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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FAYETTE COUNTY TO HOLD DUAL ELECTION IN NOVEMBER

Almost everyone knows by now that Georgia will have its next election on Tuesday, November 6. Political advertisements are everywhere on television and the radio. Georgia has already had two elections this year, a Primary in May and a Runoff in July, to determine who and what will be on the November ballot. The Fayette County Elections Office has been abuzz with citizens registering to vote. Multiple requests for Absentee by Mail ballots have been received and answered. More are coming in daily.

One thing that may not be common knowledge to many Fayette citizens is this coming election is a Dual Election. What is a Dual Election? In a nutshell, this: during even-numbered years like 2018, elections are designed for voters to consider federal, state, and countywide candidates and questions. In odd-numbered years like 2017, those citizens who live in cities (such as Fayetteville or Peachtree City) have an opportunity to vote on their respective city matters (such as mayors, city council members, and questions that only involve the city). When cities hold elections during an even-numbered year, or when a county or the state holds an election during an odd-numbered year, it causes a Dual Election. When a Dual Election occurs, the State of Georgia- who produces ballots for all of Georgia's county's- has to utilize two separate databases (one for the cities and one for all the rest.) This results in counties having two different sets of machines and, if required, two separate physical locations for voters to vote- hence the name "Dual Election."

This year, both the cities of Fayetteville and Peachtree City called for a Special Election so that their citizens can vote on allowing restaurants in their cities that serve alcohol to begin serving at 11:00 a.m. instead of 12:30 p.m. as it currently is. These Special-Called Elections enacted Dual Voting in Fayette County this November.

What does this mean? For many residents, not much. If you live in unincorporated Fayette County, or if you live in the Towns of Tyrone, Brooks, or Woolsey you only have to vote on federal, state, and county matters during early voting or at your designed polling place.

Most of the citizens who reside in the jurisdiction of Peachtree City and who choose to vote on November 6 will notice their polling places will have two lines with two sets of machines. The first line is for the federal, state, and county elections. The second line is for the Peachtree City question. However, Peachtree City citizens who live in either the Whitewater Precinct or the Rising Starr Precinct will have to travel to two separate locations to vote- one location is for federal, state, and county questions and the other location for the city question.

Conversely, most people who live in the jurisdiction of the City of Fayetteville and who choose to vote on November 6 will have to travel to two separate locations to vote- one place for the city question and the other place for federal, state, and county questions.

The Good News is there is an alternative to traveling to two locations to vote. That alternative is to Vote Early!

Fayette County offers Early Voting locations at the Fayette County Administrative Complex in Fayetteville, the Peachtree City Library, and Tyrone Town Hall. All three locations will open Monday through Friday, October 15-26, from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Saturday voting will occur at all three locations from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. During the last week of early voting- October 29 through November 2- the hours will expand at all three locations from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Each early election site is equipped to handle both federal, state, and county questions along with city questions- preventing the need to travel to two separate locations.

If you are a resident Fayette County, and especially if you live in the jurisdictions of Peachtree City or Fayetteville, the best ways to learn if you can vote in one location or need to travel to two locations is to go to <u>www.mvp.sos.ga.gov</u> or to call the Fayette County Elections Office at (770) 305-5408.

The Fayette County Board of Elections and staff encourage all Fayette County's voters to "Turn Out the Vote" this November!

See you at the polls!