



# Updating The Georgia One Call Law

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# **PARTIES THAT DEVELOPED & SUPPORTED THE BILLS**

- **ACCG** Associated General Contractors of GA
- **Atlanta Gas Light** AT&T
- **Electric Cities** Electric Membership Co-Ops
- **GA811** GA Mining Assoc
- **Georgia Power** Georgia DOT
- **GA Hwy. Contractors Assoc.** GA Municipal Association
- **GA Utility Contractors Assoc.** Home Builders Assoc. of GA
- **Municipal Gas Assoc. of GA** Railroads
- **USIC (Locator)** Comcast
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## THE ORIGINAL LEGISLATIVE PLAN



- A Call for potential changes to the statute if the One Call Law was going to be opened.
- The establishment of the list of topics to be discussed
- The holding of GUCC Legislative Committee meetings to work through the list (June through December 2020)
- To create an updated bill that all parties could support in 2021 Legislative Session

# THE LEGISLATIVE PLAN MODIFIED

- A Two Step Approach vs. One Step Approach
- Pass a Consensus Bill in 2021 will all changes that were agreed to by all
- Request a Legislative Study Committee for the Summer/Fall of 2021 to discuss potential solutions for non-consensus issues
- Carry forward a Bill in 2022 Session on the non-consensus issues



# THE 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



- Identified Potential Sponsor/ Met with him
- Asked for support from all participants
- Bill Introduced in the House
- Passed the House
- Went to the Senate
- Was Modified in the Senate
- Ended up with two different Versions

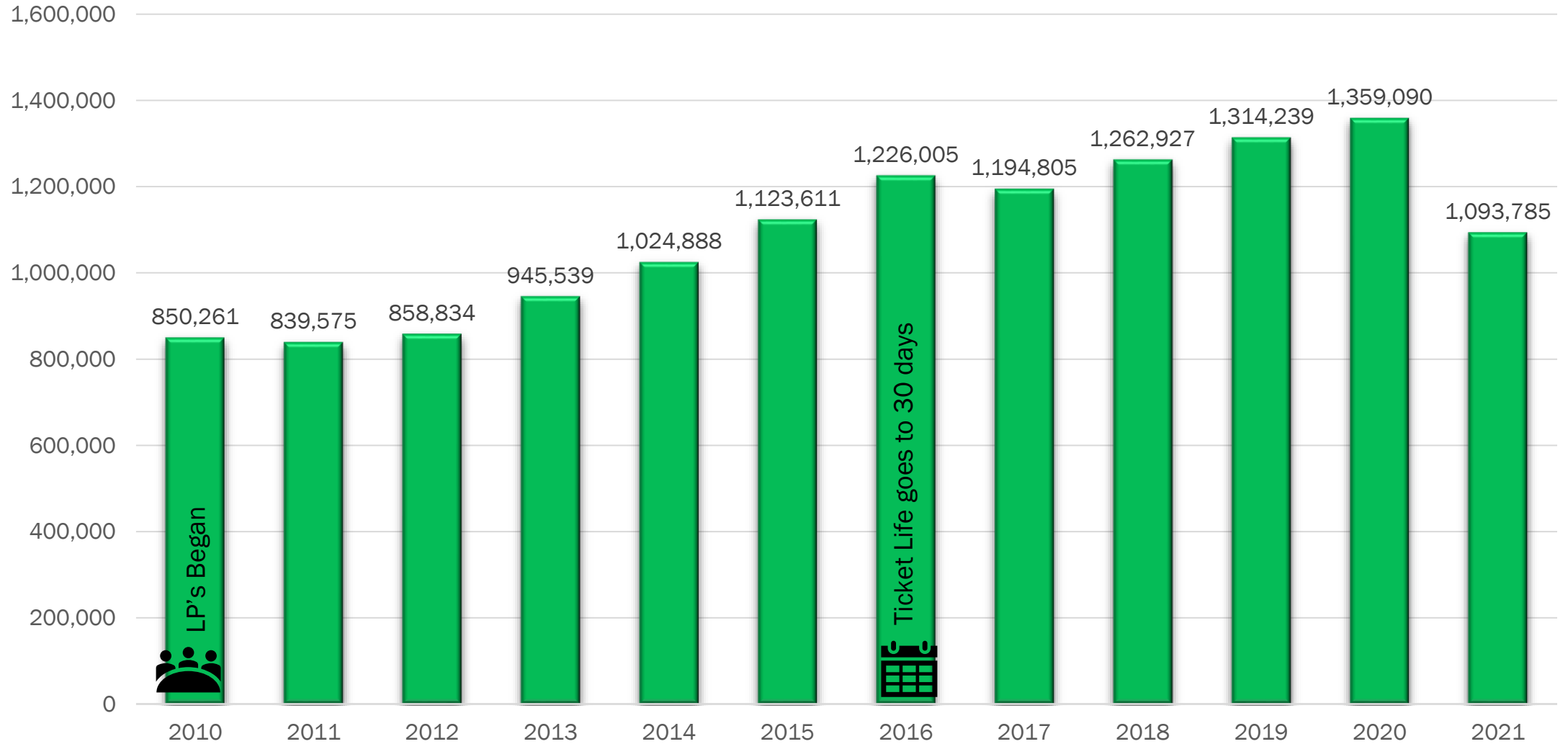
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## THE HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE TOPICS

- Subcommittee of the House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee (Chair Stephen Meeks)
- Multiple Sessions held virtually and in person (October/November 2021)
- Traffic controls and traffic management systems (Should they be required to be located or not)
- Dealing with the issue of increasing locate volumes (Imbalances in demand and potential solutions)



# LOCATE REQUEST ANNUAL VOLUMES - GEORGIA

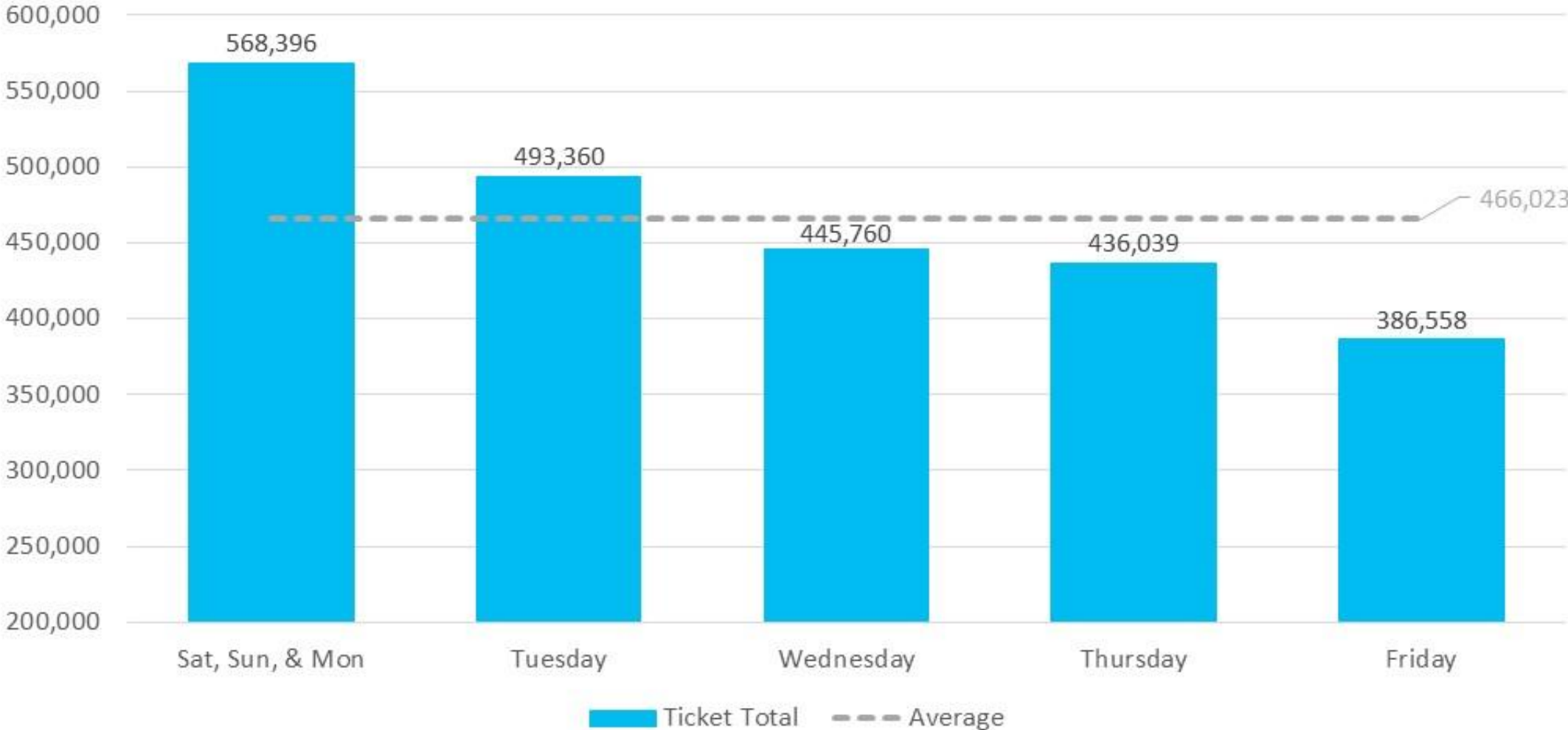


Thru 9/21





# TOTAL TICKET VOLUME BY WEEKDAY (JAN 2020 – AUG 2021)



# WHAT THE UPDATED BILL DOES

- Allow Excavators to pick their excavation date 2 to 8 business days in advance.  
(Changes how locates are requested and come due in Georgia)
- Current Law (Based on when you contact GA811) (2 business days waiting starting @ 7 AM)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
Call	Wait		Dig							
	Call	Wait		Dig						
		Call	Wait				Dig			
			Call	Wait				Dig		
				Call	Wait				Dig	
					Call	Wait				Dig
						Call	Wait			Dig



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## WHAT THE UPDATED BILL DOES

- Prevent any potential Federal takeover of State enforcement
- Improves the “Design” locate request process.
- Prevents the use of locate requests for local government permitting
- Require excavators to call 911 after damaging a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline.
- Requires the locating of below ground Traffic Control & Traffic Mgmt. facilities (Electric or Electronic).



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## WHAT THE UPDATED BILL DOES

- Provides more time to utilities when an excavator is going to unexpectedly do blasting.  
*(Two business days vs one)*
- New language on how excavators can dig during “Extraordinary Circumstances”.
- Limitations on the collection of damages by operators in certain circumstances.  
*(Hard surface of the road)*
- Requirements on when operators should start excavation damage investigations.  
*(Within one business day of the completion of repairs)*
- Added a statute of limitations on enforcement (3 years).

## NEXT STEPS ON HB 1372

- Governor's Signature
- Effective Date of the Legislation (September 1, 2022)
- System Upgrades at GA811
- System upgrades by Operators to receive tickets
- Educational efforts by GA811 and other parties on the pending changes to the law
- Start taking tickets at GA811 in the new format by Monday September 5th?
- Assist in transitioning in GDOT (July 1, 2023)
- Assist in transitioning in new Traffic Control/Traffic Mgmt. members (January 1, 2024)



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# NEXT STEPS FOR THE GUCC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- Refamiliarize/Review of the pending update to the GPSC Marking Standards Rule
- Refamiliarize/Review of the pending update to the GPSC Large Projects
- Work with the GPSC on getting those two rules out for comments
- Work with GPSC on trying to get the GUFPA Advisory Committee fully staffed
- Work with the GUCC Board on preparing for future legislative efforts
- Start a review of the Overhead Act

