



Lithonia News

February, 2022 Volume 8, Issue 2

6920 Main Street, Lithonia GA 770-482-8136

www.lithoniacity.org



NEW SENIOR CENTER IN FINAL STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

Drive down Bruce Street to see the progress on the new Senior Center. Basic construction is virtually complete. Indoor and exterior build-out are in process, as are parking paving and landscaping. Stay tuned for grand opening info.



DEKALB COUNTY CONSIDERING INVESTING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN LITHONIA'S AMPHITHEATER

Under the leadership of Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson, DeKalb County has completed a preliminary plan to infuse millions of dollars of improvements designed to transform the Lithonia Amphitheater into a state-of-the-art outdoor performance venue worthy of the citizens of the City of Lithonia and DeKalb County. Discussions are ongoing with Mayor Reynolds and the City Council to ensure that the final product is one that everyone can be proud of. Expect progress updates in upcoming editions of the newsletter.





CITY OF LITHONIA
OPEN DISCUSSION

- JAN 20
- FEB 17
- MARCH 17
- APRIL 21
- MAY 19
- JUNE 16
- JULY 21
- AUG 18
- SEP 15
- OCT 20
- NOV 17
- DEC 15

HOSTED BY:
COUNCILWOMAN AMELIA INMAN


TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:
BUSINESS DISTRICT | RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY NEW IDEAS TO SHARE
APP (ABANDONED PROPERTY PROJECT) UPCOMING EVENTS

BY PHONE: 1929 205 6099 ZOOM MEETING ID: 894 8361 3814 PASSWORD: 690911

LITHONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT
SCAM ALERT!

The Lithonia Police Department will not call you to bond anyone out of jail. We do not have an active city jail at this time. People are being called and told family members have a \$9,500.00 bond and to send the 10%. Please do not fall for this scam!
Chief N. E. Pollard

[#lithoniapolice](#) [#dekalbcounty](#) [#police](#)
[#mainstreetlithonia](#) [#ItsInTheChampion](#)
[#lithonianews](#) [#dekalbcountypolice](#)
[#CommunityPolicin](#)



CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY

FREE COVID TESTS!

The U.S. Postal Service is delivering one shipment of four COVID tests per residential address. To get yours, enter your name, address, and email at www.usps.com/covidtest

COMMISSIONER MEREDA DAVIS JOHNSON & COMMISSIONER ROBERT PATRICK PRESENTS

VOTER EDUCATION TOWN HALL

A LIVE VIRTUAL EVENT
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2022 @ 6:30 PM
STREAMING LIVE ON: **DCTV 23 DCTVCHANNEL23.TV**
• LIVE MEREDA DAVIS JOHNSON

DELE LOWMAN SMITH VRE BOARD CHAIR
NANCY JESTER VRE VICE CHAIR
KARLI SWIFT VRE BOARD MEMBER
KEISHA SMITH VRE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JOIN COMMISSIONER MEREDA DAVIS JOHNSON AND COMMISSIONER ROBERT PATRICK FOR AN INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW CHAIR, NEW BOARD MEMBERS, AND THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS!

REGISTER AT:
www.linktr.ee/meredadjohnson

MEREDA DAVIS JOHNSON COMMISSIONER
ROBERT PATRICK COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1

SPECIAL GUEST:
CONGRESSMAN HANK JOHNSON
will provide an update on pending federal legislation on voting rights.

NEW AMPHITHEATER
EVENT COORDINATOR

The Lithonia Downtown Development Authority (LDDA) has selected a new Event Coordinator for the Lithonia Amphitheater. ENIGMA Business Group, Inc., headed up by Ms. Renee Miller was selected and will enter into an agreement to manage all activities at the facility.

As stated in their promotional material, "Enigma Business Group, Inc. stands on the mantra of curating and developing epic performances while maintaining a community focus and upward mobility."

The LDDA Board was very impressed with Ms. Miller and her commitment to the City of Lithonia and her educational background with she feels will be an asset to the growth and development of our youth.

Promoters are already actively establishing dates for the up-coming season which starts in March.

If your group is interested in booking an event, please contact Ms. Renee Miller at enigma.entertainment@yahoo.com.

Greetings,

Allow us to present a brief overview of our historic city and to introduce the Lithonia Historic Preservation Commission (HPC).

Around 1840, Lithonia began as a small community called Crossroads with approximately 100 people. The community grew and was chartered in 1856 by the General Assembly of Georgia to become a city. In 2016, the entire City of Lithonia was designated a National Historic Site and placed on the National Historic Register. This means our city is a special place with significance in American history. Today, Lithonia is a thriving community with approximately 2,500 residents. We are a suburb of Atlanta with a National Park, Arabia Mountain, at our doorsteps. We also have a regional mall, Stonecrest, and a major Interstate, I-20, within one mile of Lithonia's city limits.

The meaning of Lithonia is..."place of stone." Our corner-stone is the unique granite Gneiss, pronounced "nice". Granite from Lithonia's quarries was an essential building material used to construct monuments and other structures across America and around the world. Lithonia was well known for her stone masons. Although the words granite and gneiss are often used interchangeably...Gneiss is a metamorphic version of granite. One thing remains clear. Throughout our city, Lithonia Gneiss was used to build historic churches, schools, landmarks, and homes. In a nutshell, "Lithonia is a very Gneiss place to be!"

In keeping with the National Historic Preservation Act, enacted by the US Congress in 1966, the Lithonia City Council passed an ordinance in 2019 to create the "Lithonia Historic Preservation Commission." The purpose of the HPC ordinance is to stimulate revitalization of business districts and historic neighborhoods as well as to protect and enhance local, historic, and aesthetic attractions to tourists and thereby promote and stimulate business. The Lithonia HPC is committed to maintaining the character and historic integrity of structures within the residential and commercial districts of our city.

What does this mean to you as a homeowner, property owner, or business owner? If you live in a designated historic neighborhood or your business is located in the historic district of Lithonia, you must first submit an application to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) from the Historic Preservation Commission prior to making any exterior changes to your building or home. This includes signage, lighting, exterior materials, roofing, windows, or doors. The COA requires that homeowners, property owners, and business owners provide a description of the proposed project as well as the types of materials to be used prior to the start of rehabilitation projects or new construction within Lithonia's historic residential and commercial districts. A building permit cannot be issued until a COA is approved.

The Lithonia HPC Design Standards provide a guideline that mandates compliance to ensure that the historic features of structures within the historic residential and commercial districts of our city are maintained. The Design Standards were originally presented in 2012 and adopted in 2020. You can access the COA application as well as the Lithonia HPC Design Standards on the City of Lithonia web site.

On the third Tuesdays of each month, The Lithonia HPC meets at 6:00PM. For more information visit the City of Lithonia website.

Carlene Anderson and Dawn Massey

Lithonia Rail Road Station"
demolished during urban
renewal. C. 1968



GO RED FOR WOMEN!

State Representative Doreen Carter (D-Lithonia) will host her sixth annual “Go Red for Women” event on Friday, Feb. 4, 2022, from 12 noon – 2 p.m., at SeaQuest at the Mall of Stonecrest located at 8020 Mall Parkway. Participants may attend in person or virtually via Zoom by registering in advance.



“I have hosted this event every year as a way to show my appreciation to God for allowing me to live after my heart attack,” said Rep. Carter. “Since I have been fortunate enough to live, aside from hosting advocacy events, I also participate in various heart-related studies. I want to do all that I can to share information and be an inspiration to other women.”

The event aims to provide relevant information and health resources both in person and virtually. This event will offer health screenings, heart health resources, physical fitness presentations, tips, and research from the American Heart Association’s (AHA) self-care experts. Carter will be joined by the following special guests:

- Laura Bracci, MPH, Government Relations Director, AHA
- Dr. Ijeoma Isiadinso, MD, MPH, FACC, Assistant Professor, Board Certified Cardiologist, Emory Heart and Vascular Center
- Dr. Jayne Morgan, MD, Cardiologist, Executive Director of the COVID-19 Task Force at Piedmont Healthcare
- L. Neicey Johnson, BSN RN, Esq., Founder of VSNS, Inc. Healthcare Consulting
- Dr. Antoinette Alvarado, Founder, My Sister’s Keeper Foundation
- Newton County Commissioner Alana Sanders, Fitness Executive and Master Trainer

Rep. Doreen Carter represents the citizens of District 92, which includes portions of Rockdale and DeKalb counties. She was elected to the House of Representatives in 2015 and currently serves on the Code Revision, Education, Industry and Labor, Small Business Development and Special Rules Committees.



CITY OFFICIALS AND STAFF

COUNCIL MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 7TH AND 21ST

MEETINGS WILL BE HELD
BY CONFERENCE CALL
DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

Call 770-482-8136 for
dial-in information.

City Hall
Council Chambers
6920 Main Street
Lithonia, GA 30058

Mayor

Shameka Reynolds
Shameka.Reynolds@lithoniacity.org

Council Members

Vanneriah Hawk-Wynn
Vanneriah.Wynn@lithoniacity.org

Darold Honore
Darold.Honore@lithoniacity.org

Diane W. Howard
Diane.Howard@lithoniacity.org

Amelia Inman
Amelia.Inman@lithoniacity.org

Yolanda Sheppard
Yolana.Sheppard@lithoniacity.org

City Staff

LaThaydra Sands, City Administrator
LaThaydra.Sands@lithoniacity.org

Robinette Blount, City Clerk
CityClerk@lithoniacity.org

Nathan Pollard, Chief of Police
Nathan.Pollard@lithoniacity.org

Quinton Monson, Dir. of Public Works
Quinton.Monson@lithoniacity.org

LITHONIA!

**A City With
PURPOSE!**