

Overview:

This proposal seeks the City of Stonecrest's support for the installation of a **Blue Star Memorial Marker** — a national symbol established by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. to honor the men and women who have served, are serving, and will serve in the United States Armed Forces.



As Veteran's Day is approaching, I thought now would be an ideal time to submit the proposal of a Blue Star Marker to you Mayor Pro Tem and Councilwoman Graves for consideration. The addition of a Blue Star Marker in Stonecrest will honor our local veterans and their families, strengthen community identity, and align with the City's vision for civic beautification, historic preservation, and community pride.

Purpose & Impact

1. Honor Local Veterans and Families

- The Blue Star Marker provides a visible and lasting tribute recognizing the sacrifices of military service members and their families within our community.
- It serves as a gathering point for Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and other civic ceremonies.

2. Enhance City Identity & Beautification

- Stonecrest is a growing, diverse city known for its natural beauty and sense of community.
- The Blue Star Marker program aligns with national beautification efforts while reinforcing our commitment to civic pride and environmental stewardship.

3. Promote Civic Engagement & Education

- The marker can serve as an educational tool for local schools, youth organizations, and civic clubs to learn about military history and service.

- It invites partnerships between garden clubs, local businesses, and veteran organizations.

4. Cultural and Economic Benefit

- Establishing a landmark such as a Blue Star Marker adds to Stonecrest's reputation as a city that honors its residents and history, which supports tourism, city branding, and community events.

Proposed Location Options

Potential sites may include:

- **Stonecrest City Hall Grounds** – symbolizing civic leadership and service.
- **Stonecrest Mall Entrance or Veterans Memorial Park Area** – high visibility and accessibility.
- **Arabia Mountain or Davidson-Arabia Nature Preserve area** – connecting the marker to natural heritage and reflection.

Project Partners

This initiative can be spearheaded through partnerships such as:

- Stonecrest Garden Club or Georgia Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Local Veterans Organizations (American Legion, VFW, etc.)
- City of Stonecrest Parks & Recreation Department
- Local Schools and Civic Groups

Funding & Maintenance

Estimated Cost: \$2,550

In partnership with the Garden Club of Georgia and Stonecrest Garden Club we would do general maintainance of the sign and would apply for the appropriate restoration grants through Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. at such time the Marker needs to restored

See details here: <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/projects-programs-blue-gold-star-historical-markers/>

Funding Sources:

Local sponsorships (businesses, veterans' groups, civic clubs)

Garden Club of Georgia grants

Community donations or city beautification budget.

Maintenance: Minimal; can be coordinated through the city's beautification team or garden club members.

Call to Action

The Blue Star Memorial Marker is more than a sign — it is a symbol of honor, unity, and community legacy. By approving this project, Stonecrest would join cities across the nation in publicly affirming our gratitude to those who serve.

We respectfully request:

1. City Council endorsement of the Blue Star Marker proposal;
2. Funding from City possibly from Beautification Budget
3. Permission to place the marker at an agreed-upon public site; and
4. Assistance with coordination for installation and dedication ceremony.

Closing Message

Installing a Blue Star Marker in Stonecrest is a simple, meaningful, and lasting way to connect our city's future to its history — reminding every resident and visitor that freedom is protected by those who serve.

Together, we can make Stonecrest a proud part of this national network of communities who honor their veterans not just with words, but with living, visible symbols of appreciation.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Respectfully,

leisha Fuller
District IV
President of Stonecrest Garden Club