



# District 1 Updates

**Connecting Neighbors, Inspiring Action, Strengthening Our Voice**

**July 2026**

From organizing and volunteer opportunities to upcoming events and community action, the July 2026 update from District 1 (D1) of the Cobb County Democratic Committee (CCDC) celebrates the power of the community as we continue working to “Participate and Keep Cobb Blue.” Through stronger connections, collective action, and deepening civic engagement, we’re building lasting momentum across the district and greater Cobb County.

## **Concerns Lead to Action: Why Your Vote Matters in 2026**

*The candidates have been selected. Georgia’s November 3, 2026, General Election will shape decisions that reach every household. The question is not whether the issues matter—it is whether we will be ready to act when our voices are needed most.*

Rising grocery and gas prices. Affordable health care. Housing costs. Women’s health. Immigration. Voting rights. Climate change. Safe neighborhoods. Strong schools. Environmental justice. Disinformation. Traffic and transportation. Economic instability. Political and social polarization. Democratic erosion. Judicial subversion. The influence of powerful and monied interests on public policy. These are not abstract talking points; they are some of the everyday concerns for families—at work, in schools, in places of worship, at community meetings, and around the kitchen table—and they will be on the ballot in November.

It can be easy to feel discouraged when the problems seem too large for one person to solve. But voting is one of the clearest ways we influence the leaders who make decisions affecting our

lives and future generations. Every ballot helps determine whose priorities are heard and whose needs are addressed.

One person gets one vote—and so does every neighbor, whether they share your views or not. That equality is what makes voter participation powerful. When voters stay home, decisions are left to others who may not share the same priorities, values, or lived experiences. Efforts by powerful forces to silence our voices, challenge our votes, and intimidate our communities reveal a truth we must never forget: *our participation in elections matters, and our power of the vote is worth defending.*

That is why preparation cannot wait.

## Take Action Now

- **Get informed *before* Election Day.** Learn where candidates stand on the issues that affect your household and community. *Look beyond slogans and single issues, and consider how each candidate's record, priorities, and plans align with what matters most to you.*
- **Make your voting plan now.** *Confirm your registration, polling place, early voting options, absentee ballot deadlines, and voter ID requirements before the deadlines arrive.* Use official state election resources and trusted local civic organizations:
  - such as [My Voter Page](#) and the [Georgia Election Guide](#) to verify your information and review what will be on your ballot. Consult trusted local civic organizations such as the [Cobb County Democratic Committee](#), the [District 1 calendar](#), the [District 1 Facebook](#) page, and others for candidate forums, voter education events, and community updates.
- **Bring others with you.** Talk with family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and trusted community members. Encourage them to check their registration, learn about the candidates, and make a plan to vote. If they have not voted recently or feel discouraged by past elections, ask which issues matter most to them. Explain how voting can affect those issues and what may happen when people do not vote. Identify potential barriers—such as transportation, mobility challenges, or uncertainty about candidates—and discuss ways to address them. Encourage young people to register and vote when they are eligible. *One conversation can help someone move from concern to confidence.*
- **Make your voice heard by voting.** Support candidates who share your values and will help build the future you want for your family, neighbors, and community. *Each vote helps decide who has the authority to address the issues that matter most.*

## Important Dates

### Registration Deadlines

- ▶ By Mail: Monday, October 5, 2026 (postmarked)
- ▶ In Person: Monday, October 5, 2026
- ▶ Online: Monday, October 5, 2026

### Early voting

- ▶ Tuesday, October 13 through Friday, October 30

### General Election

- ▶ Tuesday, November 3
- ▶ Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ▶ Voters who are in line by 7 p.m. may cast a ballot
- ▶ Must vote at assigned polling location

Our community's future will not be decided by concern alone. It will be shaped by informed voters who prepare, **participate**, and bring others with them.

## Protect the Vote Now: Volunteers Urgently Needed Across Georgia

Election season is here, and we need volunteers now to help protect every voter's right to cast a ballot. Across Georgia, trained volunteers are needed to make sure eligible voters can vote, problems are reported quickly, and every ballot is counted fairly.

The Democratic Party of Georgia's Voter Protection County Liaison team is filling critical roles before, during, and after Election Day. We cannot wait until the last minute. Volunteers are needed in the field to build relationships with county election officials, spot issues early, and help the voter protection team respond immediately when problems arise.

### Sign up for one of these urgent volunteer roles

- ▶ **Poll Watchers:** Serve as the eyes and ears at voting locations, reporting issues in real time so voter protection attorneys and experts can respond quickly. Volunteers are needed at early voting sites and more than 130 Election Day polling locations. On-demand training takes less than an hour.
- ▶ **Ballot duplication panelists:** Work in bipartisan teams to copy ballots that scanners cannot read onto clean ballots that can be counted. This role helps ensure voter choices are captured accurately. Most training happens on the job, with materials available in advance.
- ▶ **Vote review panelists:** Review ballots with unclear markings and work in bipartisan teams to determine voter intent under election rules. This role helps make sure every eligible vote is interpreted fairly. Most training happens on the job, with materials available in advance.
- ▶ **Election night monitors:** Observe election return activities at the Main Office on election night and share timely updates with the voter protection team. This role

supports transparency as results are reported.

- ▶ **Audit and recount monitors:** Monitor audits or recounts if they are needed, watching for process issues and reporting concerns. This role helps protect transparency and confidence after ballots are counted.
- ▶ **Pre- and post-election monitors:** Help cover important election activities before and after Election Day, including tasks that may arise on short notice. This flexible role helps fill urgent gaps when support is needed most.

**Mark these dates and commit now:** Early voting is expected to run October 13–30, including some weekend hours. Election Day is November 3. Volunteers are needed across every phase of the election.

**Do not wait—every shift matters.** A half day, a full day, or even a flexible shift can help protect access, transparency, and confidence in the election process. Choose a role, claim a shift, and help ensure voters are protected when it matters most.

Some roles, including vote review and ballot duplication, require flexibility because election staff may not know the exact need far in advance. These shifts may be shorter, but they are crucial. If you can stay flexible, you can help fill urgent gaps when the need is greatest, and specific schedules are finalized.

**Act today:** Sign up now, then recruit one friend, neighbor, or fellow volunteer to join you. Questions? Contact Beth Hendrickson at (678) 410-5186 or [voterpro@cobbdemocrats.org](mailto:voterpro@cobbdemocrats.org), or Sally Riddle at (610) 405-4868 or [sar@riddle.net](mailto:sar@riddle.net).

**Sign up now to protect the vote:** Complete the recruitment form today:  
<https://forms.gle/wdyvVGaGrh3YAoSZ9>

## Community Events

D1 hosts gatherings and social events where attendees can meet candidates and learn about current events. For event updates and registration, visit the [D1 website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

For a roundup of other important civic deadlines, community gatherings, and public meetings in the weeks ahead check these community channels.

- ▶ CCDC Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/cobbdemocrats/>)
- ▶ Mobilize (<https://www.mobilize.us/>)
- ▶ IndivisibleCOBB (<https://www.indivisiblecobb.org>)

Please note that some events require registration through Mobilize

## Stay in Touch

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