

# HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- 1. Support funding for mental health crisis in Georgia and homelessness in Glynn County. This support should include more practitioners and facilities that are accessible to the community.

# PUBLIC SAFETY

- 1. Support Glynn County’s request for a regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the case of a catastrophic event. We are seeking state support for an EOC that can be used by multiple entities throughout the coastal region, should they need to evacuate their EOC because of a catastrophic event.
- 2. Invest in Hazmat capabilities for the Glynn County Fire Department.
- 3. Support legislative solutions to address the implementation of next generation 911, ensuring all Georgians have access to a modern public safety communications network.
- 4. Support local programs and initiatives that assist local governments in identifying ownership of vacant and rental properties, including the expansion of municipal powers that bolster code enforcement and the enforcement of the International Property Maintenance Code and property nuisance abatement.
- 5. Support local and state efforts to develop a comprehensive Beach Management Plan that promotes dune restoration, native plant reforestation, improved stormwater management, ADA-accessible beach access, habitat protection, and sustainable funding to stabilize shoreline areas and guide long-term coastal conservation along Georgia’s coast.



# 2026 GOLDEN ISLES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

*Working together to make Brunswick and the Golden Isles an exceptional place to live, work, and visit by strengthening our communities and by enhancing the quality of life.*



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# 2026 TOP PRIORITIES: THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The Golden Isles are home to four barrier islands, which draw an estimated 7.2 million annual visitors, creating a \$1.6 billion annual economic impact. The tourism industry is the largest single industry in Glynn County and supports over 15,000 jobs. It is vital that our county and islands can apply reasonable and practical solutions to address beach erosion, dangerous tidal pools and hazards that occur on the beach regularly. To protect our beaches, visitors, and residents, we need the assistance of the state and the Department of Natural Resources in identifying and promptly solving short and long-term safety concerns. These efforts will not only keep Georgians safe but also protect wildlife and the number one draw for our local economy.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TAXATION

1. Protect Georgia’s Lodging Tax from redirection. Support the current State accommodation tax laws that provide funding to Destination Marketing Organizations (DMO) as an essential means of promoting tourism and apply the laws equally to those providing accommodation in the state.

2. Support legislation that provides enhanced funding to communities impacted by regional projects and economic development incentives to regional economic development entities.

3. Oppose legislation that infringes on local control and flexibility for Development Authorities.

4. Support funding for infrastructure improvement to locally owned industrial sites.

5. Support legislation that maintains competitive statutory and discretionary incentives.
6. Support local community efforts to ensure MSA designation stays intact under current law.

7. We oppose legislation that limits local decision-making regarding the development of architectural design standards, building codes that improve resilience in areas with unique hazards, and zoning. These decisions are best left to communities.

8. Support legislation to strengthen and preserve Georgia’s Historic Tax Credit by increasing the annual cap from \$30 million to \$60 million, ensuring the program remains functional, predictable, and competitive. The current cap has pushed awards several years out, threatening the viability of future rehabilitation projects and limiting economic revitalization across Georgia communities.

9. Support funding for Jekyll Island Authority capital improvement.

## LEGAL REFORM

1. Support policies that reduce lawsuit costs, increase predictability, and prioritize efficiency in the civil justice system.

2. Protect efforts to reduce landowner liabilities.

3. Protect efforts and introduce transparency in civil litigation.
4. Protect and maintain efforts to level the playing field between plaintiffs and defendants.

5. Support efforts to ensure Georgia’s insurance market is robust and competitive.

## TALENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

1. Support the current Certificate of Need (CON) Program to help support hospitals.

2. Support efforts to ensure that affordable health insurance coverage is available to our citizens.

3. Expansion of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program to include infill housing. Individuals who qualify for this existing state credit for qualified rental properties would also be able to apply for this credit for infill housing in the city of Brunswick.

4. Expansion of Georgia Dream Homeownership Program. The availability of this homeownership program and broadening
- of program qualifications in Glynn County would provide more opportunities for individuals and/or families to achieve homeownership.

5. Support additional funding for Pre-K programs.

6. Support funding and policy initiatives that combat chronic blight, promote homeownership and housing stability, and expand workforce housing—especially for public service employees in downtown Brunswick. Increasing affordable, safe housing in under-occupied areas will help drive revitalization and beautification efforts throughout the city.



## TRANSPORTATION

1. Protect public and commercial airspace in the Golden Isles by opposing the proposed expansion of Military Operating Areas at the Townsend Bombing Range and supporting statewide airspace protections. Maintaining current access is essential to aviation safety, economic activity, and the viability of Georgia’s airports. Establishing consistent standards will safeguard public safety, preserve vital aviation assets, and strengthen the state’s economic competitiveness.

2. Support funding for traffic signalization along the Bay Street corridor to improve pedestrian safety and access to public parks and waterfront areas. Proper signalization is essential to creating a pedestrian-friendly corridor and supports the shared goals of the City of Brunswick and Glynn County to enhance the Brunswick waterfront and fully develop Mary Ross Park.

3. Support state investment in critical transportation infrastructure by ensuring GDOT provides the asset management data counties need for prioritizing repairs and maintains current traffic flow and utility service during major projects such as the Dunbar Creek bridge replacement on Sea Island Road. Minimizing closures is vital to protecting local businesses, residents, the Glynn County School System, and the community workforce that depends on this corridor.

4. Glynn County seeks partnership with GDOT and the City of Brunswick to address traffic and evacuation congestion at the St. Simons Island Causeway entrance/exit, coordinate improvements with the planned Mackay River Bridge upgrade, and mitigate flooding on the FJ Torras Causeway during King Tides and storms. With SPLOST approval secured, the County now needs GDOT’s commitment and support in navigating federal and state environmental challenges.
5. GDOT partnership on roadways in North Glynn: Glynn County is asking for GDOT support on the following roads for traffic improvements, evacuation routes and safety improvements: Glynco Parkway, Canal Road (both sides) Perry Lane Road (to include bridge replacement), and Old Jesup Road.

6. GDOT partnership in relocation of underground infrastructure.

7. Support the improvement of roadway and traffic management infrastructure to ensure safe and efficient access to GPA’s Colonel’s Island Terminal from Interstate 95 at Exit 29.

8. Support and fund key improvements of the main State entrance gateways along I-95 corridor. Support Glynn County’s efforts to beautify and enhance the four major exit ramps off I-95 and create a better sense of arrival for our visitors and investors.

9. Support continued investment in the Georgia Airport Aid Program at levels consistent with FAA Reauthorization to ensure airports statewide remain safe, efficient, and economically strong. Ongoing funding is essential for maintaining and enhancing the Brunswick–Golden Isles and St. Simons Island Airports, which play a vital role in local economies, tourism, and emergency response.

10. Glynn County’s growth in the northern part of the county has increased pressure on traffic and road safety. Support needed improvements to Canal Road from the Spur/Hwy 25 to Hwy 341 to enhance safety and mobility.

