



CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA COUNCIL
Agenda Item Summary

COUNCIL MEETING DATE:
 05/04/26 Work Session

Requesting Agency (Initiator): Administration

Sponsor(s): Administration

Item Title: Council to discuss and consider approval and adoption of an Ordinance regarding for the City of Jonesboro's re-certification under the GMA City of Ethics Program.

Requested Action: Discussion and approval

Requirement for Mayor & Council Action:

Is this Item Goal Related? Yes

Summary and Background: Cities participating in the **Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Certified City of Ethics Program** are required to renew (recertify) every four years. The four-year cycle helps ensure:

- Ethics ordinances continue to meet GMA standards
- Newly elected officials are educated on ethical responsibilities
- Ethical standards are regularly reinforced for sitting officials and governing bodies

GMA's City of Ethics program promotes ethical standards at the local level. While it does not endorse past or present conduct by any city or official, it encourages cities to adopt ethical principles and ordinances that empower citizens and provide clear processes for addressing concerns.

1. **Adopt a Resolution Establishing Five Ethics Principles** - These principles guide the conduct of elected officials both as individuals and as a governing body:
 - Serve others, not ourselves
 - Use resources with efficiency and economy
 - Treat all people fairly
 - Use the power of your position for the well-being of your constituents
 - Create an environment of honesty, openness, and integrity
2. **Adopt an Ethics Ordinance** - The ordinance should outline permissible and impermissible activities, provide due process for addressing violations, and specify penalties for misconduct.

Cities seeking recognition at the GMA Annual Convention (June 2026), materials must be submitted by April 30, 2026.

Fiscal Impact: The City must pay \$85.00 to re-certify (one-time application fee) as long re-certification is consistent and there is no lapse. The last re-certification was done in 2015 according to GMA records.

Exhibits Attached: Ordinance

Recommendation: Discussion and approval

FOLLOW-UP APPROVAL ACTION (Completed by City Clerk)

Typed Name and Title	Date	
Signature	City Clerk's Office	