

**NAME:** Curt Thompson  
**PARTY:** Democratic  
**SEEKING:** County Commission Chairman

**1. Why are you seeking your office?**

I am running to continue servicing the people of Gwinnett. I have fought for the people of Gwinnett during my time as a lawyer and my 16 years in the legislature. I am running to continue that fight for a better Gwinnett even in these unprecedented times.

**2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

I hope to help the county create a mass transit system that is fully integrated into the existing MARTA system in Metro Atlanta, to address the need for affordable workforce housing for those starting out, for seniors downsizing and to help those needing a second chance, and to ensure that the counties resources are better and more equitably distributed and invested across Gwinnett and not just in certain zip codes or areas.

**3. What distinguishes your candidacy?**

I have more experience in government and working with government budgets than any other candidate. I have the skills and relationships that will be needed to help Gwinnett navigate restarting its economy, embrace its diversity, and build a bridge to Gwinnett's future that gives opportunity to all of us who call Gwinnett home. I have spent 2 decades as a lawyer and legislator fighting for the people of Gwinnett and if I'm elected I will continue that fight for you every day in Lawrenceville as I did in Atlanta.

**4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

If the current county commission does not put a transit referendum on the November 2020 ballot one of my first tasks would be to take the Transit Committee Plan submitted to the commission this year and work with the commission to assess and update it to emphasize lightrail and bus rapid transit (BRT) and to use those savings to expand commuter light rail or BRT options in South Gwinnett. I would work with the District Commissioners to place that plan on a general election ballot and then work to fully and efficiently implement that plan.

**5. Suggest ways to jump-start the economy after COVID-19.**

The County Commission and especially the County Commission Chair will need to leverage their relationships with state and federal legislators for assistance with budget shortfalls to prevent layoffs of essential county workers such as police and fire. We will likely need to look at both expanding mass transit and at our existing and future SPLOST programs with an eye towards building infrastructure specifically to help jump start our economy and redevelop targeted areas. This may also need to be expanded to include the use of TADs, TIF districts and small business incubators focusing on restarting businesses instead of starting up (100)...

**6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background.**

I was raised in Gwinnett County. I started school at Camp Creek Elementary and graduated from Shiloh High School. I became a lawyer and spent 16 years in the state legislature representing parts of Gwinnett. I served 12 years on the Senate Appropriations Committee and 8 years as Chair of the Senate Special Judiciary Committee. I've spent my career fighting for voting rights, expanded healthcare access and redevelopment of our aging suburban areas with tools like CIDs (helping to found the Gwinnett Village CID).