



# CITY OF SUWANEE, GEORGIA CITY MANAGER

## Awards

The City of Suwanee has received nearly three dozen local, regional, state, and national awards for excellence in a variety of areas. Among those awards earned over the past few years are:

- Georgia Municipal Association **Trendsetter Award** for three consecutive years for parks and recreation, community involvement, and economic development; also presented by *Georgia Trend* magazine
- **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** and **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** (three consecutive years) from the Government Finance Officers Association
- Atlanta Regional Commission 2005 and 2004 **CREATE Community Award** for building parks and a stronger community and for Open Space Initiative
- **Best Plan Implementation** from the Georgia Planning Association for Town Center/Town Center Master Plan
- Certification (and re-certification) of the Suwanee Police Department by the **Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police**
- 2006 City-County Communications & Marketing Association **Savvy Award** (first place) for Art on a Limb for Most Creative Activity with Least Dollars Spent
- 2006 **Georgia Downtown Award** for Best Downtown Special Event, Georgia Downtown Association and Georgia Department of Community Affairs

## SUWANEE, GEORGIA

Award-winning Suwanee is friendly, progressive, and committed to maintaining a high quality of life for its nearly 16,000 residents. Over the past few years, Suwanee has created several new parks as well as a new Town Center, which is emerging as an attractive and vibrant community focal point.

A great place to call home, Suwanee is well-known around the region for its distinctive parks and crowd-pleasing events. Suwanee's new parks provide a literary-themed super playground (PlayTown Suwanee); a passive and natural refuge (Suwanee Creek Park); and a four-mile multipurpose pathway that cuts through woods, wetlands, and wildlife habitats (Suwanee Creek Greenway).

A 10-acre urban-style park, Town Center Park functions as Suwanee's "front yard" and is the place where our community gathers for concerts, movies, festivals, and other events. The park, which includes a 1,500-square foot performance stage and the largest interactive fountain in Gwinnett County, anchors a live-work-shop-play area that evokes the charm of traditional Georgia downtowns.

Like many Gwinnett County communities, Suwanee began as a small agricultural town with strong ties to the railroad. Today, the City works hard to retain its charm and sense of neighborliness and to manage growth in smart, innovative ways. Suwanee is committed to revitalizing its historic area while creating the new commercial Town Center, providing outstanding services to citizens and businesses, revitalizing the I-85/Suwanee Gateway area, and fostering a true sense of community.



Architect Drawing of the New City Hall

## History

Suwanee began as an Indian village along the banks of Suwanee Creek and the Chattahoochee River. The community was named for a Shawnee Indian tribe that settled here in the latter part of the 18th century.

Suwanee was incorporated in 1949, but remained a small agricultural-based community into the 1970s. Then, with easy access to Atlanta provided by Interstate 85 and U.S. 23 (Buford Highway), the population of Suwanee started to grow. In 1997, the City hired its first City Manager who served until earlier this year.

City of Suwanee:  
[www.suwanee.com](http://www.suwanee.com)



## DEMOGRAPHICS

Suwanee and the surrounding area by the numbers:

### Land area (2007)

Approximately 6,970 acres or 10.8 square miles.

### Population

*City of Suwanee*

2000 U.S. Census: 8,725

2007 City estimate: 15,866

From 1990-2000, Suwanee's population increased 262 percent.

*According to 2006 estimates provided by Claritas for City of Suwanee and surrounding areas:*

Within a three-mile radius: 34,702

Within a five-mile radius: 115,696

The 2007 estimated population for all of Gwinnett County is 757,104

Population by Race Classification:

White 71%

Black 12%

Asian 11%

Other 6%

Almost 9% of the population is classified as Hispanic or Latino by origin.



City Hall

### Density

2.27 people/acre (2007)

### Average household size

2.96 (City of Suwanee, 2007)

3.07 (three-mile radius, Claritas, 2006)

### Number of housing units

5,820 (2007)

12,637 (three-mile radius, Claritas, 2006 estimate)--10,467 of these (or 83%) are single-family detached units

### Median house value

\$245,000 in 2005 (for 30024 ZIP code area, according to Atlanta Journal-Constitution annual home report)

### Household income

Average Household 1999 - \$ 84,038

Average Household 2006 - \$100,324

“Suwanee has always been a great place to live. The challenge is to maintain our quality of life as we grow into a mature city.”

Councilmember  
Jeannine Rispin

## THE GOVERNMENT

The City operates under a council-manager form of government. The City Council consists of five members elected at large for staggered four-year terms. The Mayor is the sixth voting member of council, who, along with the remaining councilmembers, is elected on a nonpartisan basis. Council provides responsive, progressive leadership and a vision for the community by setting policies, passing ordinances, adopting the budget, making appointments to citizen boards, and hiring the City Manager. The City Manager carries out the policies and ordinances approved by the City Council, oversees the day-to-day operations of the City, prepares the budget, and supervises various department heads.



The City provides a wide range of municipal services to citizens including police protection, parks and recreation, planning and zoning, building inspections, code enforcement, economic and community development, special events, municipal court services, and infrastructure maintenance. The City also provides

water services to a small portion of citizens in the historic Old Town area of Suwanee. Sanitation services are provided to citizens through private firms.

# ABOUT THE POSITION OF CITY MANAGER



Town Center Park

The City Manager is responsible for managing and directing the daily operations of the City government in accordance with local ordinances, law and with policies prescribed by the Mayor and Council.

Duties include directing the administrative activities of the City; acting as focal point for strategic planning, programming, and budgeting; serving as liaison among the City staff and governing body; supervising the City's department directors; assisting the general public; and serving on various boards and committees. Responsibilities involve extensive interaction with City employees; Mayor and Council; local, state, federal and international governmental officials; business executives and community leaders; Suwanee citizens; the news media, attorneys, and the general public.

## ISSUES, PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Oversee the construction of new City Hall to be completed by the end of 2008
- Continued construction and appropriation of greenspace
- Construction of new parks (Sims Lake)
- Management of mixed use developments
- I-85 Revitalization
- Formation of Tax Allocation District
- Development of the City's Comprehensive Plan
- Construction of SPLOST projects that include a pedestrian tunnel



Children play at Town Center Park

## Suwanee Exceeds Expectations



Town Center Park

Our Team will:

- Strive for protection, well-being, and safety for all
- Ensure responsible financial management
- Provide high standards of customer service
- Demand high ethical standards
- Foster ownership for all stakeholders
- Uphold quality, efficient, and effective service standards, and
- Be accountable

Slavin Management Consultants

3040 Holcomb Bridge Road Suite A-1 Norcross, GA 30071 Website: www.slavinweb.com

Phone: (770) 449-4656 Fax: (770) 416-0848 Email: slavin@bellsouth.net

Visit Slavin Management Consultants on the web at: www.slavinweb.com



# How to Apply

This position will remain open until filled. If you are interested in applying, please send your resume with cover letter and salary history to:

Robert E. Slavin, President  
Slavin Management Consultants  
3040 Holcomb Bridge Road  
Suite A-1  
Norcross, GA 30071

Phone: (770) 449-4656  
Fax: (770) 416-0848  
Email: slavin@bellsouth.net

*Compensation:* It is anticipated the starting salary will be approximately \$105,000 plus excellent benefits

Note: Under the Georgia Open Records Law, applications of the final three candidates are subject to public disclosure 14 days prior to appointment. An Equal Opportunity Employer/Recruiter

## City of Suwanee, Georgia

