



Office of the Administrator

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Interim Administrator

NEWS RELEASE

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Highlights from the Augusta Commission meeting held May 2, 2023

AUGUSTA, GA (May 3, 2023) – In this week's Wrap-Up of the Augusta Commission meeting held on May 2, 2023, city officials accepted an array of action items, including a memorandum of understanding with Augusta University for an internship program. View a list of news briefs below for more details.

Recognition of the small businesses in Augusta, Georgia

In honor of National Small Business Week, the Augusta Commission recognized the critical contributions of entrepreneurs and small business owners to the Augusta community.

5th Street Pedestrian Bridge wins state award

During the recognitions segment of the meeting, the Augusta Commission announced how the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) named Augusta, Georgia a recipient of a 2023 Georgia County Excellence Award for the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge.

The organization recognized that the City's work to modernize the historic bridge into a stunning 1,201-foot-long walkway across the Savannah River adds value, offering residents a new recreational space as the structure continues connecting pedestrians with the community.

Memorandum of Understanding with Augusta University for internship program

The Augusta Commission has approved a memorandum of understanding between Augusta Utilities and Augusta University to launch an internship program centered around Smart City sensors and programs. Through this partnership, funding will be allocated to support the commitment of full-time faculty and staff for about three months per year, in addition to approximately five full-time students and materials. The university will provide the facilities and specialized knowledge of electronics needed to prototype rapidly.

Augusta Commission approve audits for city departments

The Augusta Commission approved a motion to hire a third-party accounting firm to conduct scheduled operational audits of all city departments every four years. The firm will present the findings quarterly to the Commission.



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Augusta Commission approves Georgia Municipal Association's nominations for District 7 officers for 2023-2024

The Augusta Commission approved the Georgia Municipal Association's list of nominations for District 7 officers for 2023-2024. View the list of nominated officers below:

- Augusta, Georgia Commissioner Jordan Johnson as President.
- Sandersville, Georgia Councilmember Danny Brown as First Vice President.
- Grovetown, Georgia Councilmember Ceretta Smith as the Second Vice President.
- Augusta, Georgia Commissioner Catherine Smith McKnight as Third Vice President.
- Washington, Georgia Councilmember Nathaniel Cullars, Sr. has also been nominated for the Third Vice President position.

The Augusta Commission voted to make Commissioner McKnight their nominee for the Third Vice President position. GMA will make their final approval on the nominated district officers during the organization's business meeting set for June 25, 2023.

Augusta Commission makes board appointments

- Health insurance agency owner James Anderson, has been named to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission, representing District 10.
- Tonia Gibbons, a local small business owner, and Christine Rhodes, a congressional aide, have been appointed to the Augusta-Richmond County Library Board of Trustees. Gibbons will represent District 9 and Rhodes will represent District 10.
- Commercial Real Estate Agent Davis Beman has been appointed to the Augusta Aviation Commission representing District 10.
- Elmyra Chivers has been appointed to the Board of Zoning and Appeals representing Commission District 4.
- James Scott and William Mills have been appointed to the Augusta- Richmond County Board of Tax Assessors.

Media interested in covering these topics should contact Public Information Manager Danielle Harris at 706-312-5511.

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Augusta, Georgia is a multicultural community nestled along the banks of the Savannah River, located approximately 150 miles east of Atlanta. The City is the second largest in Georgia and is the home of the globally recognized Masters Tournament and the U.S. Army's Cyber Center of Excellence at Fort Gordon. Augusta's key industries include medical, military, and education. For more information, visit us at augustaga.gov and follow Augusta, Georgia on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

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