



CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

BLUE COLE

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City of Jonesboro, Georgia

Office of the City Manager

Economic Development Report

Reporting Period: May 14 – June 4, 2026

Submitted by: Blue Cole, City Manager / Executive Director, Downtown Development Authority

I. Overview

During this reporting period, economic development efforts were centered on **Downtown Development Authority (DDA) governance, Main Street program alignment, and preparation of economic development-related agenda items for City Council consideration.** Activities also included reviews of development-related procurement items and coordination of future project efforts.

Data / Business License Mix:

- 636 Business Licenses (Renewal + New) have been issued.
 - ~ 70 remain pending from 2025
- Largest category = nonretail, regular businesses (personal services): 368
- 40 restaurants, 40 health, 59 professionals, 90 retails
- Kudos to Derry, Pat, Maria, & Court staff for the coordination & effort. We are ~ \$60,000 over 2026 projections, with ~70 still unpaid.

II. Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Activities

- May 18, 2026 – DDA Meeting
- DDA Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)
- Main Street Program & State Coordination

IV. Economic Development Meetings & Agenda Activity

- Develop Clayton – Partnerships & Future developments
- Retail Strategies
- Georgia Power – RED Team
- Clayton Co. Coordination – Tara, Main St, Tax Commish

VI. Projects & Development Pipeline

- Main Street Village – Funding Search
- Southern Crescent Habitat for Humanity
- Brokered Property – Bank, Corner, N. McDonough



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DDA Governance & IGA Update

- **Status:** In Progress

Main St Organizational Structure (Strategic Initiative)

- **Status:** Under Evaluation

DDA Legal Services Procurement (Support Initiative)

- **Status:** In Progress

VII. Key Outcomes

- Advanced **downtown governance and redevelopment framework** through DDA efforts
- Established direction for **Main Street program realignment (Affiliate designation)**
- Strengthened compliance and transparency for **development-related procurement items**
- Identified critical **organizational and staffing gaps affecting economic development delivery**
- Ensured economic development initiatives are **aligned with procurement and legal standards**

VIII. Key Priorities Moving Forward

- Final approval and execution of **Affiliate Main Street MOU**
- Completion of **DDA IGA and governance structure improvements**
- Restoration of **DDA board capacity and operational quorum**
- Clarification of **economic development organizational structure and staffing strategy**

IX. Conclusion

Economic development activity during this period reflects a **critical transition phase**, with efforts focused on aligning programs, governance structures, and staffing capacity to support sustainable downtown development. The City is actively positioning itself to strengthen its economic development framework while ensuring compliance, accountability, and strategic flexibility.