

A Year in Review & Looking Ahead



**DOWNTOWN
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**
of Augusta

Economic Development

- Net gain of 47 new businesses in 2022
- 11 business expansions
- 36.2% minority and/or woman owned
- Private Investment: \$93.2M



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Economic Development

- Units Broken Ground: 176
- Units on the Drawing Board: 465



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Economic Development

Microenterprise business center coming to downtown Augusta

- Received through Congressionally Directed Spending Funding via Senator Warnock in the amount of \$2.35M
- Grant awarded by Small Business Administration in June 2023
- Phase One lease, memoranda, and construction details in-progress
- Asset mapping education, programming, and funding partners



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Design

City of Augusta awarded \$1.76M for Downtown Connector

- Awarded by Governor Kemp through the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Affected Communities grant
- Submitted as a collaborative effort by the City, DDA, Cranston Engineering, and private investors
- Administrator's office and Engineering Department managing funding and timeline



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Design

- Provided sustainable furniture for the 5th Street Marina
- Gateway Arches fabricated, permitted, and pending fall 2023 installation



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Design

\$45,000 in DDA-Georgia Power facade grant funding distributed



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Design

Downtown Maintenance: Blight

- Property index updated quarterly
- Property owner survey created
- Facade program ongoing
- Working with Augusta University for creative solutions



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Promotion



AUGUSTA METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
A key mission for the Chamber is to impact and provide solutions to workforce demands through two targeted programs: Talent2Work, a new regional technology platform, and Student2Work, internships connecting students to key industries.

FORT GORDON / EISENHOWER ALLIANCE
Augusta is home to the Army Cyber Center of Excellence, NSA Georgia, and Army Cyber Command. The Fort has grown 9000 people in the last eight years. Fort Gordon is scheduled to be redesignated to Fort Eisenhower on the 27th of October.

AUGUSTA DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
The DDA is an advocate for small businesses in downtown Augusta, with a net gain of 61 businesses and 13 expansions since January 2022, \$45,000 in facade grants awarded, and work underway for a \$2.35 million microenterprise center.

GREATER AUGUSTA ARTS COUNCIL
Bringing arts, culture, and economic impact to Augusta—100,000 people at a time. The annual and beloved Arts in the Heart Festival, showcasing diverse local culture and art returns to downtown September 15-17.
ARTSINTHEHEART.COM

AUGUSTA SPORTS COUNCIL
Augusta is a premier destination for the nation's most elite sports competitors, including the annual IRONMAN 70.3 Augusta triathlon, USA Cycling National Championship events, the Nike Peach Jam, the Augusta Half Marathon/10K/5K, and many more. Come be part of the action in #AUGUSTASPORTS!

AUGUSTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE
The Mechatronics program provides skills in electronics, industrial wiring, motors, controls, PLC's, instrumentation, fluid power, mechanical, pumps and piping, and computers. Graduates are qualified for employment as industrial maintenance or Mechatronics technicians, engineering assistants, programmable control specialists, automation specialists, industrial electronics specialists, and more!

 **Come See AUGUSTA** *See for YOURSELF*
VisitAugusta.com



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Promotion

- 3 Soofa kiosks installed for downtown communication and streetscape projects
- PSAs in process for Augusta DTP
- Public wifi implemented for 5th Street Bridge



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Promotion

- Ribbon Cuttings:
 - 10Twenty-Eight
 - Prontaut-Henry House
 - Lenox on 10th
- Sponsored Events:
 - Small Business Saturday
 - Making Spirits Bright
 - Augusta Christmas Parade
 - Small Business Week
 - Juneteenth



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Organization

Downtown Maintenance: ACE

- 17,779 block faces cleaned
- 817 trash bags filled and disposed
- 610 power washing hours
- 759 special project cleaning hours

Cleaning Highlights: Before, Top Photo; After, Bottom Photo



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Organization

- SSBCI luncheon with DCA, GABC, and local bankers
- Leadership Augusta Economic Development Day and Executive Forum
- Small business and community stakeholder meetings for microenterprise center



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Looking Ahead

- 18 new businesses so far in 2023
- 15 additional businesses and 3 expansions announced
- Working with The Brunch House and Georgia Cities Foundation for their expansion
- Assisting small businesses & investors to secure funding for growing and new developments



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Looking Ahead

- Lamar Building
 - 76 market-rate apts
 - \$40M investment
- Marion Building
 - 50+ apts
 - \$12.5M investment

LAMAR  AUGUSTA

Be the first to know about progress at the historic **Lamar Building** in Downtown Augusta.



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Questions?



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