

New buses, new image, new ride

CobbLinc, formerly known as Cobb Community Transit, received the prototype of its new buses in February.

Last September the transit system announced its name change as part of a rebranding that was approved by the Cobb County Board of Commissioners.

CobbLinc Director Vida Covington anticipates the rebranding and buses will give the system a fresh, modern image and improved rider experience for its customers.

"The new buses will have on-board Wi-Fi capabilities and enhanced real-time passenger information systems that will lead to the development of a mobile app, which we plan to introduce later this year," Covington said. "There are also improved safety functions for the customers and the operator."

Although the buses will come wired for Wi-Fi and mobile app capabilities, the implementation process for both will come with CobbLinc's new AVL system, which is targeted for installation this summer.

The existing fleet consists of 101 buses. Thirty five new buses are being ordered, which will bring the new fleet total to 105 buses. Two of the 35 buses will be fueled with compressed natural gas,



Gary A. Witte

New buses with new features, including WiFi, will be put into service for the public this year.

a clean gasoline alternative that can emit up to 90 percent fewer emissions than gasoline.

"Thirty one of the new buses are replacements and four are for new service," Covington added.

All of the buses are scheduled to arrive on site by late spring or early summer. For more information about services available, go to the CCT section of cobbcounty.org.

Construction in Cumberland

Beginning this spring, more than 20 projects will be underway in the Cumberland Community Improvement District.

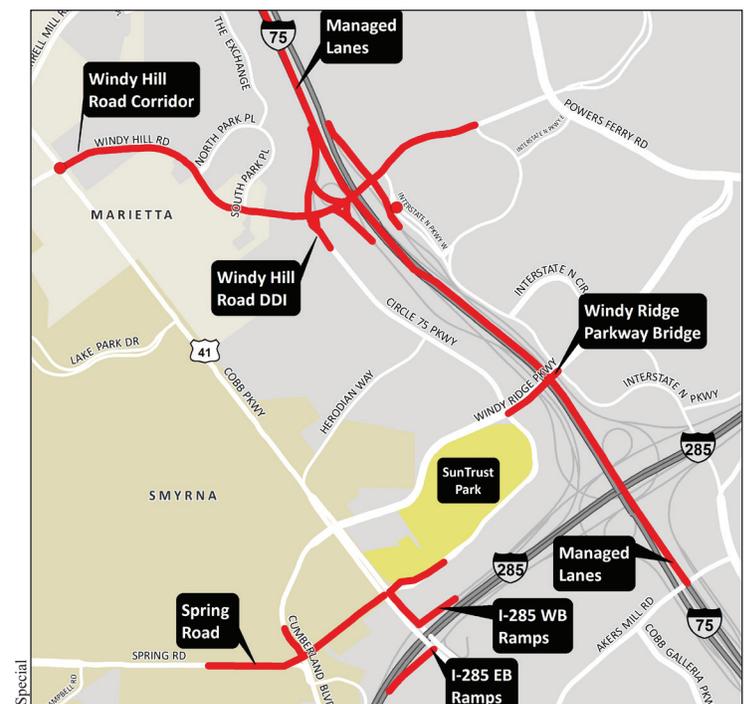
These safety and roadway improvement projects will take place within a three-mile area, from Terrell Mill Road to the Chattahoochee River on U.S. Highway 41 Cobb Parkway. Heavy traffic congestion and lane closures will be expected at times through spring 2017.

"We appreciate your patience as Cobb County continues to grow and traffic improvements are made to accommodate this continued growth," County Communications Director Sheri Kell said.

For traffic updates, the public should go to cobbcommute.org where they can see traffic congestion before heading out the door.

Residents can also go to cobbdot.org and click on Cumberland Area Projects for project information and updates.

Cobb DOT asks the public to like its Facebook page and follow it on Twitter @cobbDOT and Instagram @cobbcountydot for traffic updates and information. #cobbcountydigspggress





Help wanted for public greenspace

Join the Friends of Green Meadows Preserve, Cobb PARKS staff and volunteers to help clean up the park 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, **March 12**. There will be groups picking up trash, pulling privet, trimming trails, mulching around the gardens and helping with bluebird houses. These efforts will help beautify the park.

Volunteers should bring water bottles, work gloves and wear sturdy shoes for tracking through the woods. Volunteers should also bring their own hand tools, including pruners, loppers, pruning saws, shovels and mattocks/pickaxes. The rain date for the cleanup is March 19.

Green Meadows Preserve offers quiet woodlands and meadows ideal for walking, picnics, kite flying and exploring plants, birds and flowers.

The 112-acre park is located on the northwest corner of Dallas Highway and Old Hamilton Road, diagonally across from the Avenue West Cobb. For more information on the park, visit greenmeadowspreserve.org.

Business opportunities available

Make plans to attend the 2016 How to do Business with Cobb seminars. Learn about vendor opportunities, network with local business owners and hear about the local vendor preference. You'll also meet the Cobb County schools and Cobb County government employees that make the purchasing decisions.

The next "How to do Business in Cobb" seminar will be 5-7 p.m. **April 14** at the Cobb County Safety Village, 1220 Al Bishop Drive, Marietta. To reserve a spot for you and your colleagues, send an email to Inger.Eberhart@cobbcounty.org.

Egg hunt scheduled for evening fun

Cobb County will host the Second Annual "Eggstravaganza Under the Stars," on Saturday, **March 26**, at Al Bishop Softball Complex, 1082 Al Bishop Dr. Marietta. The complex gates will open at 6 p.m. and the first hunt begins at 7 p.m. The 2016 "Eggstravaganza" will feature an evening egg hunt under the stars and we are asking you to bring your flashlights. There will also be children's art activities, live entertainment, inflatable's, Hula hoop contest, tug-of-war contest, musical chairs, food vendors and more.



Book sale offers bargains for shelves

The Cobb County Library and The Friends of the Library are hosting their semi-annual book sale at Jim Miller Park from **March 11-13**. More than 100,000 items are for sale at the event.

Sale items include books both hardbound and paperback for children, young adults and adults; audio-visuals including books on tape and compact disc; videocassettes; compact discs; records; magazines; and comic books. All proceeds are used to purchase new books and other library materials. Prices range from 10 cents to \$4.



Grant program open for local groups

The Cobb County Community Development Block Grant Program Office will solicit applications from qualified organizations for PY2017 Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership, and Emergency Solutions Grant funds ending on Friday, **April 8**.

Application materials will be available for download. Applicants are encouraged to learn more about the CDBG, HOME, and ESG application process. More information can be found at cobbcounty.org/cdbg.



Cobb County...Expect the Best!

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