

MAYOR'S MEMO

SUMMER 2020



Back in January, I think we were all hopeful that this first year of a new decade would be a happy and prosperous one. Unfortunately, just a few weeks later we were all dealt a very different hand than any of us could have imagined as we began seeing reports of a new virus and its effects on our communities, states, country, and entire world.

Like all governmental entities, the City of Cumming has been impacted by the novel Coronavirus. Our City facilities were closed to the public for several weeks in the spring. Most of our usual programs, activities, and events have been postponed or cancelled all together. Even City Council meetings were impacted. I commend our City Council and City staff who have been flexible in adjusting to every new hurdle thrown at them; and to all of you in our community, I want to say "thank you" for your continued patience and support as we make our way through these unique and challenging times.

I also salute all those in the medical profession who continue to work every day on the front lines caring for all those impacted by Covid-19, and those working just as hard behind the scenes to develop effective treatments and a possible vaccine. To all those who have lost loved ones to this horrible disease, I send my heartfelt condolences.

It is my hope that we are now back on the road to normalcy, with each new day bringing us closer. But until we reach that destination, may God protect and bless you all!

Sincerely,



Troy Brumbalow
Mayor

About the Mayor's Memo: A publication by the City of Cumming used to help inform our residents, businesses, newcomers, and visitors of all the great things going on in the City of Cumming! Presented in addition to the City's monthly e-newsletter; mailed and shared electronically at cityofcumming.net and at City of Cumming-City Hall on Facebook.

To stay up-to-date on the City of Cumming, **please sign up** for our **monthly e-newsletter** by emailing cldeford@cityofcumming.net (Subject Line: E-newsletter Signup) and liking us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/cummingcityhall](https://www.facebook.com/cummingcityhall)) and **Instagram** ([@cityofcumming](https://www.instagram.com/cityofcumming))!

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Spring & Summer 2020 Highlights



Despite the pandemic, clearing and grading has continued at the **Cumming City Center** site, with vertical construction soon to begin. During their July 7th Work Session, City Council selected Vertical Earth from three proposals which had been received to conduct the **Center's site work**. Vertical Earth presented the lowest proposal at just under \$15.8 million.

In late June, the **official and merchandise logos** of the Center were revealed (*pictured at left with the site plan*). Also in late June, a **Buy-A-Brick Program** was announced. Through a partnership with Bricks-R-Us, the City is offering personalized commemorative bricks for \$50.00 each to any individual, family, business or other group interested in being a part of the City Center's legacy.

Bricks will be placed

around the Plaza and Park fountains, two locations of prominence at the Center. Fewer than 2,800 personalized bricks are available for purchase so reserve yours today at:

www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/cummingcitycenter.

Hard copy order forms are also available at City Hall (100 Main Street), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Want more information about the City Center Buy-A-Brick Program? Email Jennifer Archer, City Center Property Manager, at jarcher@cityofcumming.net.

The first of the City Center's many tenants was also announced in July.

Putt it Forward will bring a **unique miniature golf experience** on approximately two acres of the Center's green space. The course will feature 18 holes, many of which will be modeled after famous holes from well-known courses such as Pebble Beach, TPC Scottsdale, and Augusta National Golf Club. I had the pleasure of touring some courses in Arizona (*photos above*) constructed by the same group which will build the course at the City Center, and was very impressed. I believe Putt It Forward will be something that everyone – from kids to avid golfers – will all enjoy!



The **2019 Audit Report** was received from LeRoy, Cole & Stephens, the City's independent auditing firm, in July. Representatives of the firm reported that the City of Cumming is in a **strong financial position** with all departments meeting or coming in under their budgets in 2019, and 2019 revenues exceeding expenditures by **\$1.7 million**. The City's total budget in 2019 was **lowered for the third year in a row**.

On the Horizon: The City will soon be seeking proposals for construction of a **new road connecting Castleberry and Buford Dam roads**. It will run from the southern end of Fairgrounds' Parking Lot 3, intersect with Veterans Memorial Blvd., and connect to Buford Dam at Atlanta Road. This project will help alleviate traffic in downtown Cumming during rush hour and during large Fairgrounds' events so I am excited to see it move forward.