

MAYOR'S MEMO

FOURTH QUARTER 2018



2018 was a truly exciting year in the City of Cumming! I can't believe it is already over and we are now looking forward to all the great things to come in 2019.

I believe that the City Council, City staff, and I worked well together to accomplish a lot in a short amount of time. Among the highlights were many revisions to City ordinances, several new cost-saving measures, and the addition of many community events.

And we're not done by any means! In 2019, I'm looking forward to making several improvements at the Cumming Fairgrounds to enhance guest experiences, road projects to hopefully improve the traffic situation around downtown, and laying the groundwork for our City Center on Hwy. 20.

I hope all of you will follow all the good things that will be happening

in the City in 2019!

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 each quarter in addition to the City's monthly e-newsletter.
- Mailed at the close of each quarter 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 cledford@cityofcumming.net (Subject Line: E-newsletter Signup) and like us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/cummingcityhall](https://www.facebook.com/cummingcityhall)).

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Fourth Quarter 2018 Highlights

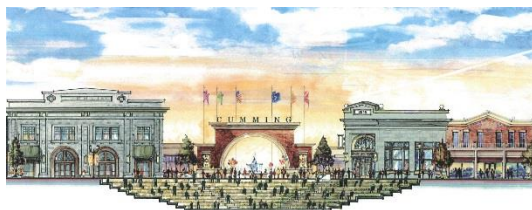


Much of the fourth quarter was spent planning the **City of Cumming Christmas Parade**, which was held on Dec. 15 and presented by **Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Forsyth**. This was the first time the City had held a Christmas Parade in almost 20 years since the previous parade on Market Place Boulevard was presented by the Cumming-Forsyth County Chamber of Commerce. **Nearly 80 groups** took part in the parade, which moved from Forsyth Central High School to the Cumming Fairgrounds via Tribble Gap/Castleberry Road through downtown. A huge crowd of spectators came out to support the event even though the weather was damp and chilly. After the parade, many of those spectators came to the Fairgrounds to enjoy a **Christmas Festival** with a special tree lighting, parade awards presentation, photos with Santa, and other holiday fun. Thank you to everyone who

helped make the **Christmas Parade and Festival** a huge success!

Through a partnership with **Andean Chevrolet** and **Square Ice Inc.**, the City presented the first **outdoor ice skating rink** at the Cumming Fairgrounds from Thanksgiving to January 7, 2019. The first **Jeep Christmas Marketplace** event was also held in December at the Cumming Fairgrounds.

The **Cumming Country Fair & Festival Advisory Board**, comprised of 14 community members, met for a second time on October 24. During this meeting the board made several recommendations for possible changes and improvements to the Cumming Country Fair & Festival, which will be presented to the Mayor and City Council in early 2019.



City Council approved a **Phase I Environmental Assessment** of the approximately 60 acres off Hwy. 20 on which the new **City Center will be located**. The assessment will pinpoint all the topography of the site, allowing the City to then begin, quite literally, laying the groundwork for the project which will feature mixed used development with a 1950s feel, a huge park, walking paths, a veterans memorial, and entertainment spaces such as an amphitheater and mini golf course.

On the Horizon: Work on a new **pedestrian bridge at the Fairgrounds** will begin soon. This project will be constructed over Castleberry Road, connecting Parking Lot #3 to the ticket booth nearest the covered arena. The **ticket booth will also be upgraded** to include separate lines for patrons paying with cash and those paying with credit cards. The **Sawnee Association of the Arts** will also be partnering with local students to create a **large mural** at the Fairgrounds.

Industrial Park Drive will be extended in order to connect **Veterans Memorial Boulevard and Castleberry Road** to help with traffic during large Fairgrounds' events and to serve as a **bypass around downtown** on the south side of town.