPRINGS**  
RECREATION AND PARKS

## ACTIVITIES

- » Nature Photography 
- » Discover Nature Classes 
- » Karate 

## CHILDREN'S PARTIES

- » Gymnastics Birthday Parties 



## EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS

- » Summer Camp 
- » Gymnastics 

# SUMMER RECREATION

Whether you're looking for a team sport or creative outlet for your children, or would like to improve your own fitness without getting locked into a private gym contract, the City of Sandy Springs offers affordable programs at convenient locations.

We also offer free community events that make it fun and easy to get to know your neighbors! For parents looking for a safe place for their children after school and during summer break, check out the many wonderful programs and camps in Sandy Springs.

WE HAVE PROGRAMS AND CLASSES FOR **PRE-SCHOOLERS** , **CHILDREN** , **ADOLESCENTS** , **TEENS**  AND **ADULTS** 

## WATERSPORTS

- » Canoe Kayak & Paddleboard Intro Day 
- » Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga / Demos 
- » Paddleshack Watercraft Rentals 



YOU CAN FIND THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT ALL CITY PROGRAMS BY VISITING [REGISTRATION.SANDYSPRINGSGA.GOV](https://www.sandyspringsga.gov/registration)