

	CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA Agenda Item Summary	COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 07/06/2026 Work Session
Requesting (Initiator): Councilman Alfred Dixon		Sponsor(s): Councilman Alfred Dixon
Item Title:	Council to consider approval of the Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative, establishing a proactive public safety initiative that provides home safety devices, smart home technology, and emergency preparedness resources to Jonesboro families.	
Requested Action: Consider approval		
Requirement for Council Action: Approval		
Is this Item Goal Related? Yes. It supports the City’s goals related to enhancing community engagement, public safety, and improving the quality of life through proactive emergency preparedness and prevention.		
Summary and Background: Recent tragedies throughout our communities have brought into focus the importance of home safety and emergency preparedness, particularly for families caring for young children, individuals with autism, seniors with dementia, and residents with developmental or physical disabilities. While no single device can prevent every tragedy, small investments in preventative safety measures can create valuable time for caregivers and improve emergency outcomes. The City of Jonesboro has an opportunity to focus on prevention rather than response by making home safety resources more accessible to residents. The Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative will be implemented in two phases. During Phase I, the City will launch a voluntary home safety pilot while simultaneously establishing the Jonesboro Safe Home Registry through the City’s website. Residents will be able to complete a single online registration to request home safety resources, such as child safety door knob covers and, as funding allows, smart doorbell cameras. As part of the same registration, families will have the option to voluntarily provide emergency preparedness information about members of their household who may require additional assistance during an emergency. Safety devices will be available for pickup at Jonesboro City Center while supplies last. The registry will create the foundation for future coordination with police, fire, and emergency medical services while protecting the privacy of participating residents. Following implementation and evaluation of the pilot, Phase II will focus on expanding the program through grants, corporate sponsorships, and community partnerships. Future enhancements may include additional home safety devices, expanded smart home technology, stronger partnerships with first responders, and other resources that continue to improve emergency preparedness and home safety for Jonesboro families.		
Fiscal Impact: \$3,000.00		

Exhibits Attached: Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative Proposal
Recommendation: Councilman Alfred Dixon recommending approval.

FOLLOW-UP APPROVAL ACTION (City Manager)	
Typed Name and Title City Clerk Jewett	Date: Agenda Item Summary received via email on 07/01/26.
Signature:	



Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative

Pilot Proposal

Protecting Our Most Vulnerable Residents

Presented by
Councilman Alfred Ray Dixon, III, MPA

Executive Summary

The Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative is a proactive public safety pilot designed to help prevent emergencies before they occur by providing home safety resources to Jonesboro residents and establishing a voluntary Safe Home Registry. The initiative focuses on supporting households with young children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities by providing practical tools that improve home safety while strengthening communication between residents and first responders.

This pilot represents an opportunity for the City of Jonesboro to lead with prevention, recognizing that simple, affordable safety measures can provide families with valuable time during an emergency.

The Need

Recent tragedies have highlighted the dangers associated with children wandering from home, particularly among children with autism and other developmental disabilities. Likewise, seniors living with dementia and residents with special needs often require unique considerations during emergency situations.

While no single program can eliminate every risk, local government has an opportunity to provide practical resources that increase home safety, promote awareness, and improve emergency preparedness.

The Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative is intended to serve as a preventative public safety program that helps families before emergencies occur rather than simply responding after tragedy strikes.

Initiative Goals

The Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative seeks to:

- Improve home safety for vulnerable residents.
- Reduce the risk of child wandering and other preventable emergencies.
- Increase awareness of home safety best practices.
- Establish a voluntary resident registry to improve emergency preparedness.
- Strengthen collaboration between residents and first responders.
- Position Jonesboro as a leader in preventative public safety.

Initiative Description

The Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative will launch as a voluntary pilot program that combines home safety resources with emergency preparedness through a single registration process.

Residents will be able to register online through the City's website to request available home safety devices and, if they choose, voluntarily provide emergency preparedness information for members of their household who may require additional assistance during an emergency.

Safety devices will be available for pickup at Jonesboro City Center while supplies last.

Participation in the registry will be completely voluntary, and resident information will be maintained in accordance with applicable privacy and security standards.

Pilot Initiative Components

The pilot will include:

- Approximately 150 child safety door knob covers
- Approximately 15 Ring doorbells (or comparable smart doorbell cameras)
- Home safety educational materials
- Water safety and wandering prevention resources
- Development of the online Jonesboro Safe Home Registry
- Community outreach and public awareness campaign

Jonesboro Safe Home Registry

The Jonesboro Safe Home Registry will provide residents with the option to voluntarily share emergency preparedness information about individuals living in their household who may require additional assistance during an emergency.

Examples may include:

- Autism
- Non-verbal individuals
- Dementia or Alzheimer's disease
- Mobility impairments
- Dependence on medical equipment
- Other emergency response considerations identified by the resident

The initial phase of the registry will establish the City's online registration infrastructure. As the program evolves, staff may explore future collaboration with police, fire, and emergency medical services to determine how this information can be appropriately utilized during emergency response while protecting resident privacy.

Fiscal Impact

Funding for the Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative Pilot Program shall not exceed \$3,000 from the Police Department Community Outreach line item to purchase approximately 150 child safety door knob covers, 15 Ring doorbells (or comparable smart doorbell cameras), marketing and educational materials, and establish the Jonesboro Safe Home Registry.

Staff Responsibilities

City staff will utilize existing resources to:

- Develop and maintain the online registration portal.
- Coordinate resident registration.
- Distribute safety devices.
- Conduct community outreach and education.
- Maintain program inventory.
- Pursue grants, sponsorships, and community partnerships to support future expansion.

Expected Outcomes

Upon implementation, the City expects to:

- Increase access to home safety resources.
- Improve emergency preparedness among participating households.
- Strengthen engagement between residents and public safety personnel.
- Establish the foundation for future public safety initiatives.
- Collect participation data to evaluate future program expansion.

Future Expansion

Following completion of the pilot, staff will evaluate participation, community feedback, and available funding opportunities. Future phases may include additional home safety devices, expanded smart home technology, enhanced partnerships with first responders, and grant-funded program growth.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Mayor and Council approve the Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative Pilot Program and authorize funding not to exceed \$3,000 from the Police Department Community Outreach budget for implementation.

Conclusion

The Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative reflects the City's commitment to proactive public safety. By investing in affordable home safety resources and strengthening emergency preparedness, Jonesboro can provide families with practical tools that may help prevent emergencies and save lives. This pilot Initiative is a modest investment with the potential to create a lasting impact on the safety and well-being of our community.