

**Agenda**  
**Regular Work Session of the Mayor and Council**  
**City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia**  
**July 30, 2020 / 6:00 p.m.**

*Note: Meeting is being held as a virtual meeting only. Please visit [www.chatthillsga.us](http://www.chatthillsga.us) for information on accessing the meeting via teleconference or videoconference.*

**Discussion Items**

1. Fulton County Cell Tower Update – Jim Milsap, Fulton County Emergency Services
2. Council Meeting Agenda Review
3. Review of letter to USPS requesting ZIP Code Boundary Realignment and use of Chattahoochee Hills
4. Scout Hut Roof Repair (Volunteer Waiver)
5. Zoning Rewrite
6. Schedule District Town Hall Meetings

**Mayor and Council Reports and Comments**









6505 Rico Road, Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia 30268

MAYOR  
Tom Reed

CITY COUNCIL  
Ruby Foster  
Richard Schmidt  
Laurie Searle  
Alan Merrill  
Troy Bettis

CITY MANAGER  
Robert T. Rokovitz

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July 24, 2020

U.S. Post Service  
Attention: District Manager c/o Dewaine Johnson, Address Manager  
PO Box 599300  
North Metro, GA 30026  
Phone: 678-442-6005

RE: Request for Realignment of Postal ZIP Code Boundaries to include all of the City of Chattahoochee Hills Georgia under One ZIP Code (30268).

Dear Mr. Johnson:

As an elected official of the City of Chattahoochee Hills, I am submitting this letter on behalf of the Mayor & City Council and the Citizens of Chattahoochee Hills (City) to request a ZIP Code Boundary Review Process.

We request the United States Postal Service (USPS) realign its ZIP Code boundaries to include the total municipal boundary of the City of Chattahoochee Hills into one single ZIP Code (30268), in which Chattahoochee Hills (or 'Chatt Hills') may be used as the mailing city.

**2009 Request to use "Chattahoochee Hills" or ('Chatt Hills') in mailing address**

When the City of Chattahoochee Hills incorporated on December 1, 2007, it had approximately 2,378<sup>1</sup> residents living in an area just over 32,000 acres served by two post offices in neighboring cities:

- Fairburn, GA 30213
- Palmetto, GA 30268

Shortly after incorporation, the City requested that USPS allow the use of "Chattahoochee Hills" (or 'Chatt Hills') in the last line of addresses within its boundary. On July 9, 2009, USPS granted approval for the optional use of "Chattahoochee Hills" (or 'Chatt Hills') for addresses within the 30268 ZIP Code. However, the request was denied for addresses in the 30213 ZIP Code. The specified reason for denial was the number of respondents to a survey sent to residents, where 26 voted YES in favor of the change and 43 voted NO. (Attachment A).

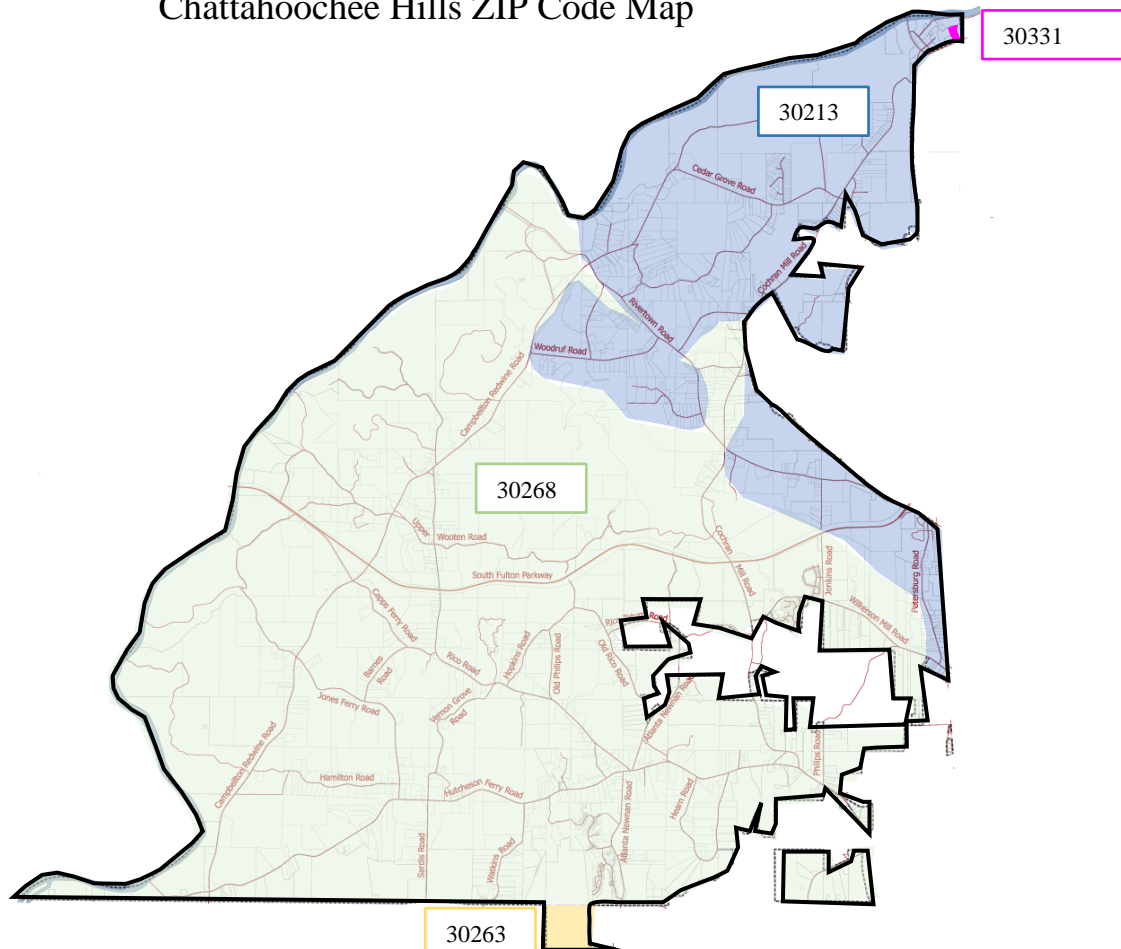
### Chattahoochee Hills Boundary Changes

Over the past 10 years, our City’s population and boundary has increased as a result of growth and annexations. As of 2019, there were an estimated 3,313 residents living in an area of approximately 37,473 acres or roughly 58 square miles<sup>ii</sup>.

Tax assessment records list the following number of addresses assigned by city name/ZIP Code within the municipal boundary of Chattahoochee Hills: (Attachment F).

ZIP Code	Addresses with LivUnits	Addresses without LivUnits
Atlanta, GA 30331	2	0
Fairburn, GA 30213	293	65
Palmetto, GA 30268	1422	360
Newnan, GA 30263	0	* 268 acres future development
<i>Note: Addresses without LivUnits may include churches, businesses, and undeveloped parcels</i>		

Chattahoochee Hills ZIP Code Map



## Rationale for Request

The use of four ZIP Codes and their preferred city names has caused an identity crisis for residents and businesses in Chattahoochee Hills.

Instead of simply stating we live and work in Chattahoochee Hills, we must use Atlanta, Fairburn, Palmetto, or Newnan in our addresses for mail, service deliveries, public safety, and online directions.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic revealed a critical issue in that reporting and metrics are compiled by ZIP Codes, which means Chatt Hills has no data for how this disease is impacting our City.

Lastly, our City's hometown pride and branding is negatively affected by using other city names in place of Chattahoochee Hills.

These concerns have continued to grow over the years with more and more residents and businesses requesting a change. As a result, our City Council passed a resolution supporting the realignment of postal ZIP Code boundaries to include all of Chattahoochee Hills under one Zip Code (Attachment B). Details of the rational follow:

### A. Mail Delivery

The City of Chattahoochee Hills' incorporated city limits are included in four different ZIP Codes: Atlanta 30331, Fairburn 30213, Palmetto 30268, and Newnan 30263. The citizens located in ZIP Code 30268 are allowed to use "Chattahoochee Hills" or "Chatt Hills" as their mailing address, while all other citizens are not.

Seven streets in Chattahoochee Hills use both ZIP Codes 30213 and 30268: Campbellton Redwine Rd, Cascade Palmetto Hwy, Cochran Mill Rd, Jenkins Rd, Petersburg Rd, Rivertown Rd, and Woodruff Rd. This causes confusion for those unfamiliar to the area in locating the homes and addressing mail. For example, a letter addressed to a home on Rivertown Rd, Chatt Hills 30268 would be marked "Retuned to Sender NSN" (No Such Number), if the home was on the opposite side of the road in Fairburn 30213.

### B. Service Deliveries

USPS addresses inform the addresses used by mapping companies, delivery services and other providers. Unfortunately, GPS systems are not uniformly updated, resulting in incorrect addresses and missed or delayed deliveries. Additionally, citizens must take extra steps to inform first-time guests and visitors that they live in Chattahoochee Hills, but Atlanta, Fairburn, Palmetto, or Newnan must be used to get online directions.





### C. Public Safety

Public Safety requests begin with a call to 911. When calls are made from a cellphone, the dispatcher does not see the caller's actual location. Instead, dispatch centers have to ask the wireless carrier for the caller's location information. The location information comes from a cell tower, which could place the location miles away from the original caller.

Citizens in Chattahoochee Hills are instructed to notify the 911 center that they are physically in Chattahoochee Hills. However, those unfamiliar with the area may mistakenly give the location as Atlanta, Fairburn, Palmetto or Newnan, which may cause a delay in service.

### D. Reporting & Metrics

While ZIP Codes were initially created to streamline and support the efficient delivery of mail, government and businesses have expanded their use for reporting and metrics. For example, the Covid-19 Pandemic reports of testing, hospitalizations, and reported deaths are reported by ZIP Code, which means smaller cities like Chattahoochee Hills have no specific data for its City. Insurance premiums may also fluctuate based on ZIP Code.

### E. Hometown Pride

Citizens of Chattahoochee Hills have a great deal of pride in their City. Many worked for years to allow the vote for cityhood. After incorporation, citizens created a unique Comprehensive Plan designed to keep the City "Deliberately Rural" which has become the City's brand. As a result, those who live here love it here, and many who visit decided to make Chattahoochee Hills their home. Requiring the use of other city names in Chattahoochee Hills not only dampens hometown pride, it dilutes the value of our city's brand.

## **Justification**

In the 10 years since USPS approved the use of "Chattahoochee Hills" (or 'Chatt Hills') in the last line of addresses in ZIP Code 30268, but denied the same for ZIP Code 30213, more residents in 30213 have requested the use of Chattahoochee Hills (or 'Chatt Hills') in their address. Additionally, annexations have brought two addresses in the Atlanta 30331 ZIP Code into our municipal boundary, plus 168 acres of land planned for future development in the Newnan 30263 ZIP Code.

Our City realizes that a new, unique ZIP Code usually accompanies the creation of a new delivery post office, which understandably may not be justified for our small population. We also understand that allowing all of our residents in the four ZIP Codes to use the city name of Chattahoochee Hills in the last line of their address may add to the confusion and complicate postal operations.

Therefore, our request is for USPS to realign all four ZIP Codes within our City's boundary under the single ZIP Code of 30268, so that all of our residents may use the single and consistent mailing address of Chattahoochee Hills, GA 30268.

We also request USPS notify us of its long-term plans for managing the ZIP Codes in our area, so we may better plan for our future development.

Please address all communications to:

City of Chattahoochee Hills  
Attention: City Manager  
6505 Rico Rd  
Chattahoochee Hills, GA 30268

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Laurie Searle, City Councilmember

On behalf of the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and Citizens of the City of Chattahoochee Hills, GA

## References

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<sup>i</sup> US Census Bureau. "Search Results". [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

<sup>ii</sup> Bureau, US Census. "Search Results". [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

## Enclosures:

- Attachment A – USPS Approval Letter to use “Chattahoochee Hills” (or ‘Chatt Hill’) in 30268 ZIP Code
- Attachment B – Chattahoochee Hills Resolution No. 19-05-264 requesting one single ZIP Code in which Chattahoochee Hills” (or ‘Chatt Hills’) may be used as the mailing address.
- Attachment C – Chattahoochee Hills Municipal Boundary Map with USPS Mail Routes and ZIP Codes
- Attachment D – Chattahoochee Hills Corporate Limits (Boundary) as stated in City Charter
- Attachment E – Chattahoochee Hills Ordinance No. 17-03-165 Amending the Charter to Reapportion City Council Districts 1-5 due to Annexations
- Attachment F – Chattahoochee Hills Address List