



BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SCHEDULED MEETING

February 12, 2026

4:30 PM

Memorial Drive Auditorium

DCTV's UStream channel: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/xUJgKs6n2VW>

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. January 8, 2026 Scheduled Meeting (p. 2)
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
 - A. Director's Report (p. 5)
 - B. Legislative Updates
- 6. ITEMS FOR DECISION**
 - A. Temporary Polling Place Changes for May and June 2026 (p. 12)
 - B. Early Voting Sites for the May 19th General Primary (p. 20)
 - C. Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission Election (p. 22)
- 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- 8. BOARD COMMENTS**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2026

Start Time: 4:38 PM

End Time: 05:37 PM

Board Attendees: Karli Swift, Chair
Vasu Abhiraman, Vice-Chair
Travis Bowden
Gail Lee
Dele Lowman

Other Attendees: Keisha Smith, Executive Director
Michael Petty, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Tristen Waite, Assistant County Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Swift called the Board of Registration and Elections meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Ms. Austin conducted the roll call, confirming the presence of each board member by name. A quorum was established.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Bowden and seconded by Ms. Lowman. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED MINUTES

Chair Swift requested that Director Smith provide an overview of the amendments to the approved minutes of the November 10, 2025 meeting. Director Smith presented the overview. Ms. Lowman clarified that the minutes in question pertained to a discussion of Senate Bill 189. The Board members considered how best to summarize the discussion from the November meeting.

Chair Swift then asked for a motion to accept the amendment to the November 10, 2025 minutes as presented by Director Smith. Vice-Chair Abhiraman made a motion to approve the amendment. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowman. Chair Swift, Vice-Chair Abhiraman, and Ms. Lowman voted in favor. Ms. Lee and Mr. Bowden voted against. The motion passed.

Chair Swift then asked for a motion to approve the December 5, 2025 special called meeting minutes. Vice-Chair Abhiraman made a motion to approve both the December 5, 2025 and December 8, 2025 meeting minutes. Ms. Lee seconded the motion. Ms. Lowman, Ms. Lee, Vice-Chair Abhiraman, and Mr.

Bowden voted in favor. Chair Swift abstained, stating that she had not been present at those meetings. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cheryl Dudley
Kendra Biegalski
Michael Beach

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A) Director's Report

Director Smith provided an update on the total number of registered voters, voter registration methods, and the number of applications remaining to be processed. She also presented an overview of voter registration cancellations. Director Smith reported that a Pension Board election will be facilitated by the office and that she is awaiting further information regarding a vacant House seat. She further stated that UOCAVA absentee ballot applications are currently being processed.

Director Smith presented an overview of the budget for the period of January through December 2025. She reported that efficiencies and operational improvements within the Elections Division have resulted in a significant surplus, which is still in the process of being reconciled.

Chair Swift requested clarification regarding the process for calling special elections. Director Smith and Mr. Petty stated that the Governor would set the date of this election and discussed the rules surrounding its scheduling.

Chair Swift summarized that the election could be called either now or at a later date and emphasized that the office should be prepared for either scenario.

Ms. Lowman, Ms. Lee, and Director Smith discussed the budget report. Chair Swift stated that ending the year with a surplus is an excellent result. She noted for the record that the Commissioners should be advised not to reduce the department's budget, as the prior year had fewer elections than anticipated and 2026 is expected to include a higher volume of elections requiring a larger budget. Chair Swift reiterated to the public that the department is a responsible steward of its financial resources.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

A) Early Voting Sites for Potential Special Election

Director Smith provided an overview of the proposed early voting locations for the March 17, 2026 election. Vice-Chair Abhiraman asked why March 17, 2026 had been selected as the

election date. Director Smith stated that the office was anticipating the election being called on that date because it aligns with the 2026 Election Calendar.

Vice-Chair Abhiraman noted that the Governor has the authority to set the election date in accordance with the law and requested clarification from Mr. Petty. Mr. Petty stated that March 17, 2026 is the date currently reflected on the election calendar.

Mr. Bowden asked whether the date could be changed if necessary, emphasizing that the primary focus should remain on the approval of the early voting locations. Chair Swift discussed adjusting the language in the motion to ensure it aligned appropriately with the referenced date. Vice-Chair Abhiraman summarized the proposed language changes for clarity.

Vice-Chair Abhiraman moved to approve the early voting locations as proposed by staff, contingent upon an election being called, and to approve the corresponding dates and times associated with the House District 94 election schedule. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lowman and carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Bowden thanked all participants for remaining engaged and for their continued involvement.

Ms. Lowman extended New Year's wishes to everyone and encouraged continued engagement.

Ms. Lee stated that she believes current list maintenance procedures are not effective.

Vice-Chair Abhiraman thanked the staff and all attendees for their participation. He referenced a recent article on housing insecurity.

Chair Swift extended New Year's wishes to all and thanked the staff for their work and commitment to carrying out their responsibilities in an effective manner.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:37 pm a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bowden. Seconded by Ms. Lee. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

February 12, 2026

Keisha L. Smith, MPA
Executive Director
Voter Registration and Elections (VRE)

Topic 1: General Operations Updates

- ❖ Registration Updates
 - Total number of Registered Voters as of February 10th: **564,506**
 - Total number of Active Registered Voters: 488,508
 - Total number of Inactive Registered Voters: 75,998
 - Total applications left to be processed as of February 10th: **6,531**
 - DDS: 5,615
 - OLVR: 10
 - MVP: 12
 - Handwritten: 737
 - Manual Voter Registration Cancellations for 2025: **4,089**
 - Monthly (December 2025-January 2026): 796

- ❖ Election Activities

Notes:

Topic 2: Administrative/Finance Updates

- ❖ Personnel
- ❖ Budget Activities

Notes:

Topic 3: Stakeholder Engagement Updates

- ❖ Key Stakeholder Meetings
- ❖ General Communications

Notes:



Elections

Fiscal Year 2026 Executive Budget Recommendation

Mission Statement

The mission of the DeKalb County Board of Registration & Elections provides the residents of DeKalb County with voter registration and election services, information and education that enable them to exercise their right to vote and have confidence that the elections are fair, impartial, and accurate.

Description

Serving under the supervision of the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections (BRE), the department is currently divided into two divisions: Administration and Public Affairs, and Operations. The Administration and Public Affairs Division is responsible for planning and executing a comprehensive range of administrative services which support office operations. These services encompass the areas of human resource management, financial management, systems and information management, and support services. This Division also supports media relations, public and community relations, internal and external training, and citizen participation and outreach. The Operations Division oversees election, registration, and warehouse functions; and is responsible for the maintenance of the list of electors and digitization of voter registration applications, the conduct of elections, management of polling sites, Poll Officials, and service, maintenance, and testing of voting equipment, ballot preparation and election tabulation.

Financials

02900 - REGISTRAR

	ACTUALS		BUDGET	REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED
	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2026
EXPENDITURES					
100 - GENERAL FUND					
51 - PERSONAL SERVICES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$3,014,832	\$7,929,727	\$7,610,956	\$7,677,832	\$7,677,832
52 - PURCHASED / CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$3,306,822	\$4,524,066	\$5,722,754	\$5,960,852	\$5,960,852
53 - SUPPLIES	\$241,730	\$1,005,734	\$818,400	\$780,000	\$780,000
54 - CAPITAL OUTLAYS	\$2,294,315	\$48,129	\$177,000	\$150,000	\$5,000
55 - INTERFUND / INTERDEPARTMENTAL CHARGES	\$11,145	\$21,281	\$9,776	\$17,267	\$17,267
70 - RETIREMENT SERVICES	\$215,784	\$243,541	\$264,636	\$401,083	\$401,083
100 - GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$9,084,628	\$13,772,479	\$14,603,522	\$14,987,034	\$14,842,034
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$9,084,628	\$13,772,479	\$14,603,522	\$14,987,034	\$14,842,034

02900 - REGISTRAR

	ACTUALS		BUDGET	REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED
	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2026
COST CENTER LEVEL EXPENDITURES					
100 - GENERAL FUND					
02910 - VOTER REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS (ADMINISTRATION)	\$7,295,279	\$8,226,142	\$11,263,275	\$11,033,863	\$10,968,863
02920 - VOTER REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS (OPERATIONS)	\$725,457	\$2,891,222	\$2,479,776	\$2,636,100	\$2,616,100
02922 - VOTER REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS (COMMUNICATIONS)	\$1,063,893	\$2,655,115	\$860,471	\$1,317,071	\$1,257,071
100 - GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$9,084,628	\$13,772,479	\$14,603,522	\$14,987,034	\$14,842,034
COST CENTER LEVEL EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$9,084,628	\$13,772,479	\$14,603,522	\$14,987,034	\$14,842,034

Interested in running for
local public office?

JOIN DeKalb County
Voter Registration and Elections for a
CANDIDATE WORKSHOP

FOR DEKALB COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY



WHEN

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 • 10 a.m.



WHERE

DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections
4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300
Decatur, GA 30032



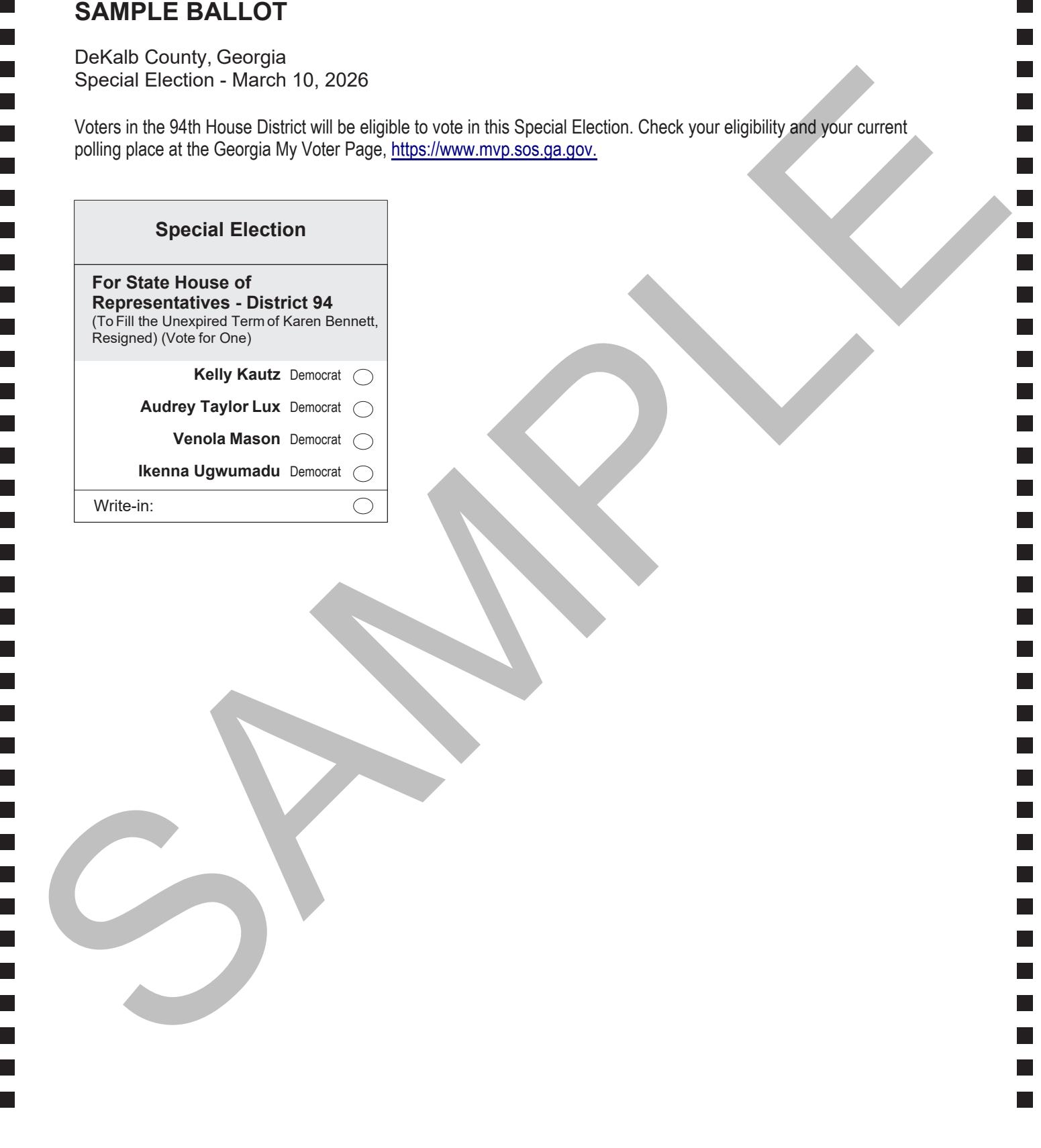
DeKalb County
GEORGIA

REGISTRATION
IS REQUIRED.
SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER:





SAMPLE BALLOT



DeKalb County, Georgia
Special Election - March 10, 2026

Voters in the 94th House District will be eligible to vote in this Special Election. Check your eligibility and your current polling place at the Georgia My Voter Page, <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov>.

Special Election	
For State House of Representatives - District 94 (To Fill the Unexpired Term of Karen Bennett, Resigned) (Vote for One)	
Kelly Kautz	Democrat <input type="radio"/>
Audrey Taylor Lux	Democrat <input type="radio"/>
Venola Mason	Democrat <input type="radio"/>
Ikenna Ugwumadu	Democrat <input type="radio"/>
Write-in:	<input type="radio"/>

Georgia House District 94 Special Election

EARLY VOTING

LOCATIONS

DeKalb Voter Registration & Elections Office*

4380 Memorial Dr., Suite 500
Decatur, GA 30032

Redan-Trott Library

1569 Wellborn Rd.
Lithonia, GA 30058

New Bethel A.M.E. Church

8350 Rockbridge Rd.
Lithonia, GA 30058

* Drop Box Locations

TIMES

Monday - Friday (February 16 - March 6)
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday (February 21 & 28)
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday (February 22 & March 1)
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Absentee ballots can be hand-delivered to the Voter Registration and Elections Office during operating hours or to any Early Voting location listed. For more information, visit dekalbvotes.com or call 404-298-4020.



DeKalb County
G E O R G I A



Check
Wait
Times

**DeKalb voters in Georgia House District 94
will have an opportunity to vote in a
Special Election on March 10, 2026**

Who Can Participate:

Registered voters who live
in Georgia House District 94.



Absentee Voting is Available Now:

Voters may request an absentee ballot now
through February 27, 2026, or choose to
vote early or in person on Election Day.



Bring Your ID:

Georgia law requires voters to show an
acceptable photo ID when voting in person.



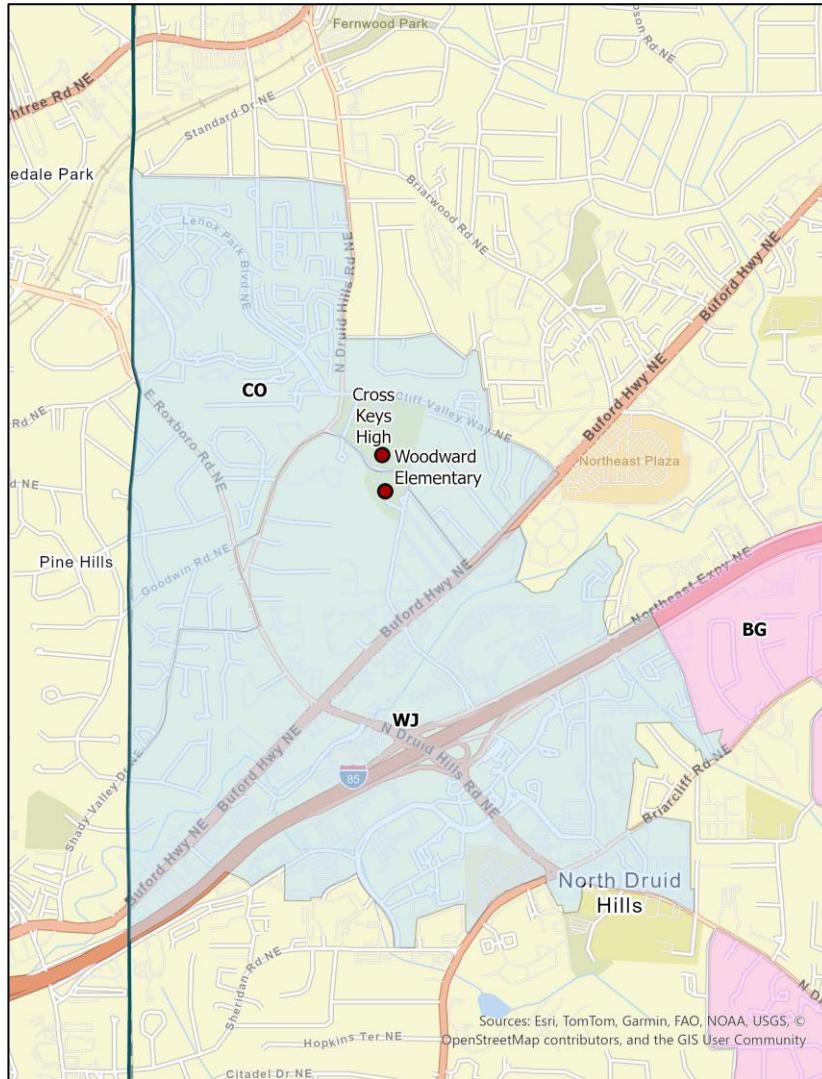
Plan Ahead:

Voters are encouraged to review their registration
status, voting location, and ballot information
by visiting mvp.sos.ga.gov.



DEAR DEKALB COUNTY VOTER
2803 ABBOT LN
LITHONIA, GA 30058

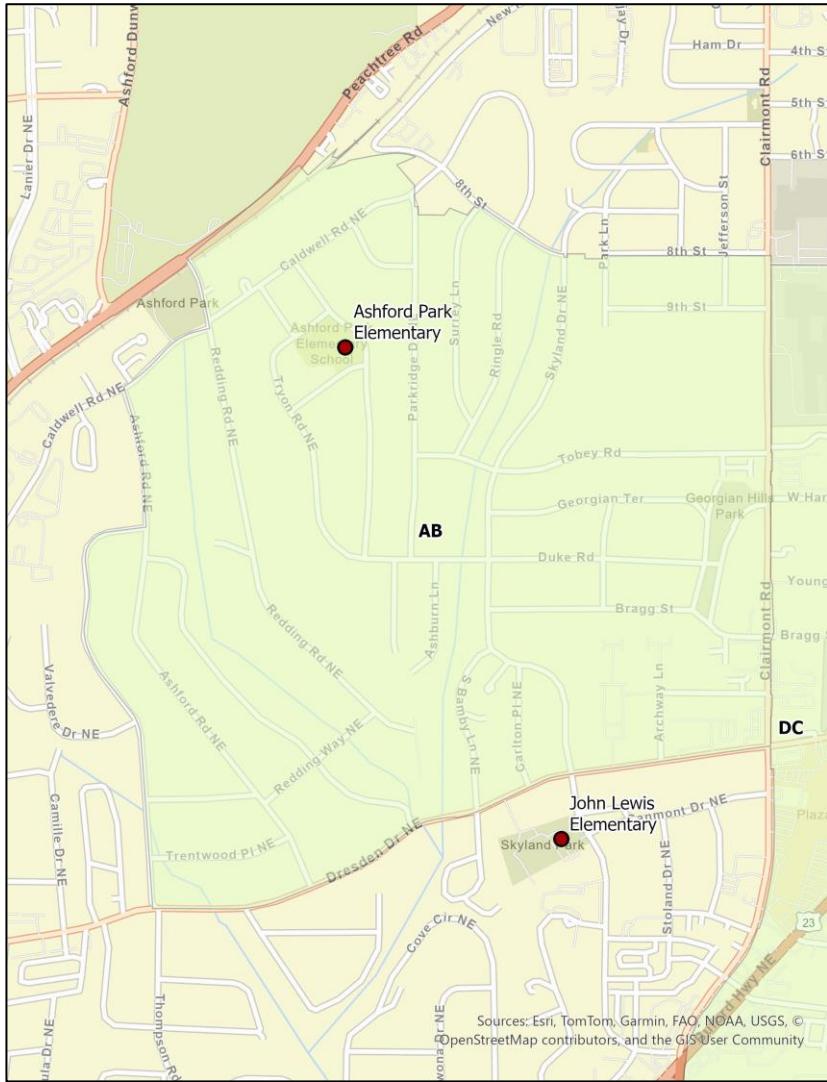
Cross Keys High (CO) & Woodward (WJ)



Due to summer building construction at **Cross Keys High School**, temporarily move the currently combined **Cross Keys High and Woodward** precincts to **Woodward Elementary School**.
Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Cross Keys High School, 1626 N Druid Hills Rd, Brookhaven	Change in Distance: -0.04 mi	Voters After Move: No change 4,584
Proposed Polling Place: Woodward Elementary School, 3034 Curtis Dr NE, Brookhaven	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: None	

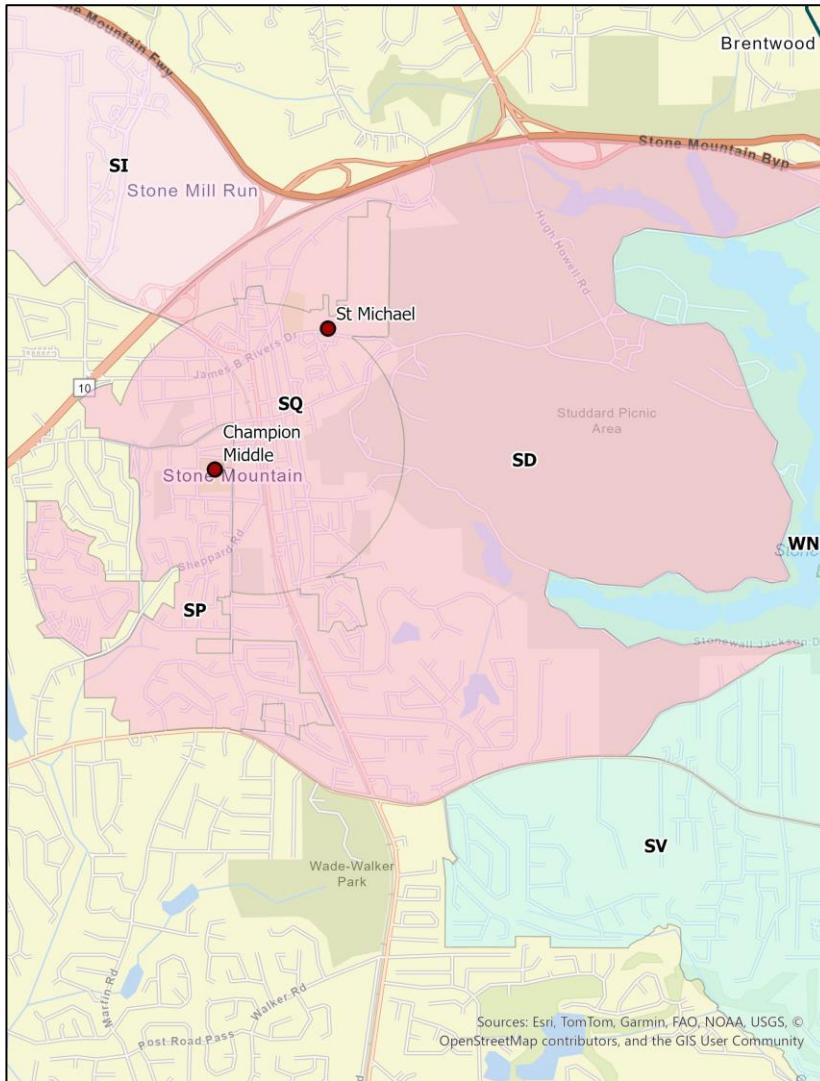
Ashford Park Elem (AB)



Due to summer building construction at **Ashford Park Elementary School**, temporarily move the **Ashford Park Elem** precinct to **John Lewis Elementary School**.
Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Ashford Park Elementary School, 2968 Cravenridge Dr NE	Change in Distance: 0.14 mi	Voters After Move: 6,685
Proposed Polling Place: John Lewis Elementary School, 2630 Skyland Dr NE	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: Dresden Elem (DC)	

Stone Mountain Combined

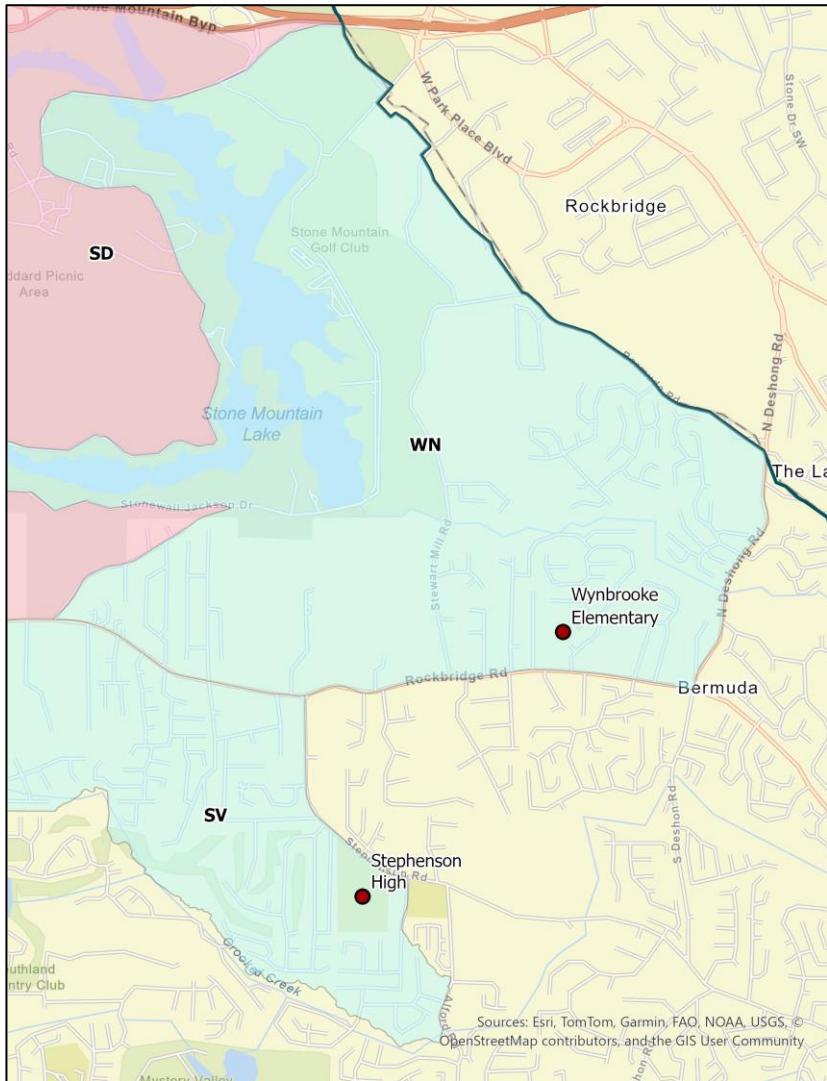


Due to summer building construction at **Champion Theme Middle School**, temporarily move the currently combined **Stone Mountain Elem, Stone Mtn Champion, and Stone Mtn** precincts to **St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church**.

Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Champion Theme Middle School 5265 Mimosa Dr, Stone Mountain	Change in Distance: 0.59 mi	Voters After Move: No change 5,559
Proposed Polling Place: St. Michael & All Angels Church 6780 James B Rivers Memorial Dr	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: None	

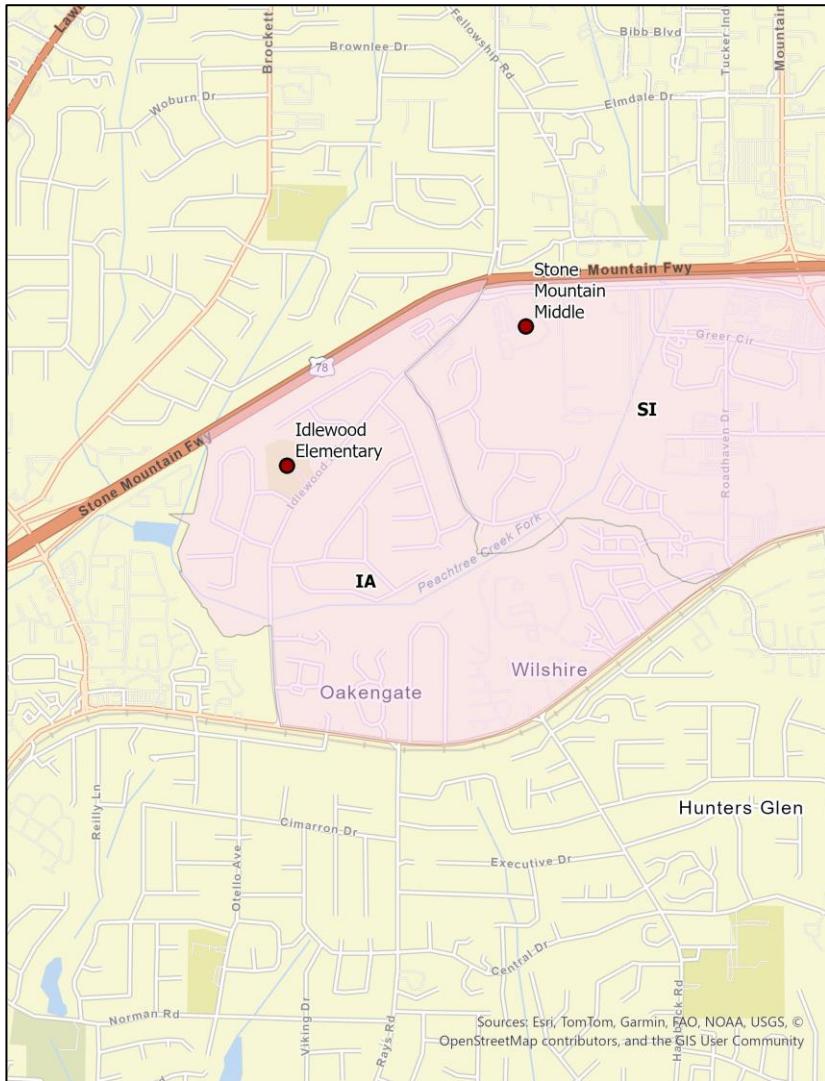
Wynbrooke Elem (WN)



Due to summer building construction at **Wynbrooke Elementary School**, temporarily move the **Wynbrooke Elem** precinct to **Stephenson High School**.
Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Wynbrooke Elementary School 440 Wicksbury Way, Stone Mtn	Change in Distance: 0.67 mi	Voters After Move: 7,028
Proposed Polling Place: Stephenson High School 701 Stephenson Rd, Stone Mtn	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: Stephenson High (SV)	

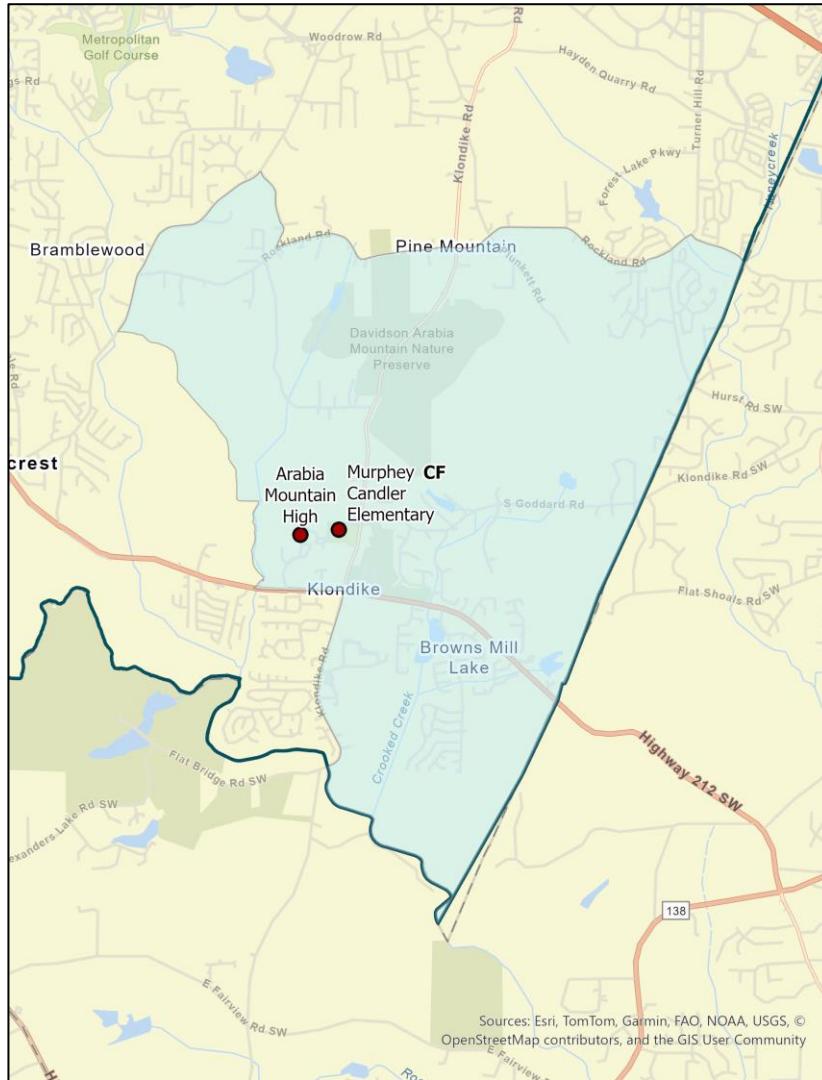
Idlewood Elem (IA)



Due to summer building construction at **Idlewood Elementary School**, temporarily move the **Idlewood Elem** precinct to **Stone Mountain Middle School**.
Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Idlewood Elementary School 1484 Idlewood Rd, Tucker	Change in Distance: 0.32 mi	Voters After Move: 4,838
Proposed Polling Place: Stone Mountain Middle School 4301 Sarr Pkwy, Stone Mountain	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: Stone Mountain Middle (SI)	

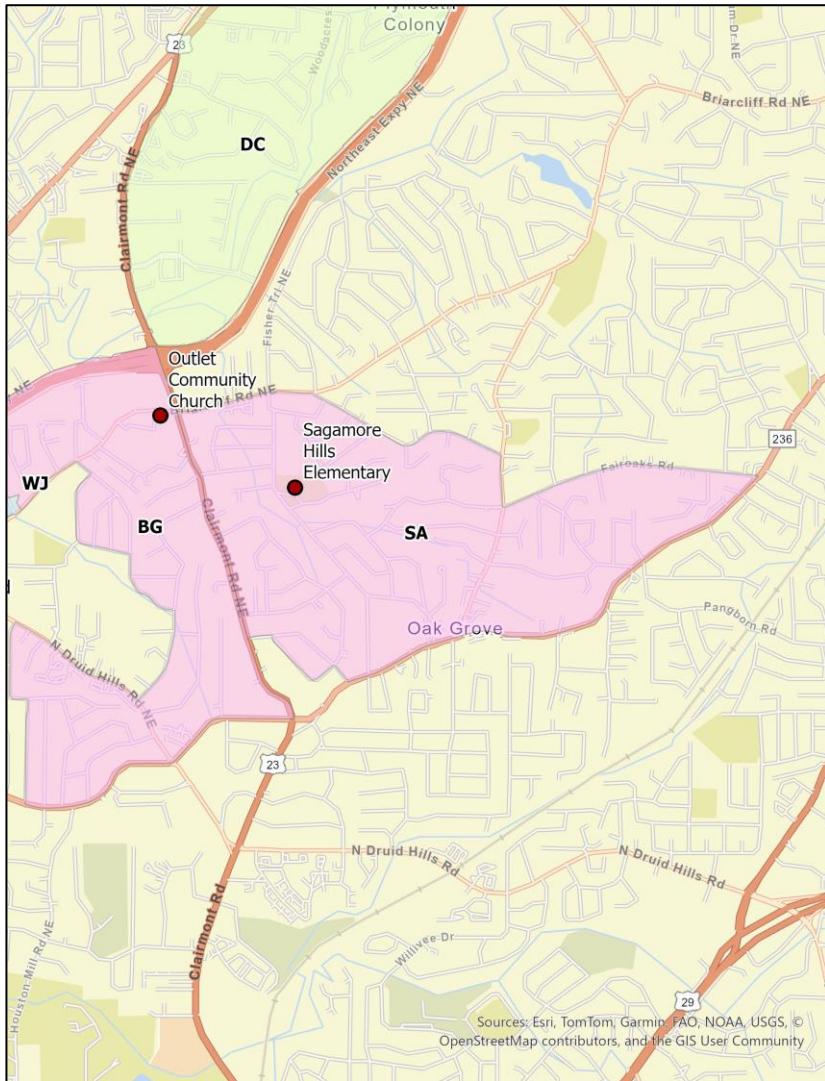
Candler-Murphey Candler Elem (CF)



Due to summer building construction at **Murphey Candler Elementary School**, temporarily move the **Candler-Murphey Candler Elem** precinct to **Arabia Mountain High School**.
Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Murphey Candler Elementary 6775 S Goddard Rd, Stonecrest	Change in Distance: 0.13 mi	Voters After Move: No change 3,635
Proposed Polling Place: Arabia Mountain High School 6610 Browns Mill Rd, Stonecrest	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: None	

Sagamore Hills Elem (SA)

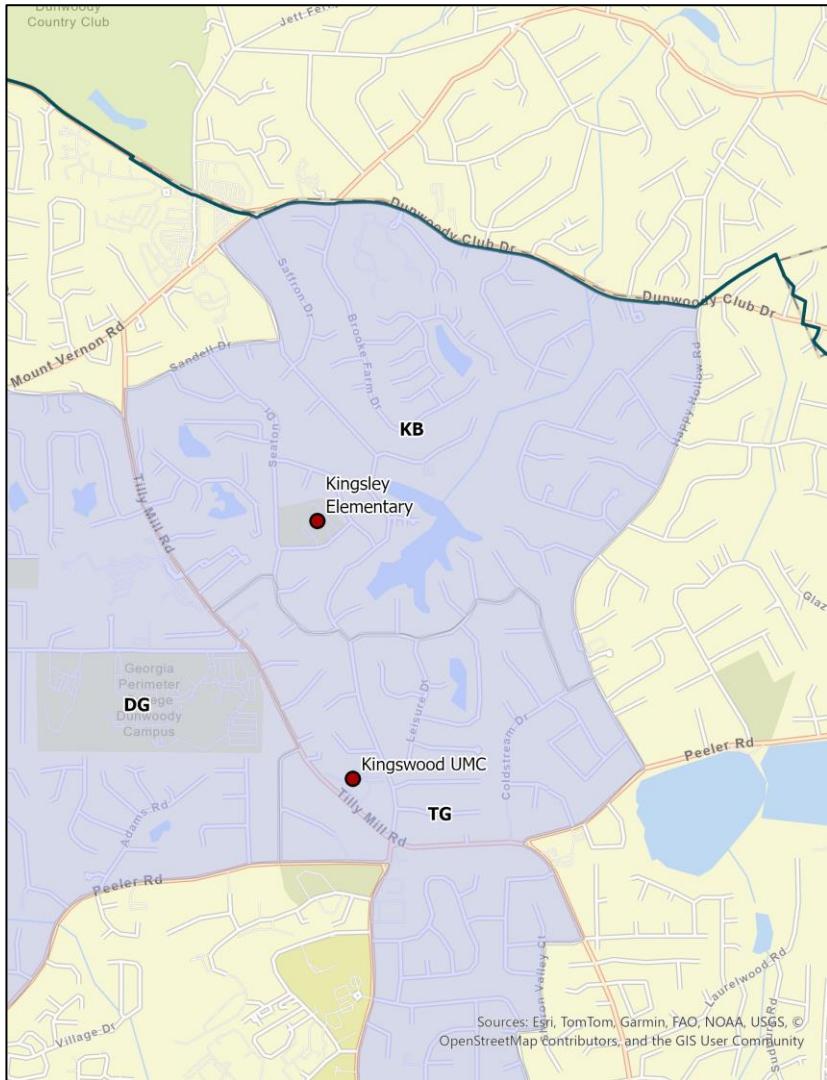


Due to summer building construction at **Sagamore Hills Elementary School**, temporarily move the **Sagamore Hills Ele**m precinct to **Outlet Community Church**.

Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Sagamore Hills Elementary 1865 Alderbrook Rd NE, Atlanta	Change in Distance: 0.58 mi	Voters After Move: 5,826
Proposed Polling Place: Outlet Community Church 3039 Briarcliff Rd NE, Atlanta	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: Briarcliff (BG)	

Kingsley Elem (KB)



Due to summer building construction at **Kingsley Elementary School**, temporarily move the **Kingsley Elem** precinct to **Kingswood United Methodist Church**.

Effective for May 2026 Primary and June 2026 Runoff

Current Polling Place: Kingsley Elementary School 2051 Brendon Dr, Dunwoody	Change in Distance: 0.56 mi	Voters After Move: 5,977
Proposed Polling Place: Kingswood United Methodist 4896 N Peachtree Rd, Dunwoody	Other Precincts at Proposed Polling Place: Dunwoody 2 (DG), Tilly Mill Rd (TG)	



PROPOSED EARLY VOTING TIMES AND LOCATIONS

For the May 19th General Primary Election

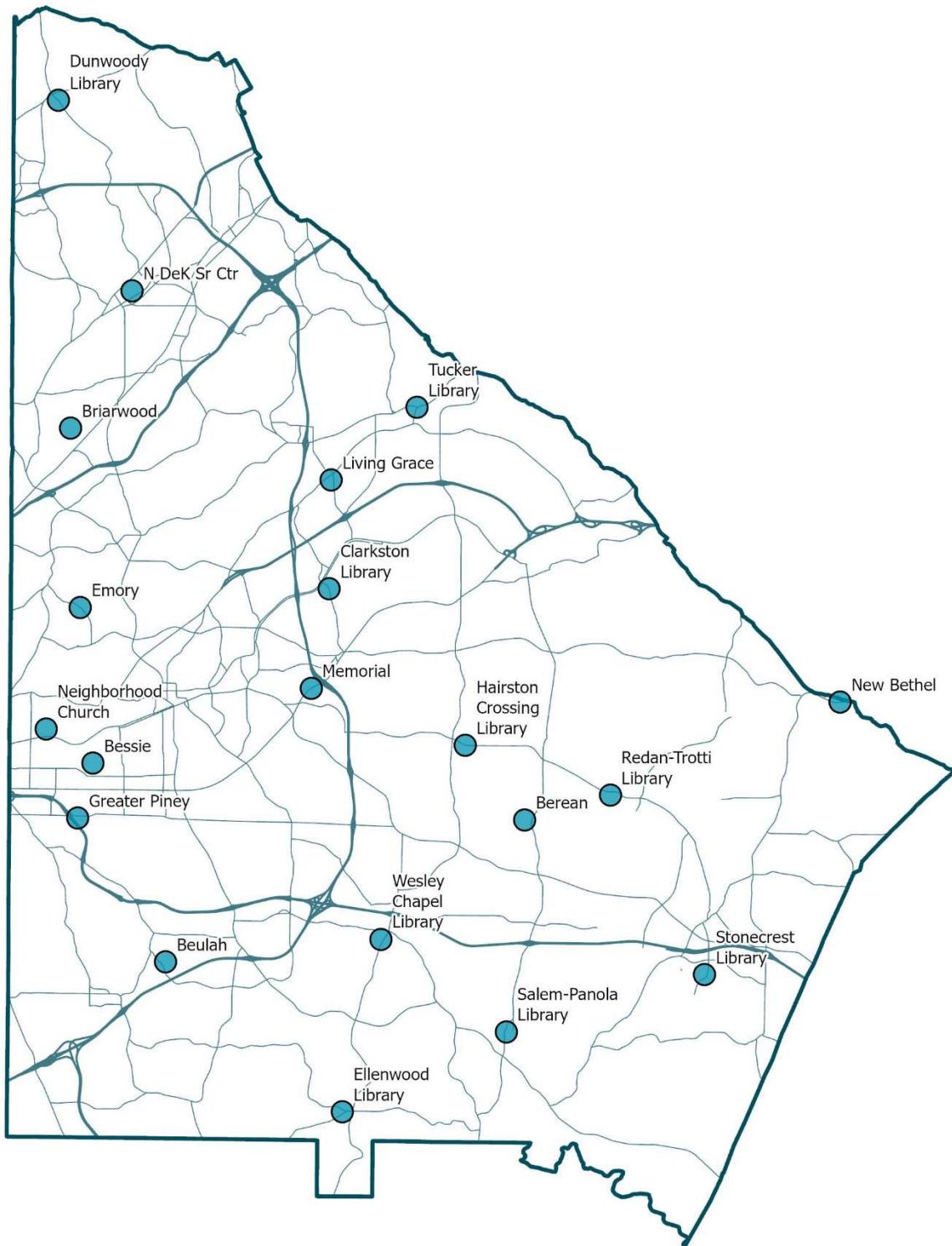
Berean Christian Church
Bessie Branham Recreation Center
Beulah Missionary Baptist Church
Briarwood Recreation Center
Clarkston Library
DeKalb County VRE Office
Dunwoody Library
Ellenwood Library
Emory University
Greater Piney Grove Church
Hairston Crossing Library
Living Grace Lutheran Church
Neighborhood Church
New Bethel AMEC
North Dekalb Senior Center
Redan-Trott Library
Salem Panola Library
Stonecrest Library
Tucker Library
Wesley Chapel Library

Early Voting will be held from April 27 to May 15.

Weekdays: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturdays: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sundays: noon – 5 p.m.



FOR THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE GEORGIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
COMMISSION AND THE ELECTION SUPERINTENDENT OF
COUNTY**

THIS AGREEMENT, entered into as of this _____ day of _____, 2026, by and between the **Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission**, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission", and the **Election Superintendent of _____ County, Georgia**, hereinafter referred to as the "Superintendent".

WHEREAS, the Commission, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 2-6-23, 2-6-27, 2-6-29, 2-6-30, and 2-6-31, and also pursuant to its Rule 600-9, has powers and responsibilities regarding the election of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Code of Georgia further provides, "Successors to elected supervisors shall be elected *at the general election ...*" O.C.G.A. § 2-6-31(b)(1), and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Election Code provides for election Superintendents with powers and responsibilities in the conduct of elections, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-70 *et al.*

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, it is agreed as follows:

1. The Election Superintendent will conduct and superintend the election of District Supervisors at the general election and in any runoff required by law, as far as is practicable in the manner of any other nonpartisan election in accordance with Title 21 of the Georgia Election Code.
2. The Commission will be responsible for placing and paying for legal advertising in a newspaper or other publication of general circulation within the appropriate area.
3. The Commission will furnish Nominating Petitions to candidates, and will also provide copies of Nominating Petitions to be placed in the office of the Election Superintendent.

4. Candidates will submit completed Nominating Petitions to the Election Superintendent before the deadline of the general election qualifying period. The Superintendent will examine the Nominating Petitions and request the assistance of the Registrar for this and other purposes where the separate function is provided for by law. If difficulties arise the Superintendent will immediately notify the Commission.
5. The Superintendent or the Registrar will certify that the Nominating Petitions are subscribed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified electors of that county, and that each nominee is a qualified elector of that county. The Superintendent will then notify the Commission, as soon as practicable, of the results of the certification process by means of the Nominating Petition Review Forms, attached hereto Exhibit "A".
6. In elections to fill two positions in one-county Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes will be declared the winners.
7. In elections to fill three positions in two-county Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the three (3) candidates receiving the most votes will be declared the winners.
8. In all cases of ties, runoff elections will be held four (4) weeks following the election for the tied candidates only, and only when the number of candidates tied is greater than the number of available positions.
9. Absentee balloting shall be permitted in all district supervisor elections in accordance with Title 21 of the Georgia Election Code.
10. Ballots shall contain the names of candidates, listed alphabetically by their surnames, and the incumbent, if applicable, shall be identified.
11. Write-in candidates shall be permitted in all district supervisor elections in accordance with Title 21 of the Georgia Election Code.
12. The Superintendent shall certify the election results as soon as practicable following the election in the manner for other offices and will complete and return to the Commission the official Election Report form, attached hereto as Exhibit B.
13. The Superintendent will "inspect systematically" the conduct of the elections as provided by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-70(8), handling such problems and grievances

as is ordinary for the election, but formal contests and disputes will be handled as provided by law.

14. The parties are independent contractors performing public functions provided by law, and each will act according to its own responsibility. For the Commission the exclusive remedy for its torts will be the Georgia Tort Claims Act., O.C.G.A. §§ 50-21-20 *et seq.*
15. The term of this Agreement will be for the conduct of the 2026 general election including any runoff.
16. This Agreement is intended to establish a protocol for the conduct of the election of District Supervisors, subject to and in accord with relevant law and rules. It is the entire Agreement and instruction for its purpose outside such law and rules, and therefore any changes in the Agreement must be in writing and agreed to by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Commission and the Superintendent have executed this Agreement as of the date shown below.

GA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Anton Checey

BY: _____ 01/21/2026

01/21/2026

Mitch Attaway, Executive Director

Date

COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
Election Superintendent _____ Date _____