

**GET the**  
**FACTS**  
**on...**

*File  
Sandy Springs*

**BUCKHEAD**

IT APPEARS THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN INCORRECT RUMORS CIRCULATING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN BUCKHEAD AFTER IT BECAME PART OF ATLANTA. AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE FACTS WILL CLARIFY MANY OF THESE MISCONCEPTIONS.

**Rumor . . .** Property taxes were doubled or tripled after Buckhead joined Atlanta.

**Fact . . . .** By a legislative act in 1951, the Georgia General Assembly directed that Fulton County make a reappraisal of all property in the county and the City of Atlanta, including that portion of Atlanta in DeKalb County. The same act required that Fulton County pay the cost of the reappraisal program in Fulton and that a one-mill tax be levied on all property in Fulton County for one year to cover the cost of reappraisal. (Atlanta paid the county \$15,000 for the cost of reappraisal in the DeKalb County portion of the city.)

As provided by the act, the findings of the reappraisal program were submitted in 1955 and put into effect on January 1, 1956. The result was that property taxes were EQUALIZED THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND COUNTY. Some property taxes did go up as a result of the equalization, but the taxes on many properties were LOWERED.

**Rumor . . .** Buckhead property values have gone down.

**Fact . . . .** Since 1952 Buckhead has experienced a tremendous rise in property values, due in part to Atlanta's strictly enforced zoning standards and classifications. Buckhead is now considered to be one of Atlanta's finest residential areas, including eight new subdivisions already built, with others in the planning stage. Furthermore, the new governor's mansion will be located in Buckhead.

**Rumor . . .** No changes were made in Buckhead's fire protection and prevention facilities.

**Fact . . . .** Four new fire stations have been constructed to serve the annexed area since 1951, one of them a short time after the Plan of Improvement went into effect. Twenty new alarm

boxes have been installed and the entire alarm system improved. In addition, Buckhead has had the services of all city fire inspectors since 1952. As a result of these improvements, fire insurance rates in some portions of Buckhead were lowered from Class 6 to Class 3 within a few months after Buckhead's joining the city, and the entire annexed area had been brought up to Class 3 standards, with resulting fire insurance reductions, within 18 months.

**Rumor . . .** Buckhead has inadequate parks and recreational and service facilities.

**Fact . . . .** The city has built Bagley Park, one of the best small sports parks in Atlanta. It has built baseball diamonds lighted for night use, built numerous tennis courts, enlarged and improved Ida Williams Library, and developed Chastain Amphitheater as one of the South's outstanding outdoor entertainment centers. In the way of services, the city has added a \$1,000,000 water tank and \$300,000 in new water mains in the Buckhead Area to guarantee a high level of fire protection as well as to meet the other water needs of citizens.

**Rumor . . .** Buckhead has had no voice in its own government since entering the city.

**Fact . . . .** The two aldermen from the Buckhead Area serve on a total of 13 different aldermanic committees, and they serve as chairman or vice chairman of several of these committees, including the Zoning Committee, the Urban Renewal Policy Committee, the Planning and Development Committee, and the Parks Committee. Additionally, Buckhead citizens have the satisfaction of knowing they provide a high percentage of Atlanta's top leadership . . . including its Mayor.

**WHAT HAPPENED IN BUCKHEAD CAN HAPPEN  
IN SANDY SPRINGS UNLESS SANDY SPRINGS  
DECIDES TO GO IT ALONE.**

**VOTE "YES" MAY 11**

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**Sandy Springs Atlanta**

**Team for Tomorrow**

**VOTE**

**"YES"**

**MAY 11**