

EDITORIALS & OPINION

Marietta Daily Journal

METRO ATLANTA'S ONLY CONSERVATIVE EDITORIAL VOICE.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■ YOUR OPINION

Commissioners, please keep Cobb's suburban character, vote 'no' to costly micro-transit

DEAR EDITOR:

Under the leadership of Chairwoman Lisa Cupid and the Democratic majority on the Cobb County Board of Commissioners, our county is undergoing a radical transformation that threatens the very suburban character residents love.

The Board's recent actions demonstrate a clear disregard for the will of the voters and the unique identity of our communities. Most egregiously, despite voters rejecting a massive transit tax (MSPLIST) by over 60% in November 2024, and despite the Georgia Legislature passing a moratorium in early 2026 banning new transit referendums until 2032, the Democratic majority is scheduled to vote this August on a new on-demand van service expansion. Pushing this unpopular microtransit system through an administrative vote — circumventing both the ballot box and state law — is an affront to democracy and a waste of taxpayer resources on a service the public explicitly refused to fund.

This transit overreach is part of a broader pattern of fiscal irresponsibility. The Board instituted a new "rain tax" (stormwater fee) effective June 2026, adding to the burden of year-over-year budget increases that raise taxes on homeowners

even as the county boards surplus revenue. They unsuccessfully attempted to seize private garbage collection, threatening efficient market services with government bureaucracy.

Furthermore, the Board is pushing a controversial Unified Development Code (UDC) that critics rightly call a "war on the suburbs." By attempting to mandate Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and upzone single-family neighborhoods, the majority is actively working to erase the low-density, family-oriented environment that defines Cobb County.

The cumulative impact of these policies — higher taxes, regulatory burdens, and forced density — is already driving businesses away. Established local staples are closing their doors as unaffordable rents and operational costs skyrocket. When government expands unchecked, the private sector contracts.

Cobb County voters chose a suburban lifestyle, not an urban experiment. We demand a Board that respects our vote, preserves our community character, and stops the relentless drive to tax, regulate, and transform our home into something we did not ask for.

Jan Barton
Marietta

Naming bridges over the Chattahoochee

DEAR EDITOR:

I read with great interest your recent article on the naming of a bridge over the

do we have a bridge named after former governor and unapologetic racist, Lester Maddox? Lester is best known for chasing African American patrons