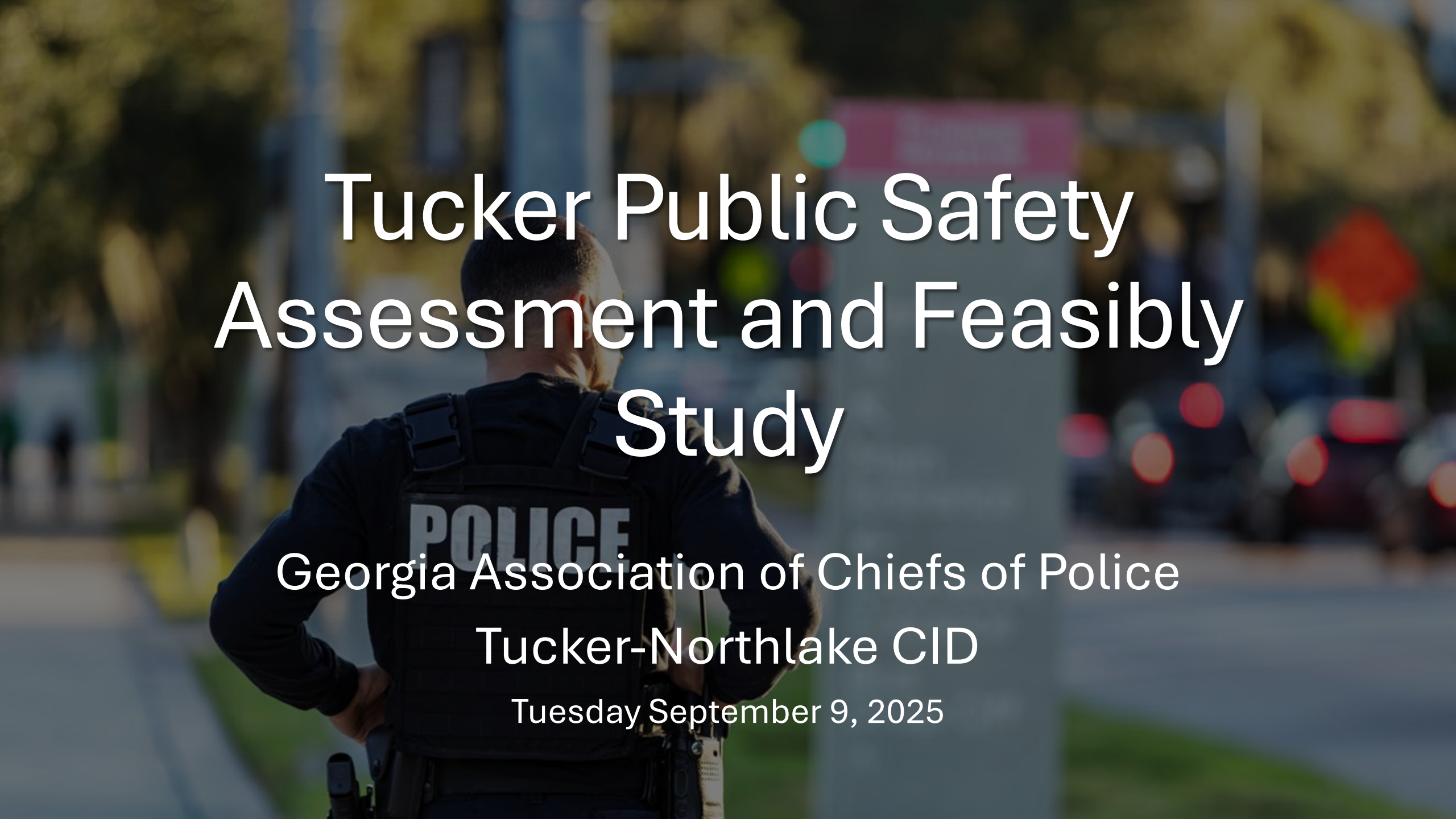




# Tucker Public Safety Assessment and Feasibility Study

Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police

Tucker-Northlake CID

Tuesday September 9, 2025

**Tucker-Northlake Community Improvement District  
Public Safety Assessment & Feasibility Study  
Study Presentation**

**Tuesday, September 9, 2025**

**Northlake Church of Christ**

**7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**



**Welcome!**



***"Partners in the Progress of Tucker"***

# Program

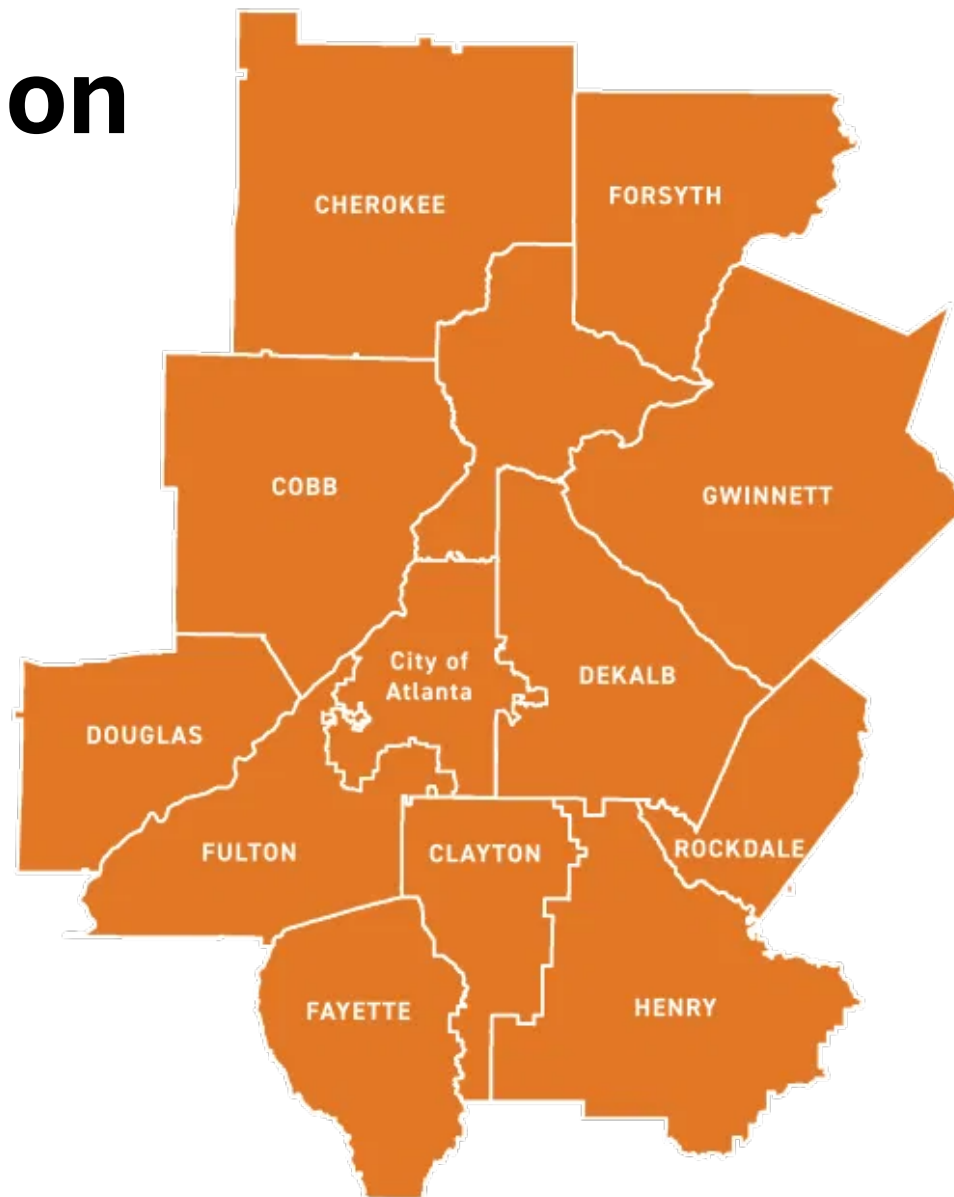
- 6:30 pm Doors open
- 7:00 pm Welcome and Introduction
  - Study Background
  - Study Presentation
  - Questions & Responses
  - What's Next
  - Closing remarks
- 8:30 pm Adjournment

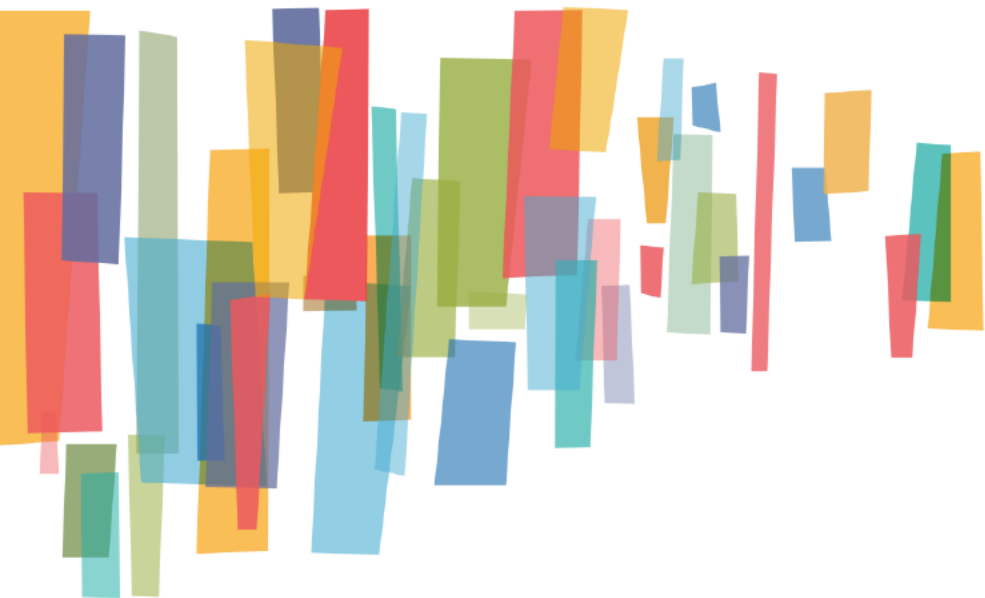


# Two Concerns

Regional Concerns

# Atlanta Region

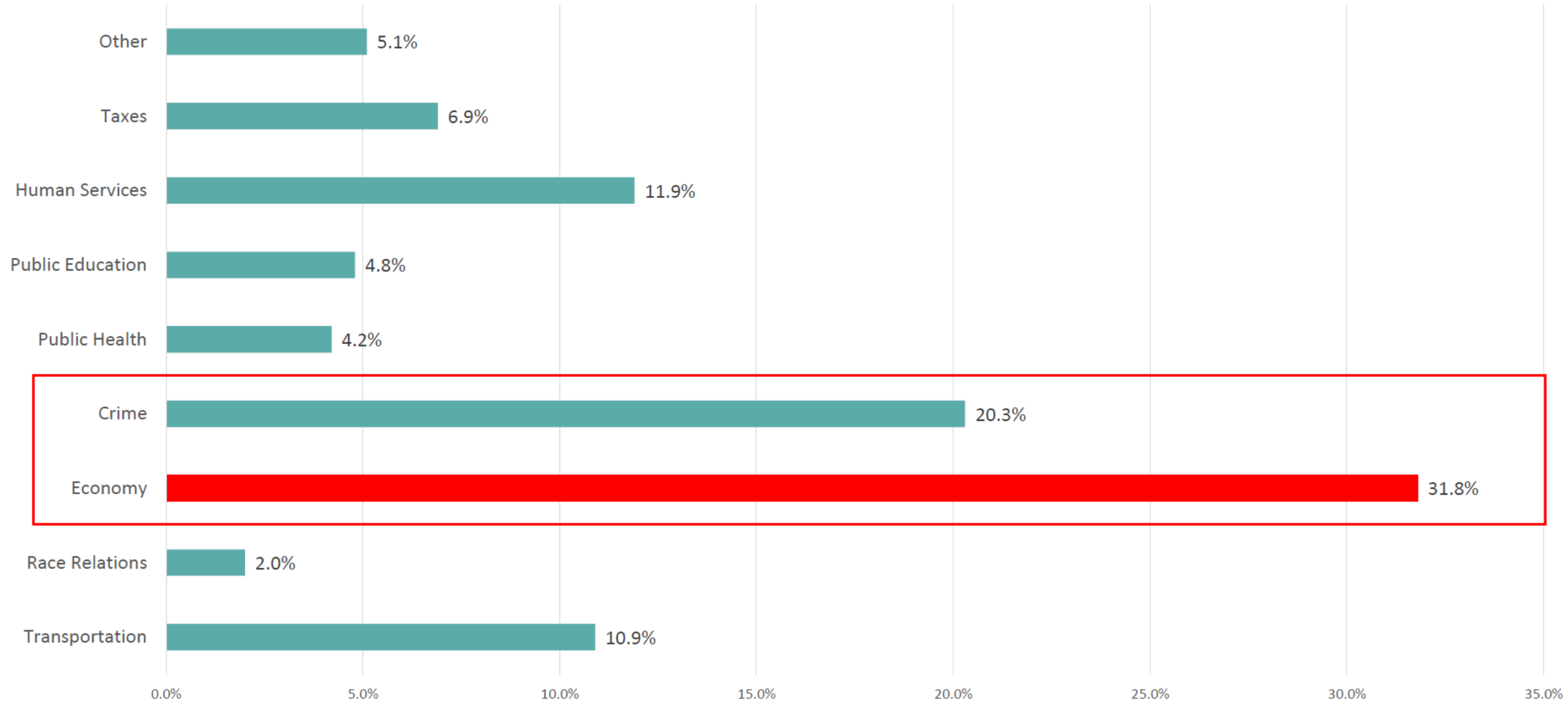




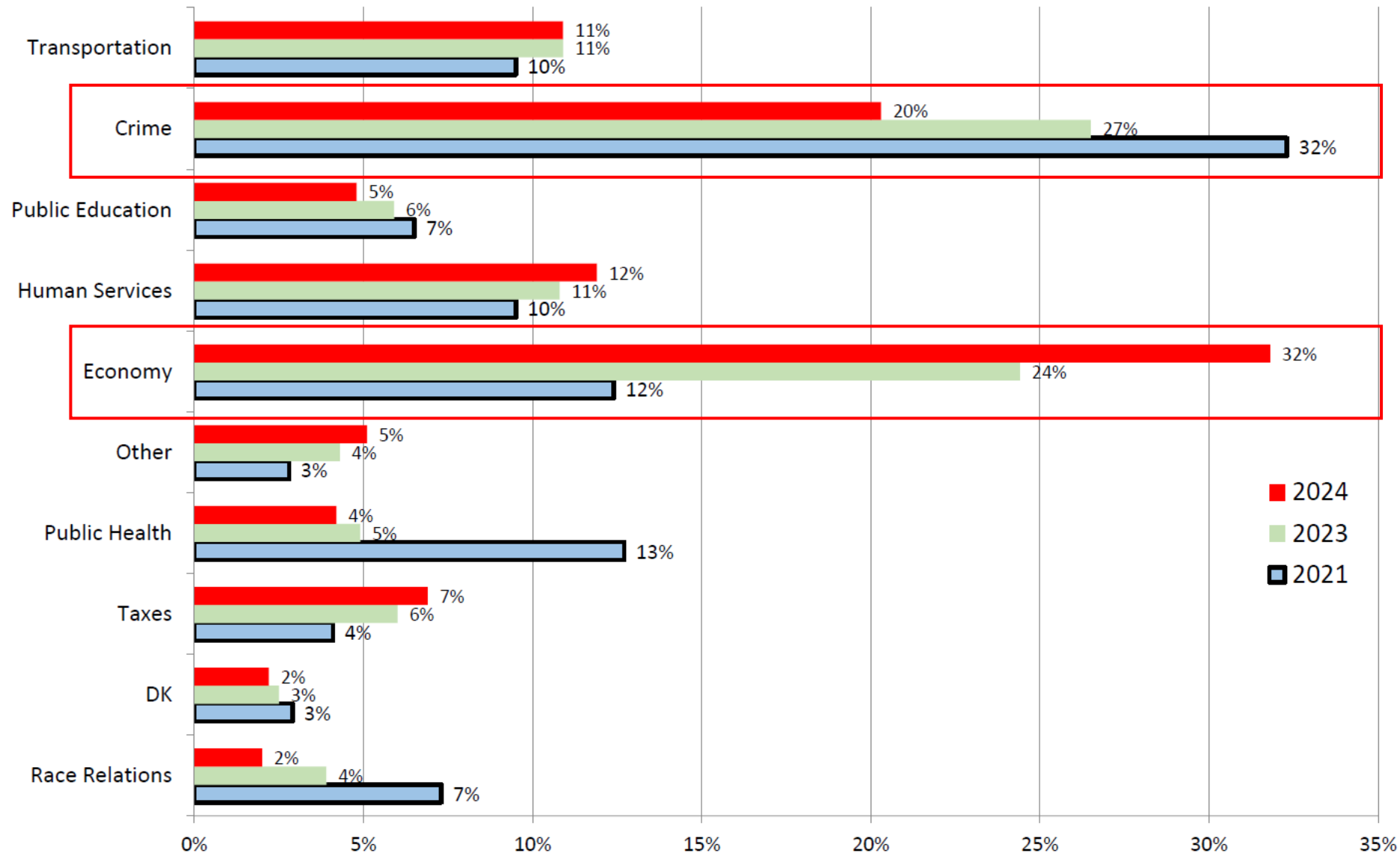
# Metro Atlanta Speaks 2024

## —A Summary Look at Present (and Past)

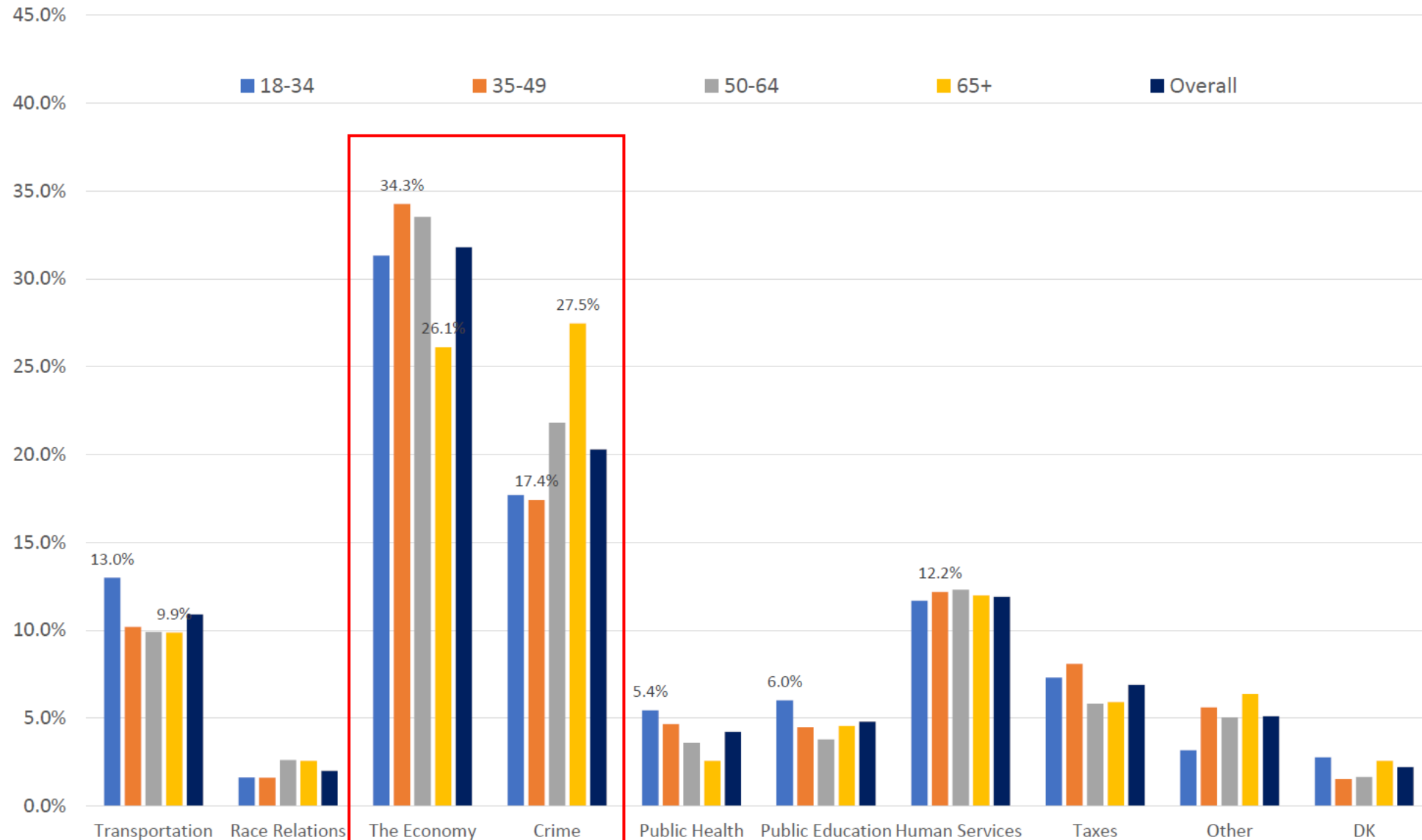
# Economy Now Biggest Problem



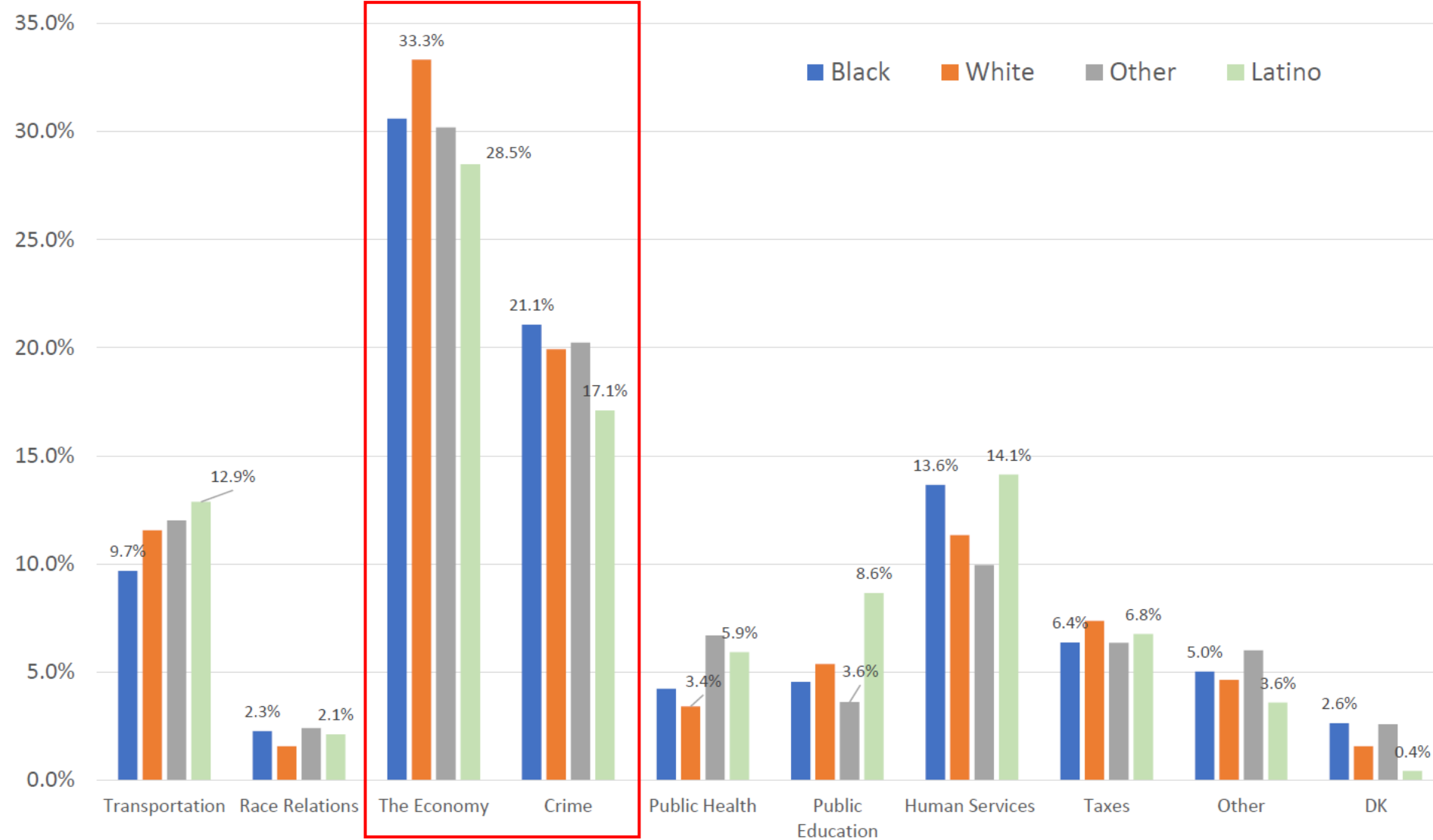
# Trends in “The Biggest Problem”—Last 3 Survey Years



# Biggest Problem by Age Group



# Biggest Problem by Race/ Ethnicity



A map of the Atlanta metropolitan area showing the following counties: Cherokee, Forsyth, Cobb, Gwinnett, Douglas, DeKalb, Fulton, Clayton, Rockdale, Fayette, and Henry. The City of Atlanta is also labeled. The map is colored in a light orange/tan hue.

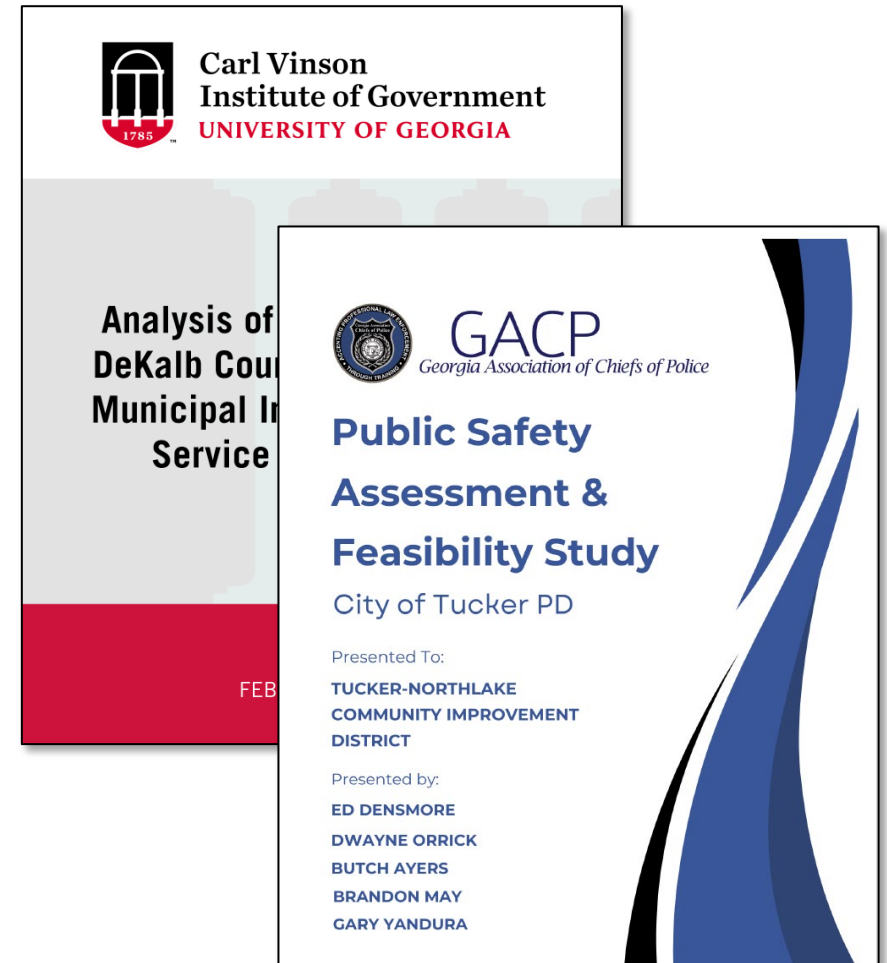
# **Economic Development & Public Safety**

**Regional concerns  
are being answered  
with local  
investments**



# Two Studies

2020 & 2025



- Two groups wanted to form cities in DeKalb (North & South).
- They sought support from the DeKalb Delegation.
- The Delegation and County asked the Legislature to wait on approving new cities until it was known how it would impact the rest of the County.
- The results included a break down of services by area.
- It included a “what if” forecast to project the impact of Stonecrest and Tucker taking on police services.

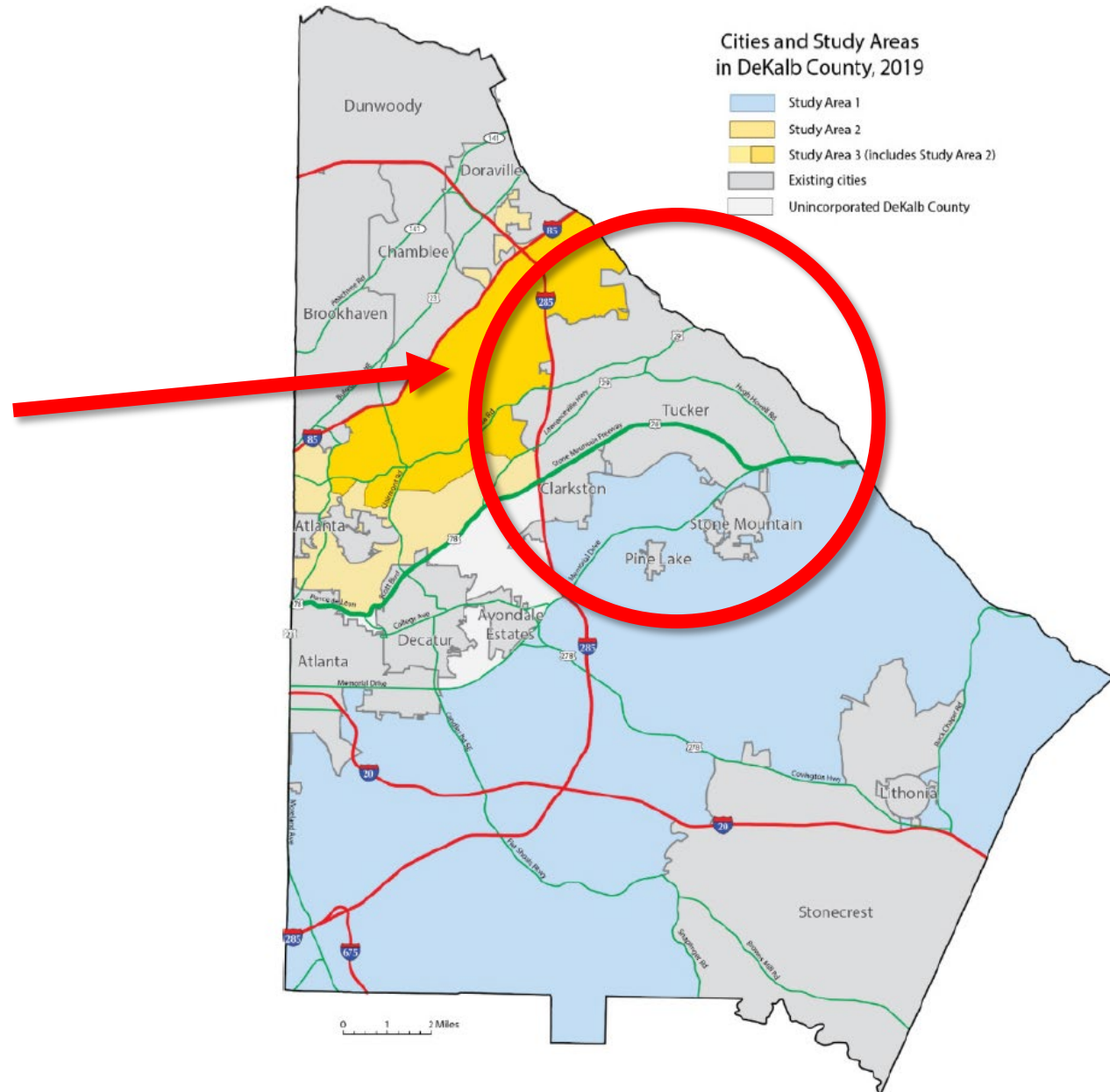


**Carl Vinson  
Institute of Government  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

## **Analysis of Fiscal Impact on DeKalb County from Potential Municipal Incorporations and Service Displacement**

FEBRUARY, 2020

**“What would be the impact of the City of Tucker no longer receiving services from the DeKalb County Police Department (DCPD)?”**



# March 11, 2020

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. In May 2023, the World Health Organization declared an end to the public health emergency.

**During this time, all discussion of new cities and annexations in DeKalb stopped.**

# 2023 – 2024

In the Fall of 2023, the Tucker-Northlake CID began focusing more on the impact of crime. In the Spring of 2024, we shared our concerns with the city. By summer we were requesting more officers from DeKalb County, and by November we were talking with the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police about the possibility of a study.

# Picking up where the 2020 Study left off

In January 2025 the Tucker-Northlake CID entered into an agreement with the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP) to:

1. Conduct a public safety assessment and
2. Determine the feasibility of creating a police department for the City of Tucker.

# Clarity on Intent

We are **NOT** asking anyone to support any specific conclusion.

Our goal is to examine **all** options for reducing crime and increasing responsiveness in public safety.



Source: Carissa Rogers, [CC BY 2.0](#)

“When dealing with very complicated things our obligation to the American people is to say what is **known**, what is **not known**, and what is **believed**, and label things accordingly.”

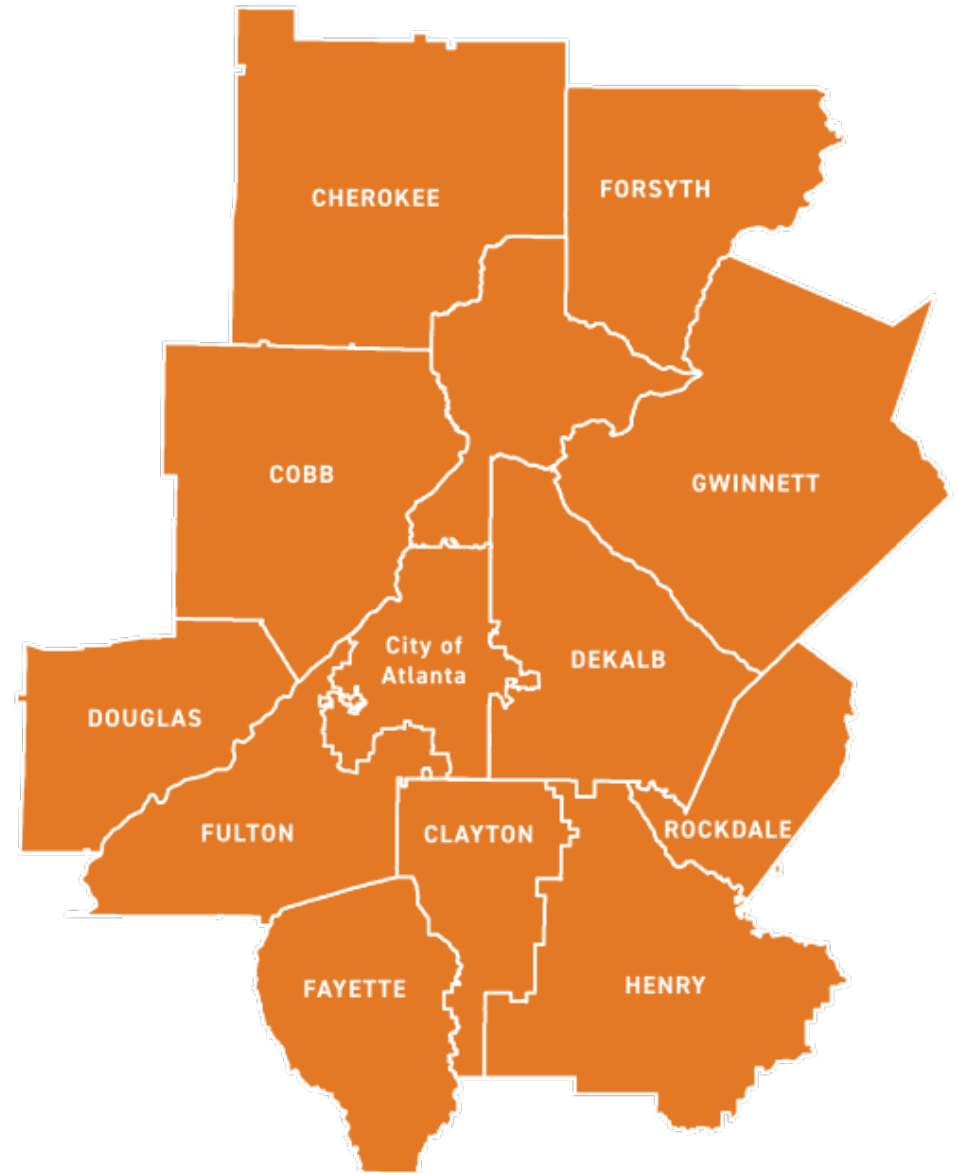
- Otis Brawley, MD

**Why are you doing this?**

**"If a man waits for a roast duck to fly in his mouth, he waits a long time."**

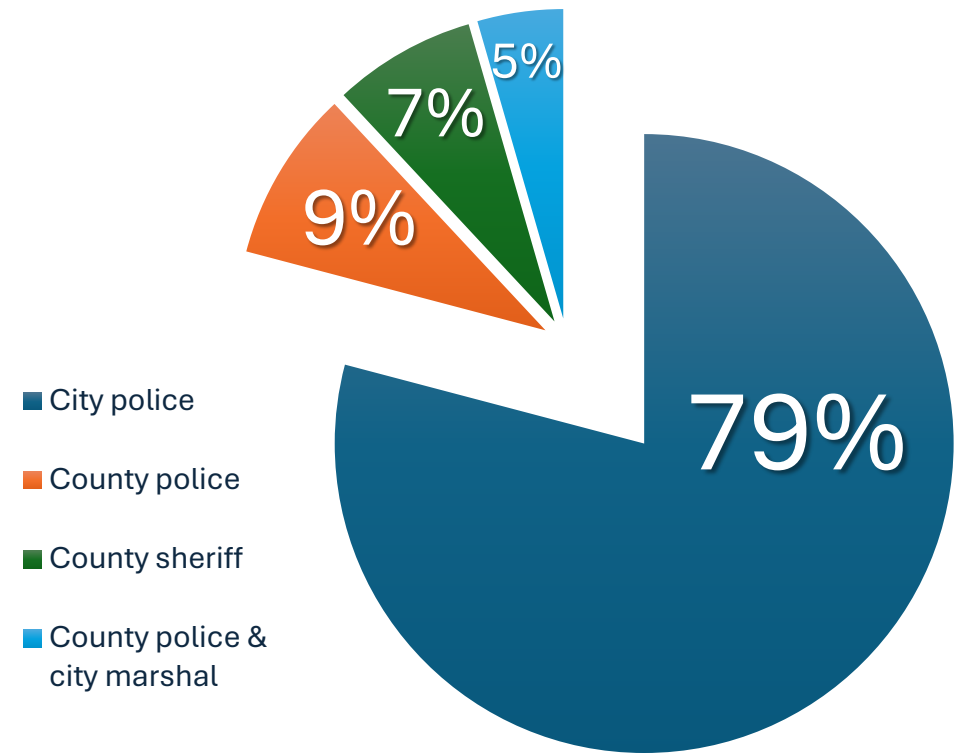
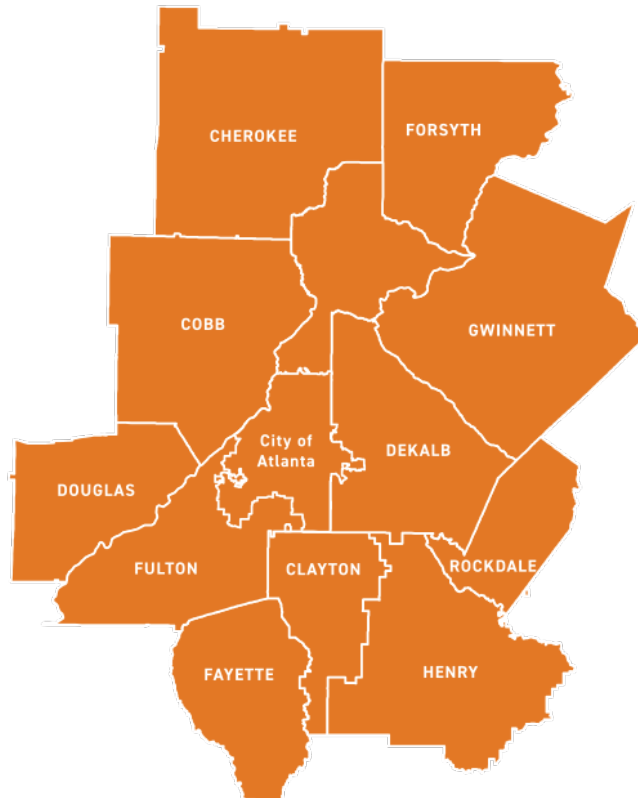
**- Chinese Proverb**

**How many  
cities in Metro  
Atlanta have  
their own police  
departments?**



# How many cities in Metro Atlanta have their own police departments?

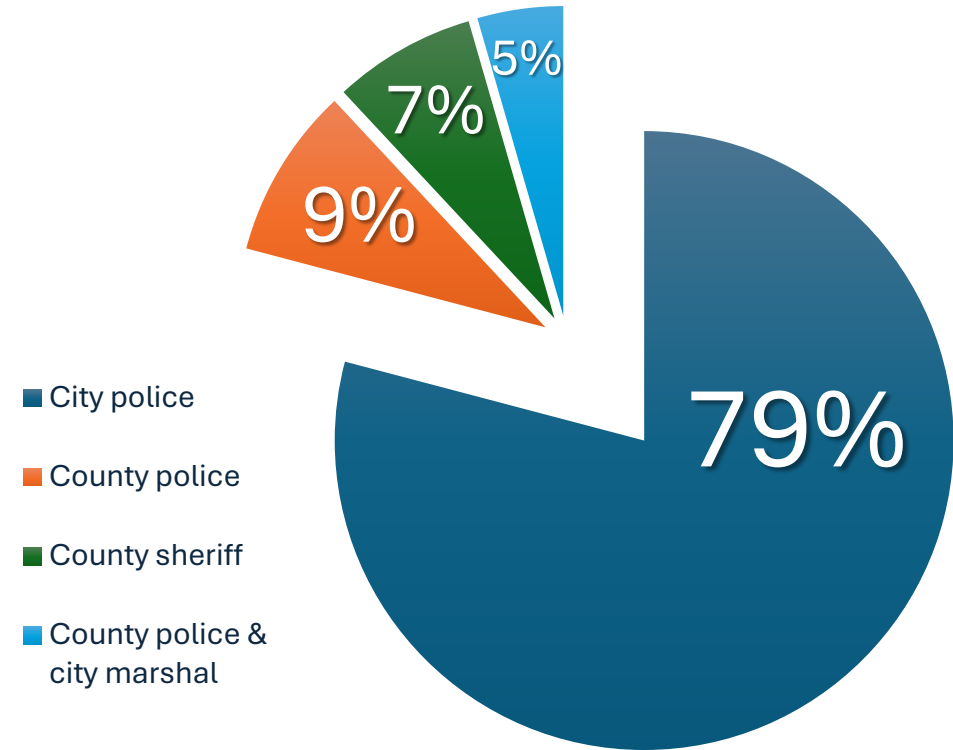
67 cities in the 11 County Region



# How many cities in Metro Atlanta have their own police departments?

## 67 cities in the 11 County Region

- 53 cities operate their own police departments (79.1%)
- 6 cities are served by county police (8.9%)
- 5 cities are policed by county sheriff's offices (7.4%)
- 3 cities use a combination of county police and a city marshal for policing (4.4%)



# Cities with a police department (53)

|                  |               |                |                |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Acworth          | Doraville     | Lake City      | Riverdale      |
| Alpharetta       | Douglasville  | Lawrenceville  | Roswell        |
| Atlanta          | Duluth        | Lilburn        | Sandy Springs  |
| Austell          | Dunwoody      | Lithonia       | Smyrna         |
| Avondale Estates | East Point    | Locust Grove   | Snellville     |
| Ball Ground      | Fairburn      | Lovejoy        | South Fulton   |
| Brookhaven       | Fayetteville  | Marietta       | Stockbridge    |
| Canton           | Forest Park   | McDonough      | Stone Mountain |
| Chamblee         | Hampton       | Milton         | Suwanee        |
| Clarkston        | Hapeville     | Morrow         | Union City     |
| College Park     | Holly Springs | Norcross       | Woodstock      |
| Conyers          | Johns Creek   | Peachtree City |                |
| Cumming          | Jonesboro     | Pine Lake      |                |
| Decatur          | Kennesaw      | Powder Springs |                |

# Cities using county police only (6)

| City       | County   | Incorporation | Population | Square Miles |
|------------|----------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| Grayson    | Gwinnett | 1901          | 4,699      | 2.57         |
| Dacula     | Gwinnett | 1905          | 7,135      | 5            |
| Tucker     | DeKalb   | 2016          | 37,022     | 20.34        |
| Stonecrest | DeKalb   | 2017          | 59,917     | 37.98        |
| Mableton   | Cobb     | 2023          | 77,050     | 36.49        |
| Mulberry   | Gwinnett | 2024          | 41,551     | 25.91        |

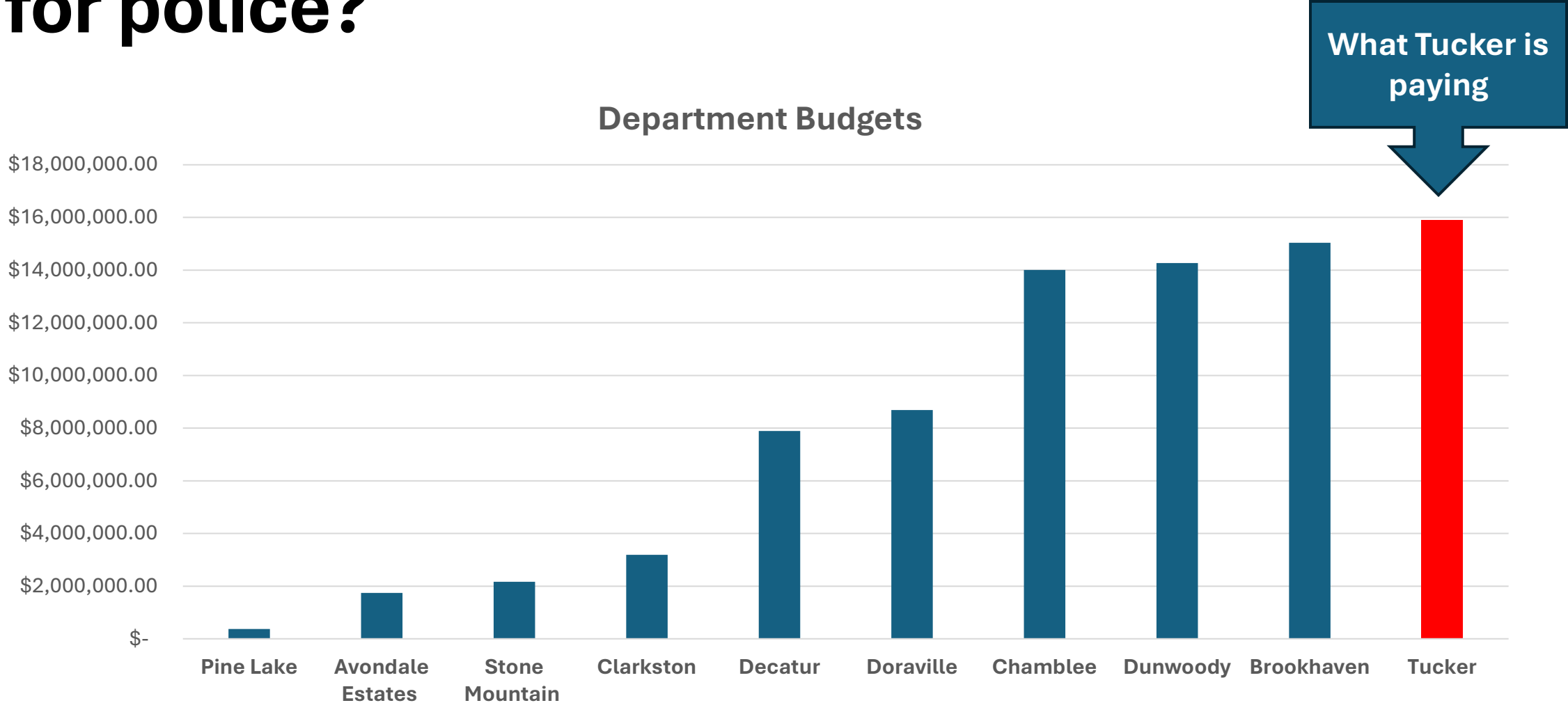
# What are cities in DeKalb County budgeting for police?

| City*            | Annual Police Budget | Population | Area in Square Miles | Cost Per Resident |
|------------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Avondale Estates | \$ 1,740,686         | 3,525      | 1.24                 | \$ 494            |
| Brookhaven       | \$ 15,036,010        | 57,224     | 12.2                 | \$ 263            |
| Chamblee         | \$ 14,007,910        | 30,369     | 7.61                 | \$ 461            |
| Clarkston        | \$ 3,185,162         | 14,560     | 1.79                 | \$ 219            |
| Decatur          | \$ 7,888,880         | 24,470     | 4.43                 | \$ 322            |
| Doraville        | \$ 8,684,638         | 10,738     | 4.89                 | \$ 809            |
| Dunwoody         | \$ 14,264,890        | 51,563     | 13.3                 | \$ 277            |
| Pine Lake        | \$ 372,597           | 915        | 0.25                 | \$ 407            |
| Stone Mountain   | \$ 2,167,142         | 6,639      | 1.63                 | \$ 326            |

\*Atlanta not included. Police budget for Lithonia not available.

Source: FY 2025 city budgets. Atlanta Regional Commission City Population Data.

# What are cities in DeKalb County budgeting for police?



# **Property Taxes in Tucker for Police Services**

**\$15.9 million (2024)**

**\$15.5 million (2025)**

- What are the 911 response times?
- What are the police response times?
- How many officers are in Tucker?
- Is the 2020 study accurate?
- How would a basic department be staffed?



**GACP**  
*Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police*

## **Public Safety Assessment & Feasibility Study**

City of Tucker PD

Presented To:

**TUCKER-NORTHLAKE  
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT  
DISTRICT**

Presented by:

**ED DENSMORE  
DWAYNE ORRICK  
BUTCH AYERS  
BRANDON MAY  
GARY YANDURA**

# Average Dispatch and Response Times

|                         | Brookhaven | Dunwoody | DeKalb County |
|-------------------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| <b>Time to Dispatch</b> | 1m:17s     | 1m:26s   | 7m:37s        |
| <b>Response Time</b>    | 1m:58s     | 3m:22s   | 8m:12s        |
| <b>Average On-Scene</b> | 29m:34s    | 33m:49s  | 30m:37s       |

# Coverage Areas

|                       | Brookhaven | Dunwoody | Tucker |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|--------|
| Square Miles          | 12         | 13       | 20     |
| Population (Official) | 55,161     | 51,683   | 37,005 |
| Population (Est.)     | 57,224     | 51,563   | 37,022 |

# Staffing Model

If Tucker were to form a department the study recommends **53 sworn officers and 10 civilian staff** in the first year, with 12-hour shifts to maximize coverage and continuity.

# Cost Comparison

Tucker property owners paid approximately **\$15.9 million in taxes in 2024** for county police services — **more than Brookhaven (\$15.0 million) and Dunwoody (\$14.3 million) spend on their own police departments**, despite both of those cities having larger populations.

A city-run department in Tucker could be launched with annual cost of approximately **\$10.7 million**, including salaries, vehicles, technology, and equipment in year one.

**This study was not intended to  
be comprehensive.**

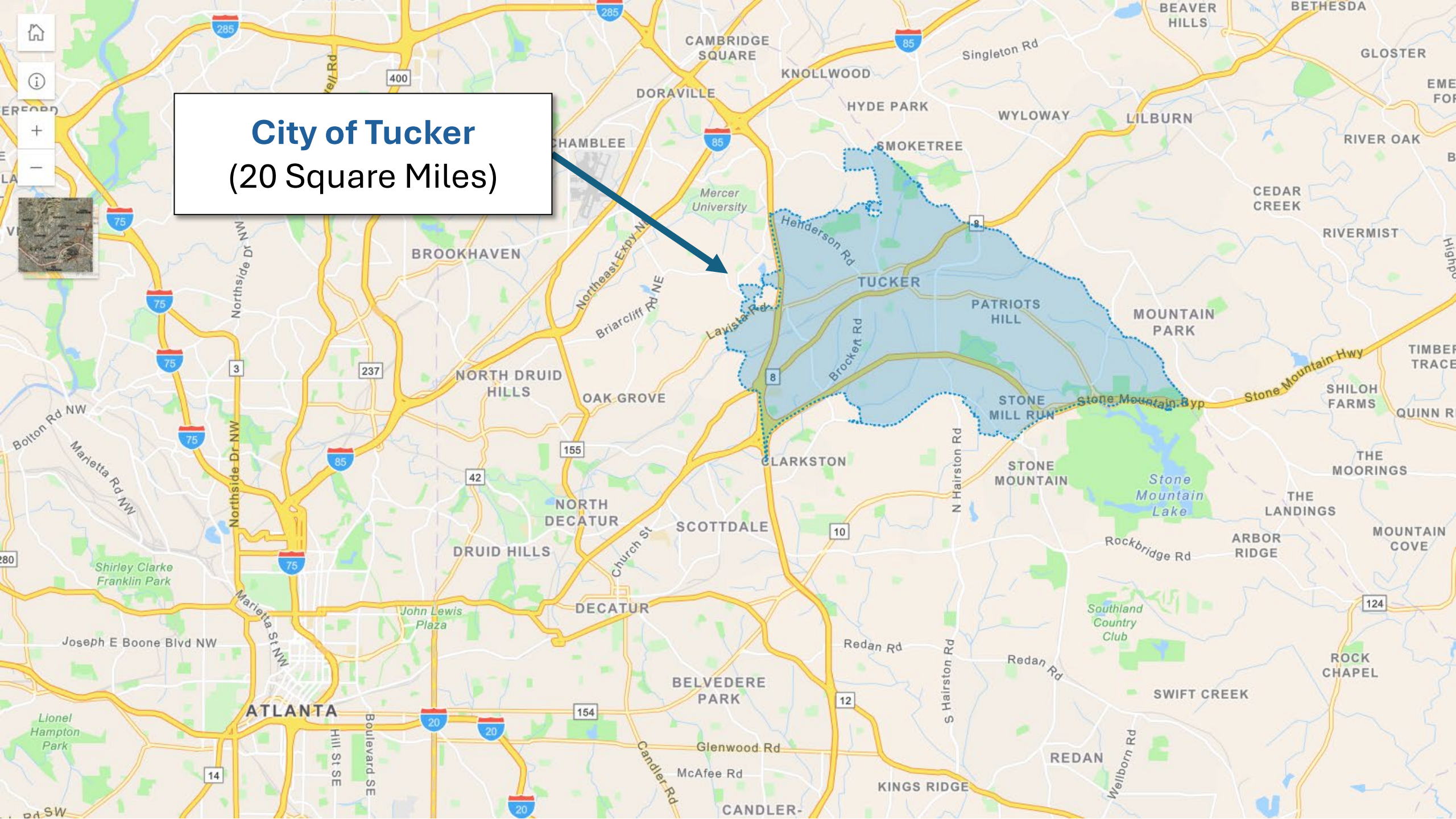
Some questions on how funds would be spent in  
year one and beyond, are up to the city council.

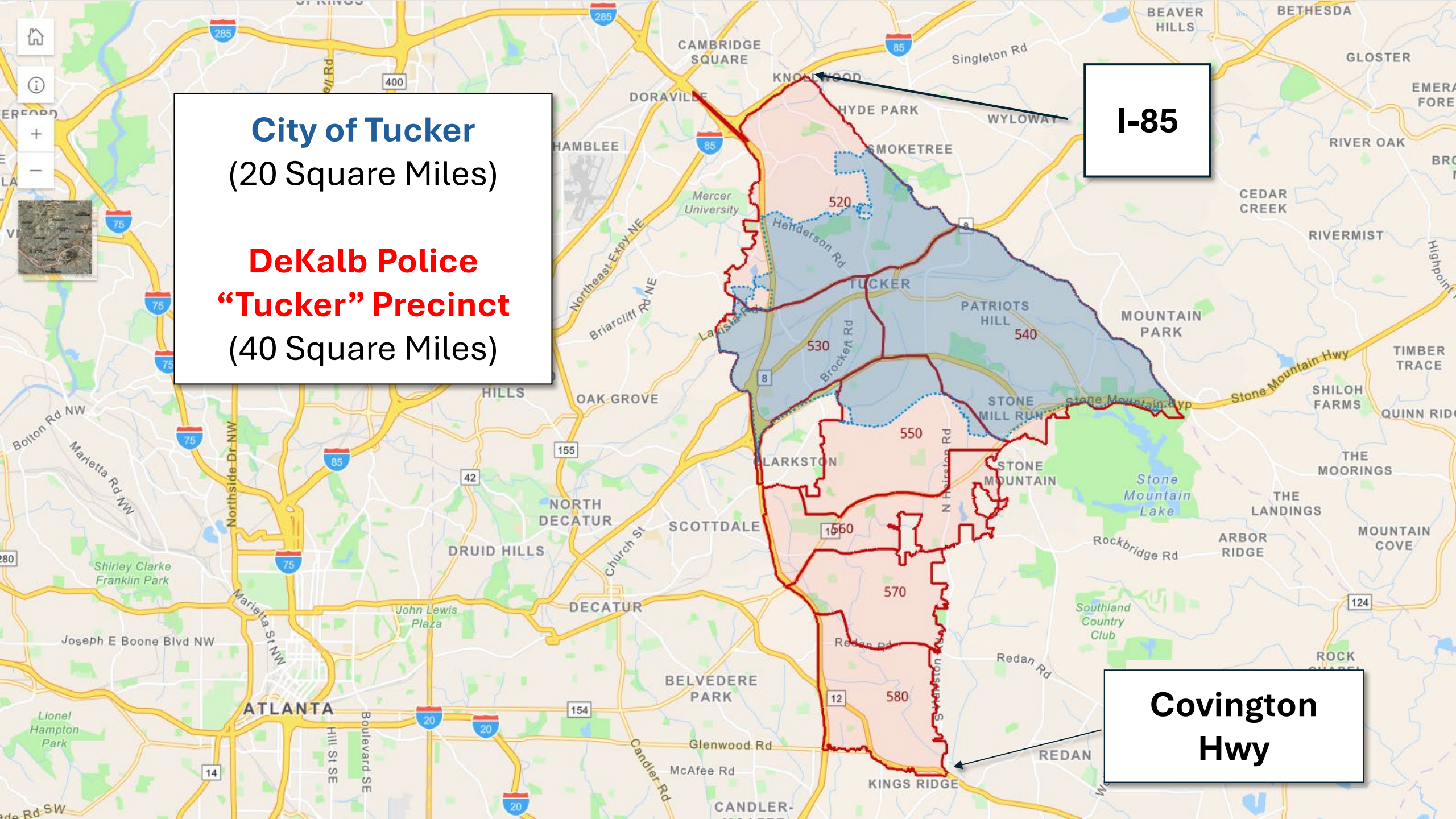
(building cost, additional services)

# Operational Sworn Staffing

|             | Brookhaven | Dunwoody | Tucker                                                                                   |
|-------------|------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sworn Staff | 61         | 82       | 53<br>(Recommended)<br><b>79</b><br>DeKalb Police<br>Tucker Precinct<br>current staffing |

**City of Tucker**  
(20 Square Miles)





The map displays DeKalb County, Georgia, with precinct boundaries color-coded: Precinct 520 (blue), Precinct 530 (light blue), Precinct 540 (light blue), Precinct 550 (pink), Precinct 570 (pink), and Precinct 580 (pink). Major roads like I-85, I-75, and I-20 are shown in yellow. Various neighborhoods and landmarks are labeled, including Cambridge Square, Doraville, Kennesaw, Tucker, Stone Mountain, and Atlanta. A white box in the top left contains navigation icons. A white box in the top right points to I-85. A white box in the bottom right points to Covington Hwy.

**City of Tucker**  
(20 Square Miles)

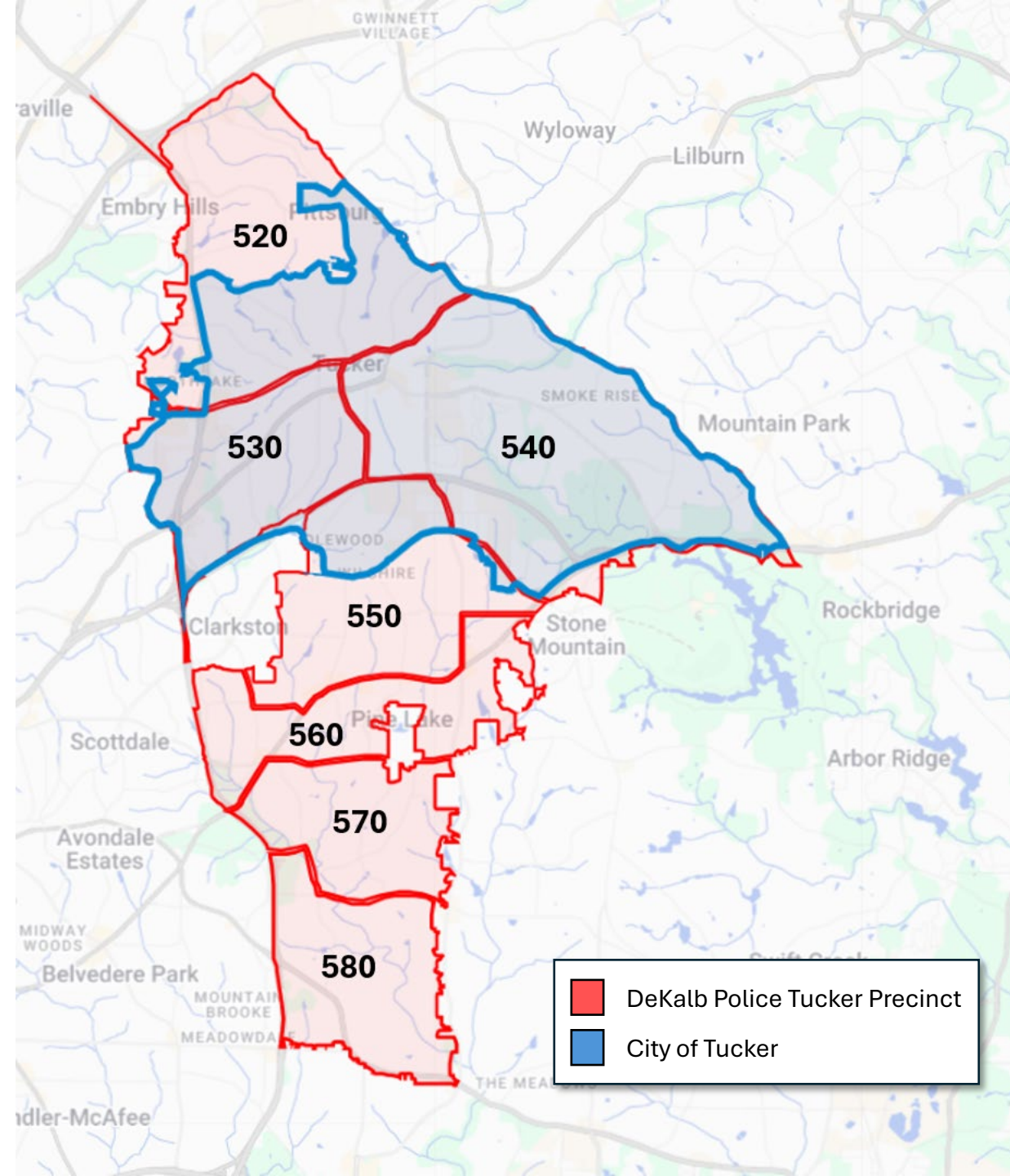
**DeKalb Police**  
**“Tucker” Precinct**  
(40 Square Miles)

**I-85**

**Covington  
Hwy**

# DeKalb Tucker Precinct Territories

- **520 – 50.00% unincorporated**
- **530 – 2.27% unincorporated**
- **540 – 3.81% unincorporated**
- **550 – 70.37% unincorporated**
- 560 – 100% unincorporated
- 570 – 100% unincorporated
- 580 – 100% unincorporated



## DAY WATCH

|                | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Avg  |
|----------------|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|------|
| Avg. Assigned  | 5.5    | 6.25   | 6.4     | 6.8       | 5.75     | 5.75   | 5.25     | 5.95 |
| Assigned O/T   | 2.25   | 2.25   | 2.4     | 2.6       | 1.25     | 1.75   | 2        | 2.1  |
| Reg. Scheduled | 3.25   | 4      | 4       | 4.2       | 4.5      | 4      | 3.25     | 3.85 |

## EVENING WATCH

|                | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Avg  |
|----------------|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|------|
| Avg. Assigned  | 6.25   | 6.5    | 6       | 6.8       | 6.75     | 6      | 5        | 6.18 |
| Assigned O/T   | 1.5    | 2.5    | 1.75    | 1         | 2.75     | 2.25   | 0.5      | 1.75 |
| Reg. Scheduled | 4.75   | 4      | 4.25    | 5.8       | 4        | 3.75   | 4.5      | 4.43 |

## MORNING WATCH

|                | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Avg  |
|----------------|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|------|
| Avg. Assigned  | 5.2    | 6.25   | 6.5     | 6.8       | 6.5      | 6.25   | 4.75     | 6.03 |
| Assigned O/T   | 2      | 1.4    | 1.4     | 1         | 1.5      | 1.75   | 1.25     | 1.5  |
| Reg. Scheduled | 3.2    | 4.85   | 5.1     | 5.8       | 5        | 4.5    | 3.5      | 4.53 |

# How many officers does the study recommend beginning with?

## Sworn: 53

Chief – 1

Major – 2 (Operations and Administrative)

Training Sergeant – 1

Professional Standards Sergeant – 1

Uniform Patrol – 40

4 Squads – 10 Officers Per Squad

(8 officers, 1 sergeant, and 1 Lieutenant per squad)

Criminal Investigations – 8

(6 detectives, 1 sergeant, 1 lieutenant)

## Non-Sworn/Civilian – 10

Evidence Technician/Property – 2

Executive Assistant (Chief) – 1

Administrative Assistant – 2 (Operations and Administrative)

Records/GCIC – 5 (4 Staff/1 Supervisor)

**These officers and employees would stay within the City of Tucker**



85

SMOKETREE

Mercer University

Henderson Rd

8

TUCKER

PATRIOTS HILL

MOUNTAIN PARK

Lavista Rd

8

Brockett Rd

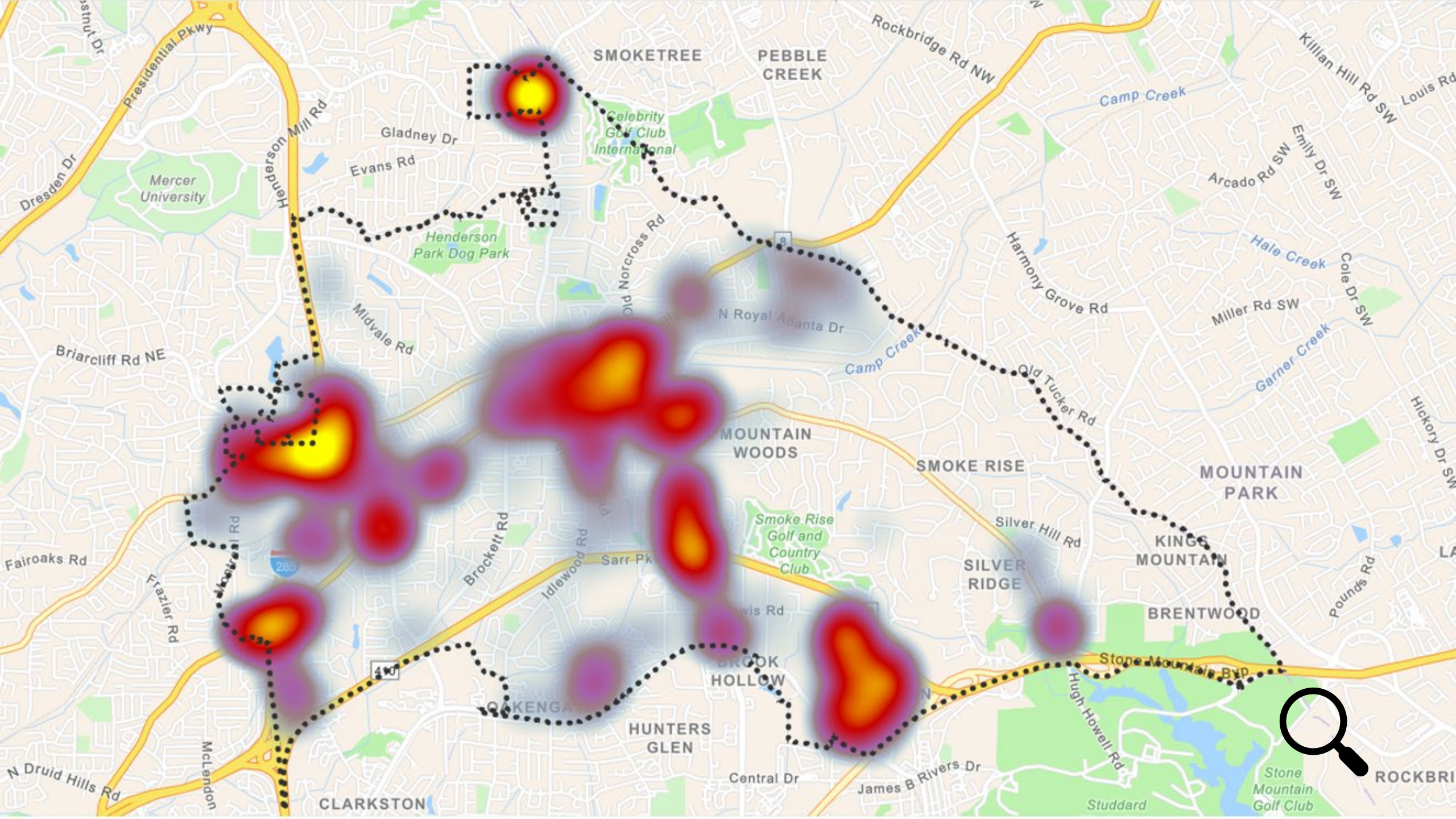
STONE MILL RUN

Stone Mountain Byp

CLARKSTON

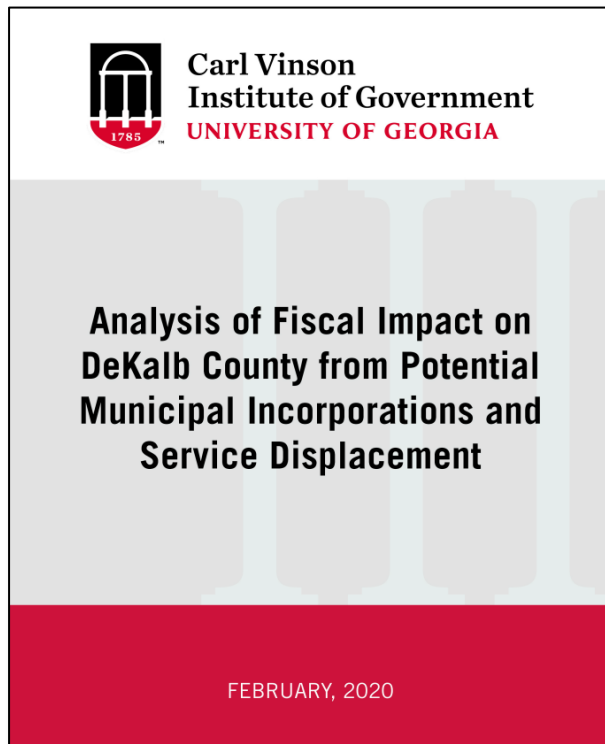
ston Rd

STONE

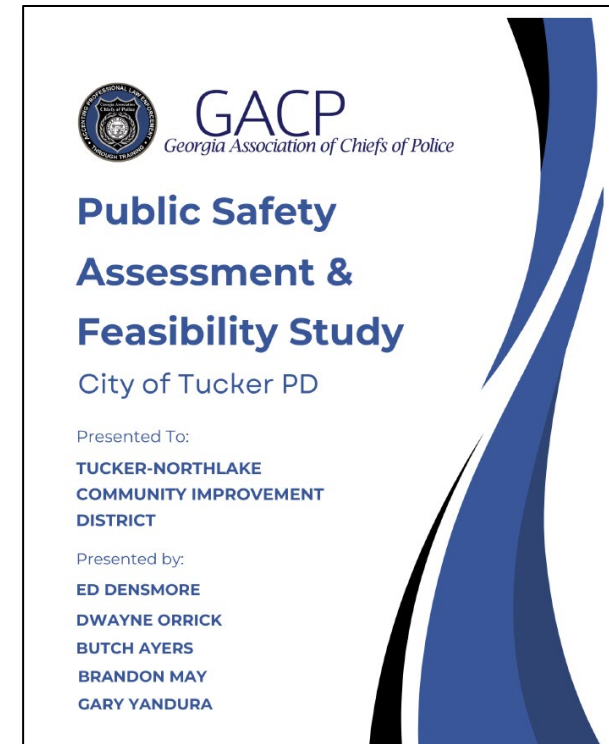


# Both studies confirm that a city department is feasible

2020



2025



**Have you shared this with  
DeKalb County and with the City  
of Tucker?**

**Yes.**

# Questions

Learning together

# Next Steps

What do you want in *your* community?

[About](#)[Resources](#)[Survey](#)[FAQ](#)[News](#)[Contact](#)

# Tucker Public Safety Assessment and Feasibility Study

[Learn more](#)[Read the Study](#)

ProtectTucker.org



# Public Safety Survey

The Tucker-Northlake CID is conducting an independent public safety survey to better understand community perceptions and experiences with 911, police response, and crime in and around Tucker. Your responses will help inform our conversations with city and county leaders as they consider priorities for safety, service delivery and resource allocation.

Each survey is anonymous and takes approximately 10 to 12 minutes to complete.

[Survey for Tucker Business Owners and Employees](#)

[Survey for Tucker Residents and Others](#)



# **Tucker Public Safety Survey**

**Residents and Others**



**Businesses and Employees**



**Your Voice Matters**

**Thank You for  
Attending!**



***"Partners in the Progress of Tucker"***