



City of Cornelia

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

PO Box 785
Cornelia, Georgia 30531
706-894-3060
dee@cornelia.city
www.cornelia.city

October 8, 2026

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 10-26-02

The Cornelia City Commission has voted to post Ordinance No. 10-26-02 for public comment. The proposed ordinance would authorize the collection of a \$10.00 Technology Fee as a surcharge on each criminal and quasi-criminal fine paid to the Municipal Court of the City of Cornelia.

Comments or questions about the proposed ordinance should be directed to City Clerk Debbie Turner at dturner@cornelia.city.

The City Commission will make a final decision on the ordinance at its meeting on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the Municipal Courtroom, 181 Larkin Street.

IN THE CITY OF CORNELIA, GEORGIA

Ordinance No. 10-26-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CORNELIA, GEORGIA: 1) AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CORNELIA AT CHAPTER 18 (AS AUTHORIZED BY THE PASSAGE OF HOUSE BILL 1549, 2025-2026 REGULAR SESSION OF THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR) SO AS TO CREATE A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 18 AUTHORIZING THE COLLECTION OF A TECHNOLOGY FEE BY THE CLERK OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00); TO ESTABLISH THE USES FOR THE TECHNOLOGY FEE; TO SET AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the duly elected governing authority of the City of Cornelia, Georgia is authorized under Article IX, Section II, Paragraph III of the Constitution of the State of Georgia to adopt reasonable ordinances to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City Of Cornelia, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the duly elected governing authority of the City of Cornelia, Georgia is the Mayor and City Commission therefore; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly at its 2025-2026 Regular Session passed House Bill 1549, which was subsequently signed by the Governor of the State of Georgia, authorizing the clerk of the Municipal Court of the City of Cornelia to collect a technology fee not to exceed \$10.00 and establishing the uses of said technology fee;

and

WHEREAS, the City desires to formally adopt House Bill 1549 as an ordinance of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF CORNELIA AND IT IS ESTABLISHED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cornelia is amended so as to add a new ordinance section to be titled "Municipal Court Technology Fee", which shall be numbered by the publisher in a manner consistent with the section numbering of Chapter 18, and which shall read in its entirety as follows:

"Sec. 18-____. Municipal Court Technology Fee.

(a) The clerk of the Municipal Court of the City of Cornelia is hereby authorized to charge and collect a technology fee to be set by the judge of the municipal court in an amount not to exceed \$10.00 as a surcharge to each criminal and quasi-criminal fine paid to the court. Such technology fees shall be used exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Municipal Court of the City of Cornelia and the city's police department. Such uses shall include only the following:

(1) The purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of computer hardware and software;

(2) The purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of equipment and software used for imaging, scanning, facsimile, communications, projections, and printing; and

(3) Police department hardware and software, including, but not limited to, associated equipment for body-worn, mobile, stationary, or vehicle mounted cameras; drones; and operations of 9-1-1 emergency response through its dedicated public safety answering point system.

(b) Funds collected pursuant to this section shall be maintained in a segregated account by the clerk of the municipal court and the chief financial officer of the city, subject to audit by an auditor approved by the governing authority of the City of Cornelia, and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this section. Such funds may be used to reimburse the city's information technology department for services provided to the court or police department.

SECTION 2. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any of the provisions of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances are held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. Effectivity. This ordinance will become effective upon its adoption.

Posted: October 6, 2026

Adopted: _____

John Borrow, Mayor

Attest: _____
Debbie Turner, City Clerk

(SEAL)