

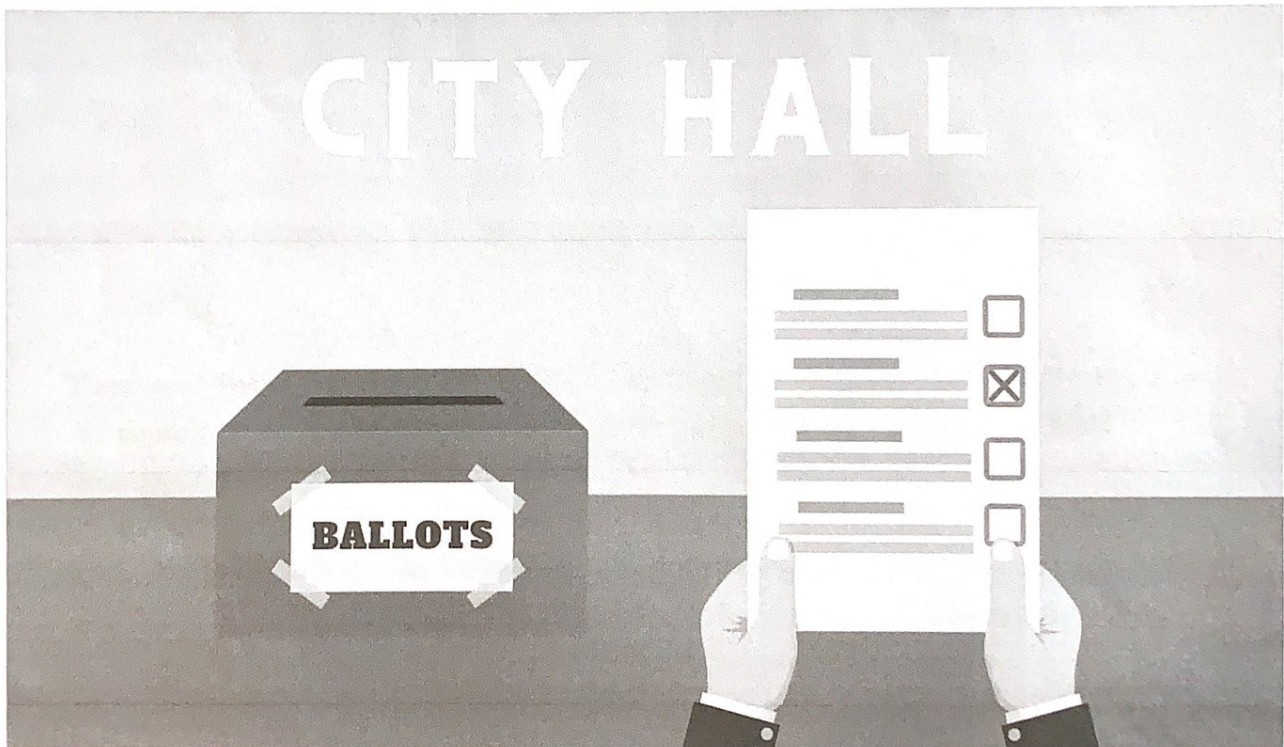
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## North Fulton cities rush to run their own elections

By AMBER PERRY

Jan 21, 2023



**After Milton moved to run its own elections, sister cities are following quickly in its wake. Alpharetta, Roswell and Johns Creek officials have all met this week in a movement that could see one superintendent running all the ballots.**

ILLUSTRATION BY JACOB TOMBERLIN/APPEN MEDIA

**ATLANTA — City councils across north metro Atlanta are scrambling to find a way for their cities to administer their own municipal elections this fall, a move that could free them from mounting costs proposed by Fulton County.**

**At stake are tens of thousands of local tax dollars in savings if the plans are enacted.**





In 2021, Fulton County charged cities \$2.96 per registered voter to manage their municipal general elections and \$2.46 per registered voter in runoff elections. The county charged cities the same figure in the 2019 municipal elections.

But in December, Fulton County Elections staff proposed charging cities \$11.48 per registered voter for this year's municipal elections.

There was pushback from the Fulton County Board of Registrations and Elections, and the county later agreed to charge cities \$9.38 per registered voter for this fall's municipal elections.

Last month, the Milton City Council set things in motion by approving a plan to run its own 2023 municipal elections. The plan was drafted by a panel who spent months studying whether local administration of elections would be feasible.

The Milton Municipal Election Committee consisted of six members. One was Milton resident Mark Amick, who was subpoenaed last June as part of a Fulton County investigation into Republican attempts to overturn the 2020 election. City staff couldn't account for how Amick was nominated to the committee.

Using the Milton election study as a guide, an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) involving Milton, Johns Creek, Roswell and Alpharetta is in the works that will propose one regional election superintendent oversee all the cities' 2023 municipal elections. But cities will still need to hire their own election manager.

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Records draw more questions about Milton election committee

By AMBER PERRY