Hawkinsville-Pulaski Chamber of Commerce

2019
ANNUAL MEETING
2019 CHAMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Back To School Bash

River Duck Race

Cruise-in Car Show
Chamber After Hours

Ribbon Cuttings

Library 40th Birthday

Pre-K Trick or Treat

Peaches to Beaches

Harness Festival
We Saw the need to become the central information portal for the community... thru social media, news media, newsletters, email, text, website, etc... so we developed:

- A community calendar
- Monthly newsletter
- Featured spotlights
- Are keeping listings current on State & Regional websites and literature
- Are keeping printed local visitor information and services on hand for distribution to the visiting public.
COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
R.J. Taylor Memorial Hospital Restoration and Redesign
The Old R. J. Taylor Memorial Hospital Building
The Old R. J. Taylor Memorial Hospital Building
Taylor Village Open House
The New Taylor Village
NEW CITY HALL
New City Hall
New City Hall Design
New City Hall Design
RSVP
PROGRAM
Downtowns in Georgia are the heart of our communities and are integral to the economic prosperity of our cities and state. The Georgia Downtown Renaissance Partnership was created to foster vibrant downtowns.
The Renaissance Strategic Vision and Plan (or RSVP for short) program.

- This program is administered by the Georgia Municipal Association, the Georgia Cities Foundation, and the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

- The group facilitates the creation of strategic visions, plans, and work programs.

- They work with government leaders, downtown merchants, chamber of commerce, property owners, lending institutions and citizens
To date, downtown strategies have been completed for the cities of:

Bainbridge, Cairo, Cedartown, Americus, Clarkesville, Perry, Cordele, Gainesville, St. Marys, Villa Rica, Brunswick, Chickamauga, Ringgold, Jesup, Stockbridge, Dalton, McCaysville, Hinesville and Thomson
We are holding meeting with experts in the field to further discuss the opportunity of being a part of the Renaissance Strategic Visioning & Planning program for those who couldn’t make the first meeting. This program assists communities in creating an initial vision and short-term work program for their downtown areas. This program is the first step toward revitalization efforts.

**NOVEMBER 19, 2019 @ NOON**

The Steak House Restaurant
Hawkinsville, GA 31036

RSVP to Sandy White @ econdev@hawkinsvillega.net
COMMUNITY BRANDING
What is Branding?

It’s how your community tells its story.
It’s built on public input.
Hawkinsville

BY THE NUMBERS

7 focus groups conducted

19 we visited businesses, restaurants, & farms

8 lemon cookies from The Bistro eaten

“Welcome to Hawkinsville!”

76 individuals interviewed

107 online survey responses
Located in the heart of Middle Georgia, Hawkinsville is the quintessential American small-town community. Like a well-kept secret, Hawkinsville residents and visitors enjoy the freedom of being off the beaten path while only a short distance from Georgia's major cities and the coast. Hawkinsville and Pulaski County nourish the soul with a strong community, picturesque rural landscapes, wholesome farm-fresh food, locally owned shops and restaurants, the great outdoors, and the uniquely Hawkinsville pastime of harness racing. You won't be a stranger long in Hawkinsville! This friendly and hospitable community welcomes visitors with a nostalgic and Southern-fried feeling of home. With great Southern cooks who will leave you well-fed, no visitor leaves without a meal to write home about and plenty of laughs. Hawkinsville earns the city's playful nickname, "Talkinsville," as a place where everybody knows your name—and your business! More than gossip, neighbors are friends in Hawkinsville and locals take pride in this community. There's more than meets the eye in Hawkinsville and Pulaski County, so come home to all that awaits. Come home to friends and family.
Brand Application
COME HOME to Hawkinsville
SENIOR CENTER RELOCATION
Senior Center Relocation
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
4 Projects in Progress

1. DDA Façade Grants and Loans
2. 80 Commerce Street
3. NeSmith Gas Station
4. Commerce Street Redesign
Hawkinsville Downtown Development Authority

$75,000.00

Façade Grants and Loans
Old Brown Grocery Building

Before

After
Old Dortch Insurance Building

Before

After
NEWMITH GAS STATION
Buddy Nesmith agreed to donate to city

Archway Partnership - UGA engineering Students

Applying for $300,000 Brownfield Grant for Cleanup
Commerce Street Redesign

- Progress Avenue to River Bridge
- Slow Traffic
- Reduce Commercial Truck Traffic
- Develop More Efficient Parking Plan
- DOT Plans to Repave Sometimes After July 2020
Concept 1

- 2 Lane reduction
- Most cost effective design
Concept 2

- 2 Lane reduction
- Mid-Block crosswalks
- 6-ft medians
Concept 3

- 2 Lane reduction
- Mid-Block crosswalk
- 60-ft medians
- Mast Arm Pole traffic light
TYP. LANDSCAPING FOR LARGE MEDIAN

LANDSCAPING FOR N. DOOLEY / LUMPKN ST. MEDIAN
Traffic Light Design
WASTEWATER REHABILITATION
North Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation

- Plant has been in operation since 1993
- No upgrades have been implemented in 26 years
- Permitted and inspected by the Environmental Protection Division
North Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation

**Project Budget**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering &amp; Inspection</td>
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North Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation

Project Funding

- **Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (Loan) - $2.5M**
  If the entire loan amount is expended, $500,000 of the loan will be forgiven which will leave the loan amount at $2.0M

- **U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (Grant) - $1.4M**
  Grant monies will be applied against the remaining loan

- Total investment by the City will be $600,000 payable over 20 years
North Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation

Changes Being Made

Lift Station Replacement at the Plant and at the Prison

Electrical Components

Digester Tank and Belt Press will be upgraded & brought back online
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AWARD
The City of Hawkinsville proposes to use $750,000 in CDBG funds for sewer system improvements in the Lumpkin Street School neighborhood. The project will benefit 118 persons, of whom 103 (87.29%) are LMI. The total project cost is $804,750, with $54,750 in match and leverage.
TWIN BRIDGES & UCHEE SHOALS BOAT LANDING
RIVER BRIDGES NEAR COMPLETION

➢ $15.2 million to address construction of two bridges and approaches for 1.5 miles on State Route 26 over the Ocmulgee River

➢ Anticipated to be complete date in the next 30 days.
M.E. RODEN
LIBRARY
40TH BIRTHDAY
A celebration of 40 years serving the community

Remembering the Past
Student Drawings of Library for 40th Birthday
School System Goals

1. Communication
   a. Working very hard to increase and improve communication within the schools and with the community
   b. Increased presence in the local newspaper and on social media
   c. Conscious effort to promote positivity

2. Student Achievement

3. Assessment Strategies and Uses
Update on the New School

1. SPLOST passed (76%)

2. Next Steps
   a. Work with the Architect to design the building
   b. Collect staff input for the design / layout of the building and classrooms
   c. Continue to communicate progress to community stakeholders
3  Recent Accomplishments

1. SAT scores up by 67 points
   a. Implemented SAT Test Prep Review for Juniors and Seniors
   b. Highest in the RESA – ranked 6th in the RESA from the previous year
   c. Above the state average by 72 points
   d. Higher than Bleckley by 27 points
TAYLOR REGIONAL HOSPITAL UPDATE