



STONECREST GEORGIA



Invites Your Interest in the Position of:

LEISURE SERVICES DIRECTOR

MISSION:

“Community, Commerce and Culture working together as a world class city.”



VISION

The City of Stonecrest has an aesthetically pleasing physical and natural environment with interconnected parks, trails, and public spaces for the enjoyment of citizens to live-work-play and worship-shop educate now and for future generations.



<https://youtu.be/V8nuAq-1pnM>

The City of Stonecrest, GA seeks a visionary leader for their next Leisure Services Director. Leisure Services was created out of the merger of the Parks and Recreation and Community and Cultural Affairs departments. The new department will play a major role in meeting the community's leisure services expectations and building a sense of community. The director will also ensure that new initiatives are implemented through innovative programming, funding, and creative partnerships.

This is an exciting opportunity to build a department, creating a new culture out of merged departments and developing staff to meet the mission to *“to provide quality parks, programs, services, and experiences that energize visitors and create life-long users and advocates.”* A track record of demonstrating critical skills in visioning, master plan implementation, program development, and staff leadership is required.

The Community:

With its beginnings planted as a small rural area within DeKalb County, lying just 11 miles southeast of Atlanta, Stonecrest, Georgia, established in November 2016, has an amazing story to tell.

The boundaries of the city generally lie in the far southeastern corner of the county, and a smaller portion just north of Interstate 20. The city borders the existing municipality of Lithonia, as well as Rockdale and Henry counties. Stonecrest lies within 32 square miles and has a population of 59,194 residents.

Stonecrest is solidifying its identity after five years as a city. Assisting in this transformation are impressive homes enveloped in safe, vibrant communities. With houses priced in the \$168,000 to \$895,000 range, the city has a home for everyone desiring to join the Stonecrest family! Work has many meanings to different people and as a city, Stonecrest caters to them all. From corporate employment, contract-work, to entrepreneurship, opportunities abound for business in Stonecrest. The city is very fertile for existing, expanding, or startup businesses. Stonecrest provides many shopping options to include furniture showrooms, vehicle dealerships, specialty clothing shops, and so much more.

The City of Stonecrest desires to be a community that embraces the culture and arts and become a destination for sports and entertainment. Stonecrest is committed to being a “City of Innovation and Excellence” throughout the world. The city balances the need to grow and prosper in a sustainable manner and where citizens, businesses, commerce, and educational institutions are involved in decision making and building a high quality of life for Stonecrest Citizens. Further, the city promotes public safety, neighborhood unity and strong schools. Additionally, Stonecrest has many options when it comes to education ranging from elementary, secondary, or higher education. The City engaged the community to craft a plan for its future. For more information, visit: [Comp-Plan-2038.pdf \(stonecrestga.gov\)](https://www.stonecrestga.gov/Comp-Plan-2038.pdf)

Stonecrest Leisure Services Department and Position Overview:

The City of Stonecrest operates under a Council/Manager form of government. Leisure Services has seven (7) positions that report to the director with an operating budget of approximately \$2.3M. The Director participates as a member of the City leadership team and assists the nine (9) member Stonecrest Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

The Parks and Recreation Department was established in 2018 and the City acquired eight parks from DeKalb County including the Browns Mill Recreation Center. These acquisitions have opened the door for the City and Department to begin offering a broad array of recreational opportunities moving forward. The department also manages an aquatics center and ballfields with plans to improve and grow assets and services. Through a master plan, the Department plans, organizes, and conducts a diverse system of recreational, cultural, and athletic programs. The [2020 master plan](#) calls for achieving four goals: improving events, programs, and service delivery; improving facilities and amenities; improve and enhance organizational efficiencies; and increase financial opportunities. The plan provides a roadmap for the City of Stonecrest to ensure that there is an appropriate balance of facilities, services, and amenities within the community now and into the future. More information about the department can be found [here](#).





Key Priorities:

- Conduct a comprehensive department evaluation to assess what changes, if any, may be needed to staffing levels, systems, services, and programs.
- Creatively and proactively respond to the challenge of recruiting staff while creating a culture that both attracts and retains excellent team members.
- Systematically and strategically implement the Master plan which includes objectives for enhanced and new programs, land acquisition and greenspace development, and revenue development.
- Provide sound financial oversight to include budget development and management, pursuit of revenue opportunities such as partnerships, sponsorships, and grants, among others.
- Evaluating all ongoing and planned facility and land initiatives including managing existing vendors and contracts as well as CIP projects.
- Expand and build partnerships with multiple stakeholder groups such as other City departments, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, nonprofit organizations, Schools, regional park systems, and other entities such as public safety, housing programs and libraries to ensure delivery of the most effective and desirable services to Stonecrest residents.

The Successful Candidate:

- an outstanding public speaker who engages proactively internally and externally to share the “story” of Recreation and Parks, inspiring enthusiasm, engagement and commitment in planning and programming.
- experienced in collaborating with others to create events, entertainment, cultural attractions, and innovative parks and recreation programs through marketing analysis and promotion skills;
- an empowering leader equally dedicated to building a cohesive team throughout the department as well as the development of individual employees;
- willing to advocate for taking calculated risks to raise the profile of City events within the community and region;
- an experienced strategic thinker who can facilitate the development of the Department’s role within the City’s Comprehensive Plan, as well as, facilitate the implementation of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan;
- an advocate of excellent customer service delivery by understanding community needs, modeling effective skills, providing effective training and ensuring accountability against quality standards;
- experienced with capital planning initiatives, managing projects, and administering grants;
- outstanding in interpersonal skills including one on one, small groups and public speaking; and
- a lifelong learner who maintains knowledge of trends and initiatives regionally and nationally.



COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Since transitioning to the Council-Manager form of government in April of this year, our elected leadership has focused on the following:

- Citizen engagement
- Transparency
- Smart growth and land use
- Service enhancements in response to public demand
- Responsible financial management and strengthening policies

Among several goals identified in the City’s Comprehensive Plan 2038 are the following:

- To protect and enhance the city’s unique qualities while embracing growth and ensuring services, safe and attractive neighborhoods, and good work opportunities.
- Attract, and recruit new businesses and development opportunities.
- Promote & brand the City of Stonecrest as a destination for business, leisure and residential living.
- Ensure that Stonecrest has a sufficient quantity and variety of housing types and densities to accommodate projected growth and promote other community goals.
- Develop a talented workforce to support the employment needs of new and existing businesses.
- To maintain Stonecrest’s character and sense of place provided by the city’s natural and historic resources while allowing property owners to enjoy their land, while being able to realize benefits from ownership.



Qualifications:

Applicants must demonstrate significant experience in a department with similarly diverse facilities and programming. The City prefers candidates that have special expertise working with citizens of all ability levels, race and ethnic backgrounds. A Bachelor's degree in physical education, recreation or a related field is required. Requires a minimum of 7 years of progressively responsible experience in the planning and implementation of recreation programs and services, to include experience planning and managing resources; or any equivalent combination.

The **hiring range** is \$85,000 – \$115,000. Compensation is negotiable based upon experience and qualifications.

To apply, go to

<https://agency.governmentjobs.com/developmentalassociates/default.cfm>

and click on the **Leisure Services Director – Stonecrest, GA** link. To learn more about the selection process, visit Client Openings (or copy and paste into your browser: <https://developmentalassociates.com/client-openings/>).

All applications must be submitted online via the Developmental Associates application portal – NOT the City portal, nor any other external website; it is not sufficient to send only a resume but resumes and cover letters should be uploaded through the portal.

Applicants should apply by March 13, 2022. Semi-finalists will participate in virtual assessments on April 6 to April 7, 2022 with leadership team interviews following shortly afterward. Candidates can anticipate three hours of interaction during the virtual assessments, not including preparatory time. We encourage applicants to hold these dates should they be invited to participate. EOE

Recruitment and Selection is being managed by Developmental Associates, LLC.

All inquiries should be emailed to hiring@developmentalassociates.com.

