



City of Hinesville News Release
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Hinesville City Council Approves New Flea Market Ordinance

HINESVILLE, Ga. (May 6, 2021) – Tonight, the Hinesville City Council unanimously approved a new ordinance regarding flea market operations. Prior to tonight’s decision, the City of Hinesville did not have an ordinance in place regulating flea markets. After several local business owners came forward and expressed interest in hosting these types of events within the city limits, the City sought to amend its Code of Ordinances to include language and provisions for safely and responsibly operating a flea market in Hinesville.

“Tonight’s decision to move forward with a new flea market ordinance is just another example of how the City of Hinesville supports our local business community,” Hinesville City Manager Kenneth Howard said. “From providing financial assistance to help businesses keep their doors open throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to breaking ground on our community’s first and only small business incubator, we are dedicated to helping our local business economy thrive.”

The new flea market ordinance, which takes effect immediately, was created with input provided by local businesses and the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission (LCPC). Drafts of the ordinance were provided to the Hinesville City Council during several regularly scheduled meetings. Development of the current ordinance was built upon a previous flea market ordinance, which was in effect from 1986-2000.

The newly approved ordinance defines a “flea market” as an open-air or closed market that allows a great variety of vendors to display, sell or exchange personal property. It segments flea markets into two categories: permanent and casual. A permanent flea market site is one which has permanent structures to be used as stalls for vendors and other amenities, such as built-in bathroom facilities that are ADA-compliant. This type of flea market site would likely be used often, perhaps on a weekly basis. On a casual site, however, permanent structures are not permitted, and events would be restricted to eight times a year. A casual site may include temporary pop-up tents for vendors.

To operate a flea market in Hinesville, be it permanent or casual, an operator would need to be licensed by the City. To obtain a flea market business license, operators would need to fill out and submit a permit application to the City’s Business License Office, located in City Hall at 115 E. M. L. King, Jr. Dr. The annual flea market business license fee is \$115 for flea markets with up to five employees. Individual vendors at flea markets must also either possess a regular annual business license from the City or they may register with the City through the flea market operator for a \$10 daily fee. The new flea market permit application is currently available at the City’s Business License Office.

The City of Hinesville actively supports the local business economy. To learn more about City, including how to start a business in Hinesville, visit cityofhinesville.org. Stay up-to-date with the City by following @HinesvilleGA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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ABOUT THE CITY OF HINESVILLE:

The City of Hinesville was established in 1837 and is recognized as one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Georgia in both size and population. As the largest city in Liberty County, it serves as the county seat and is home to more than 35,000 people. To learn more about the City of Hinesville, visit cityofhinesville.org.