



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING: WORK SESSION, AUGUST 12, 2026

AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL CITY BUSINESS

Item:	Proposed Creation of the Citizen Enrichment Academy
Department:	City Manager - Operations
Date of Meeting:	Wednesday, August 12, 2026
Fiscal Impact:	The proposed Citizen Enrichment Academy would replace the existing Financial Review Citizen Committee using existing appropriations currently supporting that committee. No additional funding is requested at this time.
Presented By:	Michael Fischer, Assistant City Manager – Operations, Kieth Lee, CFO
Action Requested:	Discussion to replace the City of Lawrenceville Financial Review Citizen Committee and create the Citizen Enrichment Academy

Summary: Staff is presenting the proposed Citizen Enrichment Academy, a new citizen engagement and leadership development program designed to provide residents with a comprehensive understanding of municipal government and City operations. The Academy is intended to replace the existing Financial Review Citizen Committee with a broader, cohort-based educational experience that promotes civic engagement, develops informed community ambassadors, and encourages future service on City boards, commissions, and volunteer initiatives. This work session agenda item is intended to provide an overview of the proposed program and receive Council feedback. Following Council discussion, staff anticipates returning with a future ordinance to formally dissolve the Financial Review Citizen Committee and implement the Citizen Enrichment Academy.

Background: The City currently utilizes the Financial Review Citizen Committee as a means of engaging residents in the municipal budget process. While the committee has provided valuable opportunities for financial education and citizen participation, staff believes a broader civic leadership program would provide greater long-term value by educating residents about the full range of municipal services and operations.

The proposed Citizen Enrichment Academy is modeled after the City's internal Lawrenceville Employee Enrichment Network (L.E.E.N.), adapting the cohort-based learning model for community members. Rather than focusing solely on municipal finance, the Academy would provide participants with an immersive experience highlighting how City departments collaborate to deliver services and implement the City's strategic priorities.

The proposed Academy is intended to replace the Financial Review Citizen Committee. This agenda item is presented for discussion and policy direction only. If supported by the Mayor and Council, staff will return at a future meeting with an ordinance formally dissolving the Financial Review Citizen Committee and establishing the transition to the Citizen Enrichment Academy.

The Academy would be designed to:

- Increase public understanding of municipal government.
- Strengthen relationships between residents, elected officials, and City staff.
- Develop informed community ambassadors.
- Encourage future participation on boards, commissions, volunteer initiatives, and other civic engagement opportunities.
- Promote transparency and public trust through direct interaction with City leadership.

Proposed Program Structure:

- Twenty-five participants selected through an application process.
- Five-session cohort program.
- Sessions held approximately every two weeks.
- Graduation and recognition at a City Council meeting.
- Development of an alumni network for continued community engagement.

Fiscal Impact: The proposed Citizen Enrichment Academy would replace the existing Financial Review Citizen Committee using existing appropriations currently supporting that committee. No additional funding is requested at this time. Formal dissolution of the Financial Review Citizen Committee would be considered under a future ordinance presented to the Mayor and Council.

Concurrences: City Manager's Office – Operations, Finance Department

Attachments/Exhibits:

- Proposed Session Outline.docx