



Cleveland City Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, August 17, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Oak Springs Community Center – 342 Campbell Street, Cleveland, GA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

1. Associate Pastor Dennis Turner, Cleveland First Baptist Church, and White County Ministerial Alliance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

2. Matthew 25 Alliance (M25A)
3. Proclamation proclaiming Tuesday, August 11, 2026, as City Hall Selfie Day

PUBLIC COMMENTS

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

4. Economic Development and Planning Director Tom O'Bryant – July 2026 Report
5. Finance Director John Solmon – June 2026 Report
6. Fire Chief Jason Bryant – July 2026 Report
7. Police Chief Jeff Shoemaker – July 2026 Report
8. Public Works Director Ricky Hunt – July 2026 Report
9. Water Resources Wastewater/Water Laboratory Technician Bradley Filaski – July 2026 Report

NEW BUSINESS

10. Request for sanitation services and road closures of South Brooks, and Quillian, Streets for Agri-Fest Country Market scheduled for Saturday, September 26, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
11. Approve the renewal of the 2027 Employee Benefits (Medical, Dental, Vision, and Employee Assistance Program) with Georgia Municipal Association (GMA)

CALLED MEETING/MEETING MINUTES

12. Approval of the August 3, 2026 Meeting Agenda
13. Approval of the August 13, 2026 Called Meeting Minutes

CITY ATTORNEY KEITH WHITAKER

CITY MANAGER KEVIN HARRIS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 14.** Called Meetings are scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2026, at the Oak Springs Community Center, located at 342 Campbell Street, for the purpose of conducting the millage rate public hearings and considering adoption of the FY 2026/2027 millage rate, as follows:
- Second Public Hearing: Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. (*The First Public Hearing was held on Thursday, August 13, 2026.*)
 - Third Public Hearing: Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
 - Adoption of the FY 2026/2027 Millage Rate: Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 6:15 p.m.
- 15.** White County, Cleveland Development Authority, and Helen Development Authority Training is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2026, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Fairfield Suites, located at 8035 South Main Street, Helen
- 16.** The Planning and Zoning Meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2026, has been cancelled
- 17.** City of Cleveland offices will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2026 in observance of Labor Day
- 18.** The City Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, September 7, 2026, has been cancelled
- 19.** The White County Water Authority Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 10 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at the White County Water Authority
- 20.** A Dedication and Open House for the Cleveland Municipal Complex, located at 55 Cantrell Road, will be held on Friday, September 18, 2026, beginning at 11:00 a.m.
- 21.** The next Cleveland City Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2026, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cleveland Municipal Complex located at 55 Cantrell Road

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 22.** Real Estate

ADJOURN



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Item # 2.



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U.S. News & World Report
2026

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UNIVERSITY**

LEARN MORE

Matthew 25 Alliance: Churches unite to care for neighbors in need

Coalition of local congregations provides shelter, meals and support for neighbors in need.

By **Rev. John Harrison** - June 14, 2026 | Updated: June 14

Up Next - Habersham school board to hear safety, transpo...





The Matthew 25 Alliance is a coalition of six churches in White and Habersham counties working together to serve people in need. Pictured are alliance members (back row, left to right): Dennis Brown, Laura Meier, Michael Fisher, Willene Keel and Mark Griffin; (middle row): Melissa Line, Becky Schacht, Tina Hawkins and Michelle Fritch; and (front row): Denise Ingels and John Harrison. (Photo submitted)



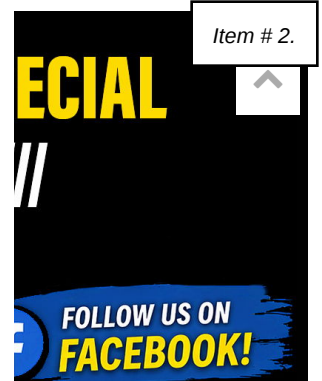
I was talking to someone this week who asked several folks recently, “What’s the bottom line of Christianity?” Quarterback Tim Tebow gave a talk once when he said it’s not about *do*’s and *don*’ts, it’s about *done*, what God has done for you in Jesus. Other folks say it’s in our decision to accept this gift that we are saved.

The ‘least of these’

I’m not one to reduce God to a single line in the sand, but a scripture that spurs me forward in my own spiritual life comes from the end of Matthew, when Jesus, speaking to his disciples just before he dies on the cross, prepares them for life without him standing physically by their sides. He said that when he comes in judgment to sort out the people who belong to him, he will say to his own:

Up Next - Habersham school board to hear safety, transpo...

Come...inherit the kingdom prepared for you...
 For I was hungry and you gave me food,
 I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
 I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
 I was naked and you gave me clothing,
 I was sick and you took care of me,
 I was in prison and you visited me. (Matthew 25:34-36)



In the story, the folks to whom Jesus says this scratch their heads in confusion because they can't remember doing those things for Jesus, and he says, "*Just as you did it to the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.*"

Working together to serve those in need

The message of the story, in my eyes, is that the people who aren't worth much in the eyes of the world are worth a great deal in the eyes of God, and one way to measure our faith is in how we treat the folks the rest of the world ignores.

If we spend time with the folks Jesus mentions, if we share the love Jesus came to bring into our world, we'll look back and realize we were spending time with God.

If we work together, things that used to feel impossible start to feel possible.



It can be overwhelming to visit someone in prison or to care for someone who has no way to pay for the doctor. It can be intimidating to help someone who is exposed to the cold, the sun, or the rain. It can be hard to share a meal with strangers, or a bottle of water with someone who is hungry. It can be difficult to feed people who are hungry.

For most of us, it's hard to work together, to

"yes" to the people Jesus reminds us to say "yes" to if we want God to say "yes" to us.

The Matthew 25 Alliance

Three churches in White County and three churches in Habersham have come together to say "yes," and we call ourselves the Matthew 25 Alliance. Since February 1, we have opened warming centers on five cold nights this winter, and we're working to serve meals and help people connect to resources this summer. We're at the earliest stages of our work together, and we're trying to grow slowly and steadily enough to keep every promise we make and to honor each person we serve.

We don't put a sermon between anyone and a hot meal, nor do we put an altar call between anyone and a safe place to sleep for the night. We're not asking who you are. The question we're asking is *whose* you are, and the answer we have in mind is that every person who comes through our doors belongs to God. It is by opening doors together that we hear God saying in new ways every day that we belong to him.

Whether you're hungry to eat, hungry to serve, or just curious to learn more, we'll be hosting a free meal this Wednesday, June 17, from 12 to 2 at First Baptist Church in Cornelia, and you can reserve a plate of food by texting us at 470-252-8653.

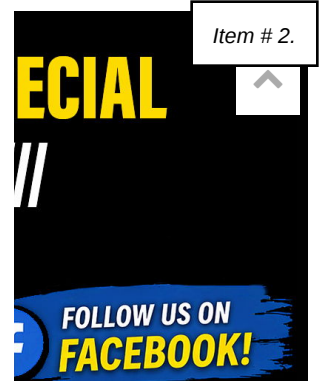
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Up Next - Habersham school board to hear safety, transpo...





City of Cleveland, Georgia

Proclamation

WHEREAS, City Hall Selfie Day is a celebration of public service and civic pride, showcasing the vital role of local government and the dedicated public servants who work each day on behalf of their communities; and

WHEREAS, City Hall Selfie Day, founded in 2016 and organized by Engaging Local Government Leaders (ELGL), has grown into an annual celebration that brings together public servants, residents, and communities across the nation to recognize and celebrate local government; and

WHEREAS, for 71 years, since 1955, Cleveland City Hall was located at 85 South Main Street, where generations of elected officials, employees, residents, and community leaders conducted the business of the city and contributed to the growth and history of Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland has now entered a new chapter in its history with the relocation of City Hall to the new Cleveland Municipal Complex, located at 55 Cantrell Road, providing a new home from which the city may continue serving its citizens for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, this historic relocation was accomplished without placing any financial burden upon the citizens of Cleveland, reflecting the City's commitment to responsible stewardship of public resources while investing in the future of municipal government and public service; and

WHEREAS, City Hall Selfie Day provides an especially fitting opportunity in 2026 to commemorate this transition, celebrate the city's new municipal complex, honor Cleveland's municipal history, and recognize the employees, elected officials, and citizens who make local government an essential part of community life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of Cleveland, Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 11th, 2026 as:

CITY HALL SELFIE DAY

in the City of Cleveland, Georgia, and encourages its residents, employees, elected officials, and visitors to participate with photographs and selfies at city hall using the hashtag #CityHallSelfie and tag ELCL on social media. This celebration across the country celebrates public service, encourages civic engagement, and promotes accessibility and trust in local government.

SO RESOLVED this 17th day of August, 2026

Josh Turner	Mayor	Jeremy McClure	Council Member District 3
Nan Bowen	Council Member District 1 Mayor Pro Tem	C.J. McDonald	Council Member District 4
Annie Sutton	Council Member District 2	Lisa A. Ritchie	City Clerk



CITY OF CLEVELAND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING REPORT/ACTIVITY

July 2026

ACTIVITY		(SIGNIFICANT)
Occupational License	1	(Shimmer and Shine)
Building Permits	3	(Javi's , res remodel, remodel 38 Campbell)
Building Inspections	18	(Walmart, Grease Monkey, Artistic Box, Circle L, Aldi, City Hall, Talon, residential)
Sign Permits	2	(Carl Free Attny, Shimmer and Shine)
Plan Review	2	(Javi's, Carter Engineering)
Current Commercial Activity	8	(Always Café, Walmart, Farmhouse Coffee, Aldi, Circle L, Nix Hdwe demo, Grease Monkey, Javi's)
Development Inquiry	2	(Carter Engineering, LC Cagle Partners)

Grant Applications and Administration

ARC well project –Preliminary engineering report under review by Georgia DNR and US Army Corps.

RWHI Campbell St Sewer Relief Line survey preparation.

WWTP – Mobilization completed, supplies established, construction initiated.

Infrastructure and Planning

Completed the monthly US Census Bureau report on construction status of the WWTP expansion, including expenditures.

Updated GDOT permit for second phase of East Kytle waterline improvements.

Initiated moving archived plans at WWTP to old tag office for temporary storage.

Moved offices from 85 South Main St to 55 Cantrell Road.

Site inspection for Clydes, Cenita event location for July 4.

July 4 preparations and successful event implementation.

City of Cleveland



Monthly Financial Report Period Ending June 2026

General Fund Summary



	June 2026	FY 2026 YTD	June 2025	FY 2025 YTD
Revenues	358,900	5,139,576	534,557	4,812,394
Expenditures	559,014	4,954,814	501,613	4,614,532
Net Income (Loss)	(200,114)	184,762	32,944	197,862

General Fund – Revenue Comparison



FY 2026

Revenue	June 2026	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Taxes	222,980	3,680,157	3,532,617	104%
Licenses and Permits	2,263	143,677	133,500	108%
Intergovernmental Revenues	74,587	223,659	142,000	158%
Charges for Services	42,415	503,661	500,000	101%
Fines and Forfeitures	4,365	96,745	72,500	133%
Investment Income	5,712	73,507	30,000	245%
Miscellaneous Revenue	4,206	36,035	16,600	217%
Other Financing Sources	2,372	382,135	702,209	54%
Totals	358,900	5,139,576	5,129,426	100%

FY 2025

Revenue	June 2025	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Taxes	204,416	3,520,744	3,207,377	110%
Licenses and Permits	8,675	156,155	121,000	129%
Intergovernmental Revenues	3,979	260,046	141,955	183%
Charges for Services	38,232	450,530	456,550	99%
Fines and Forfeitures	6,145	82,541	67,550	122%
Investment Income	6,804	49,932	30,000	166%
Miscellaneous Revenue	544	17,304	17,000	102%
Other Financing Sources	-	275,140	756,345	36%
Totals	268,795	4,812,392	4,797,777	100%

LOST COLLECTION TRENDS



Month	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	% Change from PY
July	159,421.43	150,894.61	157,623.86	4.5%
August	133,107.82	135,069.17	144,916.98	7.3%
September	135,493.23	122,372.18	140,377.76	14.7%
October	141,910.18	157,707.61	152,753.55	-3.1%
November	134,235.42	142,693.61	149,519.58	4.8%
December	145,936.76	151,299.57	166,734.31	10.0%
January	111,184.58	129,101.58	121,743.00	-5.7%
February	115,987.89	114,430.56	121,160.08	5.9%
March	123,848.47	147,332.04	134,048.47	-9.0%
April	121,609.50	131,074.83	130,796.56	-0.2%
May	133,755.51	136,493.37	138,598.10	1.5%
June	144,904.35	144,484.92	152,205.55	5.3%
	1,601,395.14	1,662,954.05	1,710,477.80	2.8%

SPLOST COLLECTION TRENDS



Month	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY2026	% Change from PY
July	156,255.26	149,386.65	156,043.15	4.5%
August	131,606.73	133,717.27	143,463.96	7.3%
September	134,138.57	121,167.39	138,970.45	14.7%
October	140,492.34	156,130.37	151,221.66	-3.1%
November	133,067.23	141,615.74	148,697.88	5.0%
December	144,258.35	149,437.35	164,340.45	10.0%
January	110,073.97	127,811.77	120,522.63	-5.7%
February	114,827.34	113,286.94	119,945.24	5.9%
March	122,611.05	145,859.46	132,705.16	-9.0%
April	120,394.50	129,765.21	129,485.51	-0.2%
May	132,764.06	135,283.99	137,406.64	1.6%
June	143,109.95	142,882.35	150,485.11	5.3%
	1,583,599.35	1,646,344.49	1,693,287.84	2.9%

General Fund – Expenditure Comparison



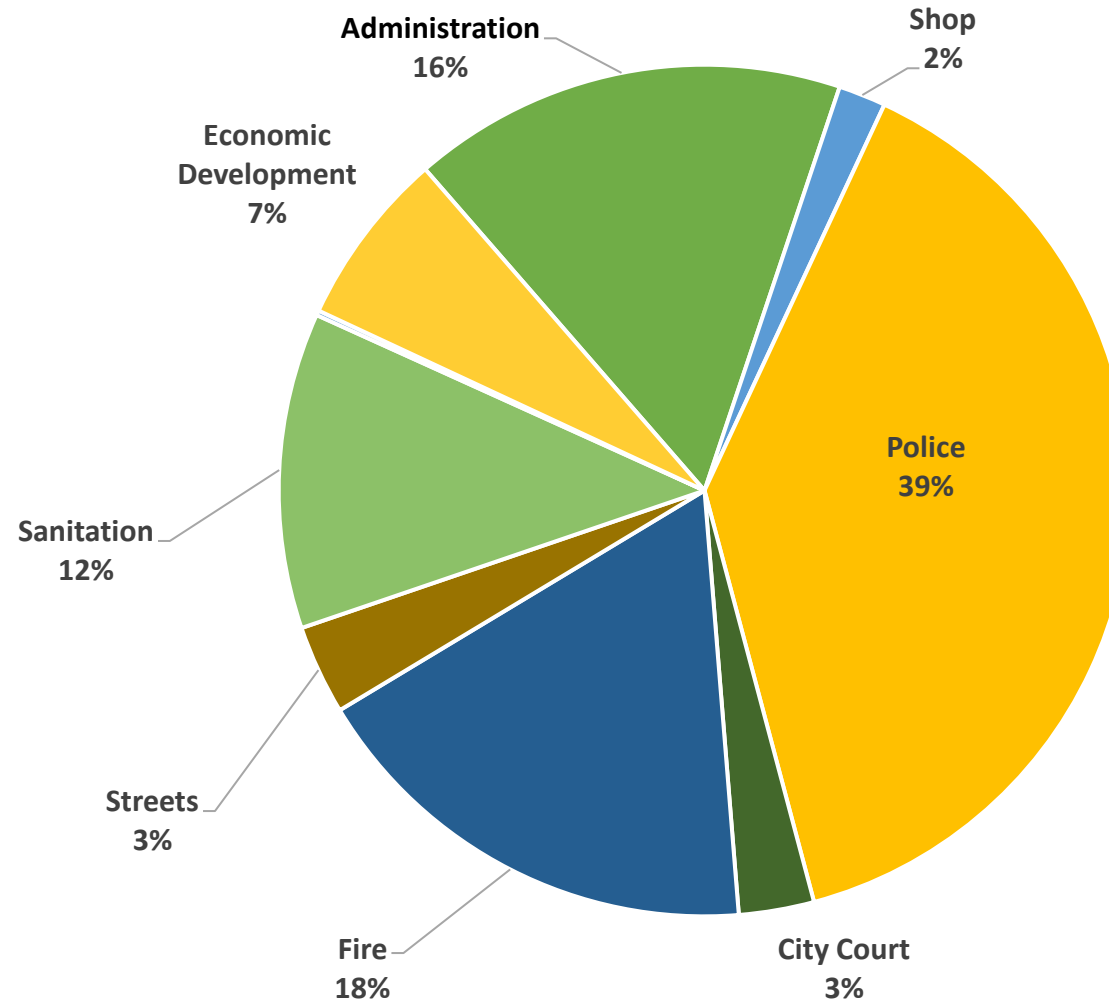
FY 2026

	June 2026	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Department				
Administration	92,419	862,966	903,700	95%
Shop	10,063	94,284	101,534	93%
Police	217,541	2,023,558	2,072,856	98%
City Court	15,968	168,796	180,211	94%
Fire	98,704	819,572	840,085	98%
Streets	18,983	199,671	203,257	98%
Sanitation	67,050	419,166	421,847	99%
City Park	1,016	18,896	25,100	75%
Economic Development	37,272	347,945	380,836	91%
Totals	559,014	4,954,854	5,129,426	97%

FY 2025

	June 2025	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Department				
Administration	143,565	1,242,608	1,302,288	95%
Shop	8,427	86,707	95,715	91%
Police	198,931	1,968,658	2,021,976	97%
City Court	15,248	169,692	168,939	100%
Fire	66,055	624,551	647,223	96%
Streets	31,036	126,222	154,407	82%
Sanitation	37,700	380,810	387,129	98%
City Park	651	15,284	20,100	76%
Totals	501,613	4,614,532	4,797,777	96%

General Fund – Expenditures By Department June 2026



Water and Sewer Fund Revenue & Expense Comparison



FY 2026				
Revenue	June 2026	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Charges for Services	238,828	2,905,978	2,777,024	105%
Investment Income	8,226	92,808	123,547	75%
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,000	3,426	11,731	29%
Other Financing Sources			400,000	0%
Intergovernmental Revenues	-	-		0%
Totals	248,055	3,002,212	3,312,302	91%

Expense	June 2026	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Water	162,868	1,759,294	1,968,049	89%
Sewer	95,150	1,019,027	1,167,126	87%
General Government			-	0%
Totals	258,019	2,778,321	3,135,175	89%

Net Income (Loss) **(9,964)** **223,891**

FY 2025				
Revenue	June 2025	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Charges for Services	267,958	2,745,426	2,584,864	106%
Investment Income	8,411	118,110	80,000	148%
Miscellaneous Revenue	-	9,603	2,000	480%
Other Financing Sources	-	-	400,000	0%
Intergovernmental Revenues	-	-		0%
Totals	276,369	2,873,139	3,066,864	94%

Expense	June 2026	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
Water	357,198	1,763,716	1,974,081	89%
Sewer	84,000	924,988	1,092,783	85%
General Government			-	0%
Totals	441,198	2,688,704	3,066,864	88%

Net Income (Loss) **(164,829)** **184,435**

July 31 2026

Capital Projects/ SPLOST



Item # 5.

Beginning Balance

\$1,555,550.03

Increases

Interest

\$3,681.30

SPLOST

\$150,485.11

Loan from Money Market

\$1,100,000.00

Decreases

Helton Graphics

\$500.00

Smith Gilliam Williams - Closing Cost

\$5,394.47

Mountaincraft Holdings

\$1,100,000.00

Mountaincraft Holdings

\$133,024.22

Sansom Equipment

\$154,070.00

Ending Balance

\$1,416,727.75

FY 2026 SPLOST V Budget



FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026	Estimated Revenue	Amended Revenue	Received YTD	Revenue to be received
320 SPLOST - REVENUE				
SPLOST 5 REVENUE	\$1,634,681.00	\$35,000.00	\$1,542,802.73	\$126,878.27
SPLOST 5 INTEREST INCOME	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$46,730.78	-\$6,730.78
FUND BALANCE	\$180,000.00	\$0.00	\$180,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$1,834,681.00	\$55,000.00	\$1,769,533.51	\$120,147.49
	Original Appropriation	Amended Appropriation	Committed YTD	Available Appropriation
320 SPLOST - PROJECTS				
2 POLICE VEHICLES	\$120,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$143,927.00	\$31,073.00
PUBLIC WORKS VEHICLE	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$56,065.00	\$3,935.00
TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$67,938.65	-\$7,938.65
VAC TRAILER	\$80,000.00	\$0.00	\$77,789.00	\$2,211.00
BUCKET TRUCK	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$70,013.00	-\$10,013.00
CULVERT - JESS HUNT RD	\$450,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450,000.00
TRUELOVE TEST WELL	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$54,000.00
BALLISTIC SHIELD	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
RADIOS & TURNOUT GEAR	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,206.00	\$95,794.00
UTILITY VEHICLE	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$61,000.00	-\$1,000.00
ROADS AND STREETS	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,860.00	\$248,140.00
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
PROPERTY				
ACQUISITION/FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS	\$231,681.00	\$0.00	\$220,730.19	\$10,950.81
TASERS	\$98,000.00	\$0.00	\$98,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$1,834,681.00	\$55,000.00	\$812,528.84	\$1,077,152.16

Item # 5.

FY 2027 SPLOST V Budget



FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027	Estimated Revenue	Amended Revenue	Received YTD	Revenue to be received
320 SPLOST - REVENUE			\$0.00	
SPLOST 5 REVENUE	\$1,690,000.00		\$150,485.11	\$1,539,514.89
SPLOST 5 INTEREST INCOME	\$20,000.00		\$3,681.30	\$16,318.70
FUND BALANCE	\$1,068,747.00		\$0.00	\$1,068,747.00
TOTAL	\$2,778,747.00		\$154,166.41	\$2,624,580.59

320 SPLOST - PROJECTS	Original Appropriation	Amended Appropriation	Committed YTD	Available Appropriation
NEW CITY HALL	\$2,000,000.00		\$1,220,421.69	\$779,578.31
TALON PLAYGROUND	\$200,000.00		\$0.00	\$200,000.00
DIAMONDBACK REAR LOAD	\$155,000.00		\$154,070.00	\$930.00
FIRE - AIR PACKS	\$250,000.00		\$0.00	\$250,000.00
BODY & CAR CAMERA	\$70,000.00		\$0.00	\$70,000.00
COMPUTER REFRESH	\$103,747.00		\$0.00	\$103,747.00
TOTAL	\$2,778,747.00		\$1,532,339.40	\$1,404,255.31

Cleveland Fire Department

Monthly Report – July 2026

Executive Summary

The Cleveland Fire Department continued its momentum throughout July by responding to emergencies, investing in firefighter training, strengthening leadership, and serving the community through numerous outreach events. Personnel responded to **135 emergency incidents** during the month, bringing the year-to-date total to **922 responses**. While call volume has nearly matched the record pace set in 2025, the department continues to manage a significantly higher workload than just a few years ago.

July also marked several important organizational milestones, including the promotion of **Assistant Chief Stephen Sears** to a full-time leadership role, the successful completion of Georgia's first NPQ Vehicle Extrication Technician course, continued transition into the new fire headquarters, and several community service initiatives that reinforced the department's commitment to serving the citizens of Cleveland.

1. Emergency Response Statistics

Emergency Responses

- **135 incidents during July**
- **922 incidents year-to-date**
- EMS responses accounted for **61.5%** of all calls.
- Fire incidents represented **3.0%** of responses.
- Hazardous materials responses accounted for **5.9%**.
- Other service calls accounted for **29.6%**.

Response Area

July showed a positive shift in response distribution:

- **65.2%** of emergency responses occurred within the City of Cleveland.
- **23.7%** occurred in the Automatic Aid area outside city limits.

This represents a significant improvement from previous months and reflects a more balanced distribution of emergency responses while continuing to support our regional partners.

2. Operations

Apparatus Status

- Engine 21 remains the department's primary response engine and responded to **110 incidents** during July.
 - Truck 21 responded to **27 incidents** and remains fully operational.
 - Utility 21 responded to **2 incidents**.
 - Command vehicle responded to **2 incidents**.
-

3. Personnel

One of the department's most significant accomplishments this month was the promotion of **Stephen Sears** to **Assistant Chief of Training / Fire Marshal**.

Assistant Chief Sears has played an instrumental role in expanding department training, establishing the Fire Marshal Division, and enhancing community risk reduction efforts. His promotion reflects both his dedication and the department's continued investment in developing strong leadership from within.

Congratulations to Assistant Chief Sears on this well-earned promotion.

The department also proudly recognized **Firefighter Will LaPree** as the **2026 Cleveland Fire Department Firefighter of the Year**.

Will's commitment to the department, professional development, and willingness to serve wherever needed exemplify the values of the Cleveland Fire Department. We congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition.

4. Training

Training remained a major priority throughout July.

Department personnel completed approximately **399 documented training hours**, including:

- NPQ Vehicle Extrication Technician
- Officer Development
- Driver/Pump Operations
- Company Training

- Fire Inspections
- Building Construction
- Aerial Operations
- Confined Space Awareness
- Handling Flammable and Combustible Liquid Incidents

A major highlight was the successful completion of the **NPQ Vehicle Extrication Technician** course.

This nationally recognized certification further strengthens the department's rescue capabilities and prepares personnel to safely and effectively respond to complex vehicle accidents.

5. Fire Marshal Division

Assistant Chief Sears continues leading the development of the Fire Marshal Division.

Planning continues for expanded fire prevention activities, inspections, plan reviews, and community risk reduction efforts that will continue improving life safety throughout the City of Cleveland.

6. Community Engagement

July was another outstanding month of community involvement.

Department personnel proudly:

- Supported the City's **Independence Day Celebration** and fireworks.
- Assisted with **Stuff the Bus**, helping local students prepare for the upcoming school year.
- Hosted a community **car wash fundraiser** benefiting a local youth football team.
- Welcomed the youth group from **Friendship Baptist Church**, who graciously visited the station and provided dinner for our firefighters.

We sincerely appreciate Friendship Baptist Church for their generosity and continued support of our department.

7. Station Transition

Throughout July, department personnel dedicated several days to cleaning, organizing, and moving usable equipment from the former fire station into the new headquarters.

This effort required countless hours beyond normal emergency response duties and reflects the pride our personnel take in maintaining the department's facilities and equipment.

8. Looking Ahead

The department will continue focusing on:

- Fire Marshal Division implementation
 - Officer development
 - Advanced rescue training
 - Community risk reduction
 - Fleet readiness
 - Budget planning
 - Continued community outreach
-

Chief's Closing Remarks

July was another outstanding month for the Cleveland Fire Department.

While the statistics tell part of the story, they cannot fully capture the dedication, professionalism, and pride demonstrated by our firefighters every day.

Whether responding to emergencies, completing advanced certifications, helping local students through Stuff the Bus, supporting community events, moving equipment into our new headquarters, or simply taking care of one another, our personnel continue to demonstrate what it means to serve with honor.

I would also like to congratulate **Assistant Chief Stephen Sears** on his promotion and **Firefighter Will LaPree** on being named our 2026 Firefighter of the Year. Both recognitions are well deserved and reflect the outstanding leadership and commitment found throughout this department.

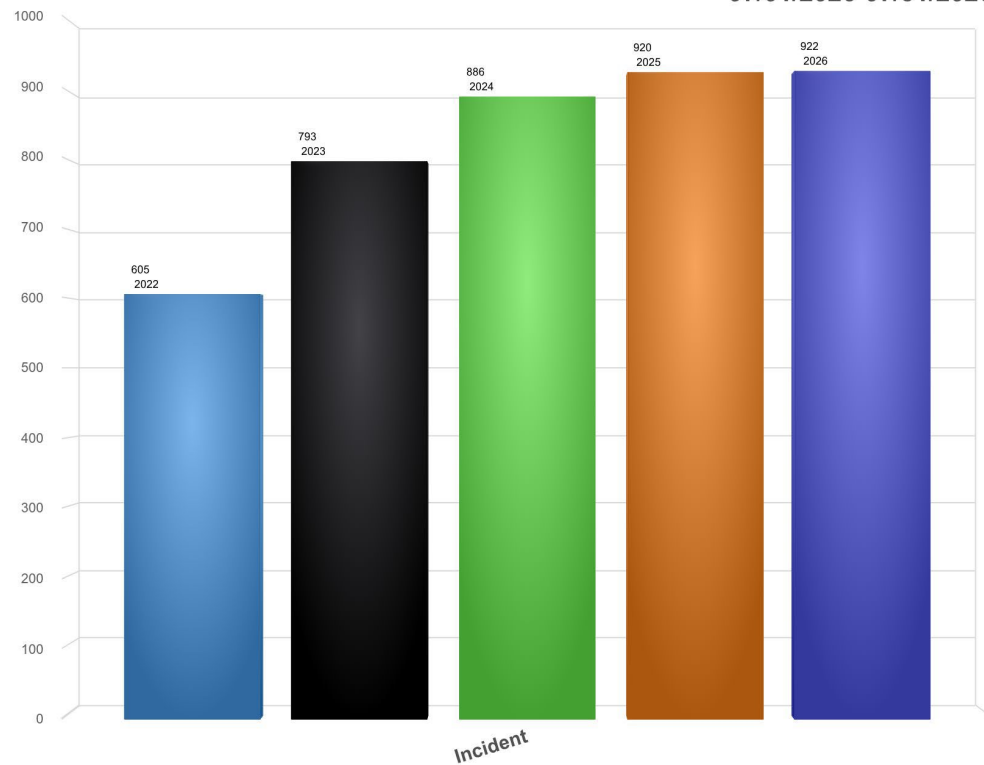
Most importantly, I want to thank every member of the Cleveland Fire Department. The progress we've made this year is not because of one individual—it is because of the collective effort of an exceptional team of firefighters, officers, and staff who continue to raise the standard every day.

As always, thank you to the Mayor, City Council, City Administration, and the citizens of Cleveland for your continued trust and support of the Cleveland Fire Department.



Year to Year Comparison (Until Current Day of Year) - 5 Years

07/01/2026-07/31/2026

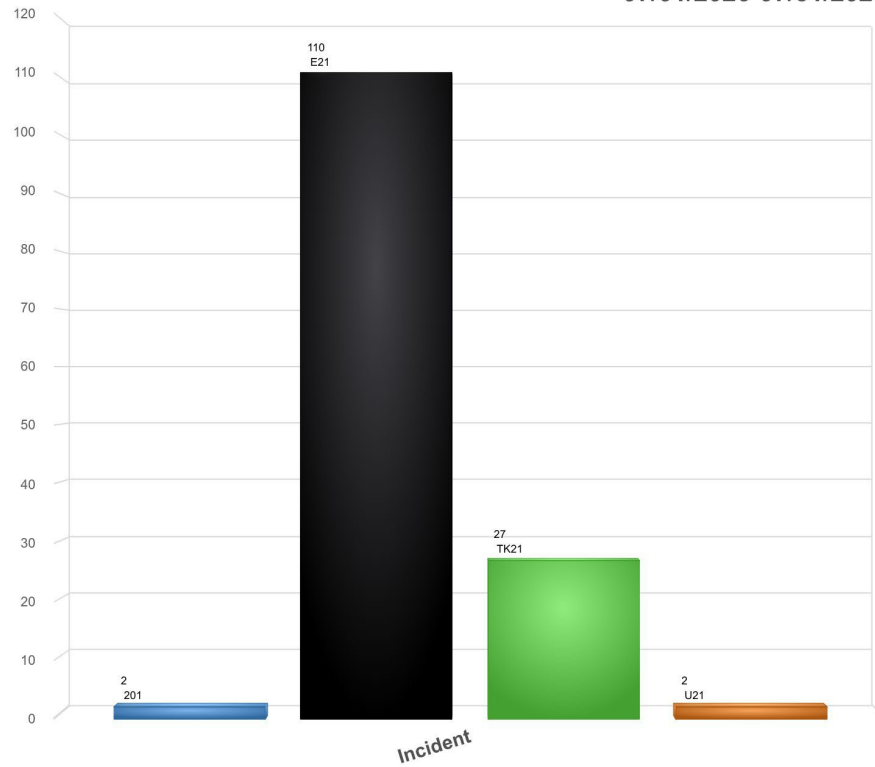


Total of Year: 4,126

201
E21
TK21
U21

Incidents by Apparatus (By Apparatus ID)

07/01/2026-07/31/2026

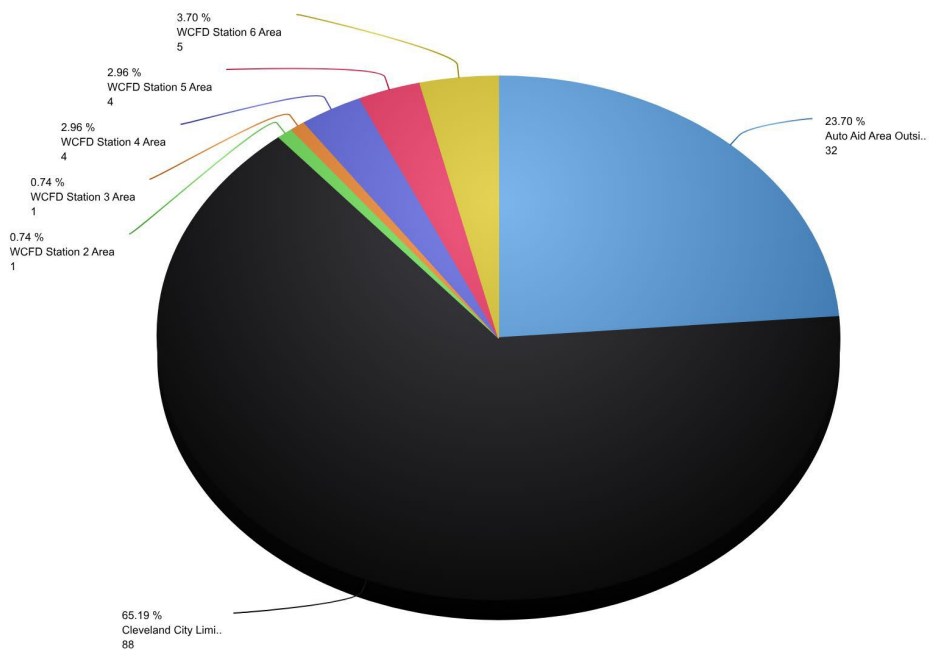


Total of Apparatus ID: 141

Incidents by District

07/01/2026-07/31/2026

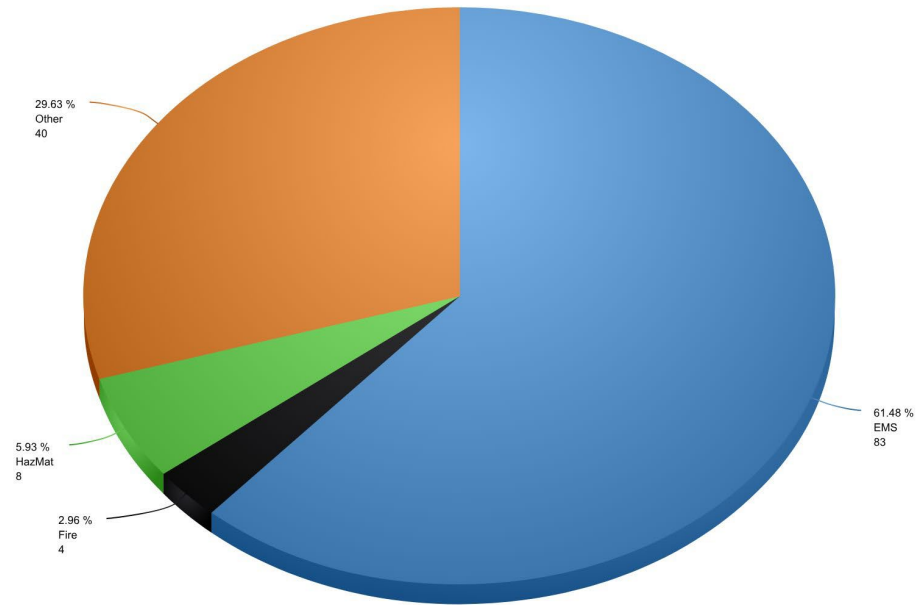
Auto Aid Area Outside City Limits
 Cleveland City Limits
 WCFD Station 2 Area
 WCFD Station 3 Area
 WCFD Station 4 Area
 WCFD Station 5 Area
 WCFD Station 6 Area



Total of District: 135

EMS
Fire
HazMat
Other

Analysis by Response Class 07/01/2026-07/31/2026



Total of Response Class: 135

Cleveland Police Department Activity Report

Jul-26

Community Oriented

& Proactive:

	<u>Jul-26</u>	<u>Jul-25</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Public Assist	310	368	2,243
Premise Checks	1,296	1,274	10,072
Field Interviews	7	6	55

Reporting:

Incident Reports	36	45	287
Accident Reports	18	21	137
Investigative/Supplemental	21	20	222
Use of Force	0	0	0

Actions taken:

Citations	64	113	626
Warnings	136	129	1,127
Warrants	12	14	66
Juveniles	0	2	9

Admin: Alcohol Badges, Request for Reports, CHRI

15 9 228

Total:	1,915	2,001	15,072
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Car seat installs: 3

Prescription Drop Box:

July Total Arrest: 8

Arrest Breakdown:

False Imprisonment - 1

Battery FV - 1

Criminal Trespass - 1

Shoplifting - 2

City Warrant - 2

Warrant: Other Agency - 1

Citation Breakdown:

Shoplifting -2

Driver's License, Registration, & Insurance - 12

Moving violations, traffic control, etc - 31

Equipment, seatbelt, etc - 19

JULY 2026 EDMUNDS WORK ORDER SUMMARY

SERVICE ORDER TYPE

Dumpster Repair / Replace	1
Water Quality	1
Payment Agreement	1
Inspection	2
City Hall Office Maintenance	6
Meter Change Out	6
Police Department - Sub Station	1
Cut Off and Lock Meter - Non Payment	42
City Wells	1
Check for Leak	16
Final Reading - Do Not Lock	24
Garbage Request	16
Meeting With Customer	2
Final Read and Lock Meter - Disconnect	21
Garbage Request Change	4
Meter Inspection	37
Residential Just Unlock - Do Not Turn On	3
Residential Turn On	36
Commercial Turn On	4
Street R-O-W Maintenance	7
Meter Readings - Monthly	2307
Meter Re-Reads - Monthly	29
Utility Locates	112
Sewer Inspection	1
Street Repair	1
Speed Bump	1
After Hours Work	4

Total Number of Work Orders **2686**

*** Prison Detail: 4 scheduled workdays completed. 14 scheduled workdays missed.**

*** Routine Sewer Lift Station Inspections: 9 Lift Stations inspected daily, 7 days a week.
279 total inspections conducted.**

*** Sanitation (Residential & Commercial): 59 loads collected; 201.86 tons of waste
transported to the transfer station.**

July 2016 Work Orders

Item # 8.

Work Order Id	Service Code	Code Description
25-01029	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01285	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01286	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01300	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01303	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01320	O62	STREET REPAIR
25-01321	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01322	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01323	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01324	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01325	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01327	O98	STREET R-O-W MAINTENANCE
25-01330	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01331	O04	WATER QUALITY
25-01332	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01334	O86	-RESIDENTIAL JUST UNLOCK DO NOT TURN ON
25-01335	O86	-RESIDENTIAL JUST UNLOCK DO NOT TURN ON
25-01336	O15	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01337	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01338	O98	STREET R-O-W MAINTENANCE
25-01339	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01341	O91	AFTER HOURS WORK
25-01342	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01343	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01344	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01345	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01346	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01347	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01348	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01349	O40	GARBAGE REQUEST CHANGE
25-01350	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01351	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01352	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01353	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01354	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01355	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01356	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01357	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01358	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01359	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01360	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01361	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01362	O71	METER INSPECTION

25-01363	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01364	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01365	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01366	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01367	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01368	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01369	011	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01370	060	PAYMENT AGREEMENT
25-01371	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01372	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01373	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01374	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01375	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01376	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01377	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01378	088	SPEED BUMP
25-01379	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01380	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01381	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01382	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01383	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01384	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01385	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01386	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01387	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01388	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01389	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01390	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01391	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01392	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01393	085	-COMMERCIAL TURN ON
25-01394	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01395	011	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01396	040	GARBAGE REQUEST CHANGE
25-01397	051	MEETING WITH CUSTOMER
25-01398	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01399	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01400	085	-COMMERCIAL TURN ON
25-01401	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01402	011	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01403	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01404	085	-COMMERCIAL TURN ON
25-01405	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01406	071	METER INSPECTION

25-01407	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01408	011	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01409	091	AFTER HOURS WORK
25-01410	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01411	051	MEETING WITH CUSTOMER
25-01412	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01413	098	STREET R-O-W MAINTENANCE
25-01414	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01415	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01416	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01420	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01421	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01422	019	INSPECTION
25-01423	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01424	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01425	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01426	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01427	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01428	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01429	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01430	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01431	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01432	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01433	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01434	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01435	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01436	011	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01437	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01439	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01440	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01442	021	RE-READS
25-01443	021	RE-READS
25-01444	021	RE-READS
25-01445	021	RE-READS
25-01446	021	RE-READS
25-01447	021	RE-READS
25-01448	021	RE-READS
25-01449	021	RE-READS
25-01450	021	RE-READS
25-01452	021	RE-READS
25-01453	021	RE-READS
25-01454	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01455	021	RE-READS
25-01456	021	RE-READS

25-01457	O21	RE-READS
25-01458	O21	RE-READS
25-01459	O21	RE-READS
25-01460	O21	RE-READS
25-01461	O21	RE-READS
25-01462	O21	RE-READS
25-01463	O21	RE-READS
25-01464	O21	RE-READS
25-01465	O21	RE-READS
25-01466	O21	RE-READS
25-01467	O71	METER INSPECTION
25-01468	O21	RE-READS
25-01469	O21	RE-READS
25-01470	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01472	O21	RE-READS
25-01473	O21	RE-READS
25-01474	O21	RE-READS
25-01475	O21	RE-READS
25-01476	O98	STREET R-O-W MAINTENANCE
25-01477	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01478	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01479	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01480	O19	INSPECTION
25-01481	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01482	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01483	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01484	O15	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01485	O98	STREET R-O-W MAINTENANCE
25-01486	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01487	O52	SEWER INSPECTION
25-01488	O07	CITY HALL OFFICE MAINTENANCE
25-01489	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01490	O15	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01491	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01492	O15	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01493	O11	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01494	O86	-RESIDENTIAL JUST UNLOCK DO NOT TURN ON
25-01495	O16	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01496	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01497	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01498	O15	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01499	O40	GARBAGE REQUEST CHANGE
25-01500	O29	CUT OFF AND LOCK METER- NON PAYMENT
25-01501	O07	CITY HALL OFFICE MAINTENANCE

25-01502	043	CITY WELLS
25-01503	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01504	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01505	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01506	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01507	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01508	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01509	005	METER CHANGE OUT
25-01510	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01511	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01512	085	-COMMERCIAL TURN ON
25-01513	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01514	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01515	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01516	005	METER CHANGE OUT
25-01517	005	METER CHANGE OUT
25-01518	005	METER CHANGE OUT
25-01519	005	METER CHANGE OUT
25-01520	005	METER CHANGE OUT
25-01521	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01522	015	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01523	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01524	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01525	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01526	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01527	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01534	091	AFTER HOURS WORK
25-01535	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01536	011	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01537	011	CHECK FOR LEAK
25-01538	098	STREET R-O-W MAINTENANCE
25-01539	007	CITY HALL OFFICE MAINTENANCE
25-01540	007	CITY HALL OFFICE MAINTENANCE
25-01541	009	DUMPSTER REPAIR/REPLACE
25-01542	007	CITY HALL OFFICE MAINTENANCE
25-01543	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01544	091	AFTER HOURS WORK
25-01545	084	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01546	007	CITY HALL OFFICE MAINTENANCE
25-01548	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01549	016	GARBAGE REQUEST
25-01550	071	METER INSPECTION
25-01551	098	STREET R-O-W MAINTENANCE
25-01552	059	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT

25-01553	O59	FINAL READ AND LOCK METER- DISCONNECT
25-01554	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01555	O15	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01556	O84	-RESIDENTIAL TURN ON
25-01557	O15	FINAL READING DO NOT LOCK
25-01558	O40	GARBAGE REQUEST CHANGE
25-01607	O37	CUT-OFF NON PYMT-PER COUNCIL TURN BCK ON
25-01608	O42	POLICE DEPARTMENT- SUB STATION
25-01609	OA4	UTILITY LOCATES

MONTHLY REPORT

From the Water Resources Department

Bradley Filaski

July 2026

Water Treatment

- Our city wells produced 16.6 MG.
- Purchased 7.3 MG from the County.
- Performed 195 laboratory tests on drinking water.
- Collected and shipped all required samples for the month to EPD's lab.
- Submitted all Monthly Operating Reports to EPD.
- The water loss was 26.3%.
- Responded to 1 water quality work order.
- Issued 2 Boil Water Advisories.

Water Reclamation

- Discharged 8.5 MG of treated effluent into the Tesnatee Creek.
- Performed 108 laboratory tests on the influent and effluent wastewater.
- Cleaned all UV lamps.
- Submitted the Discharge Monitoring Report to EPD.
- Greased blowers and changed oil.
- Sprayed weeds around the pond dike.

Industrial Pretreatment

- Reviewed Cobb-Vantress and NOK Self-Monitoring Reports.



CITY OF CLEVELAND
SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION

85 South Main Street, Cleveland, Georgia 30528
permitting@clevelandga.org / 706-865-2017 opt. 2

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date Rec'd: 7/6/2026

Permit #:

Item # 10.

Event Name: Agri-Fest Country Market
Event Location: Freedom Park
Event Date: 9/26/26 Event Time: 9:00-3:00 Set up begins: 6:00 AM

Applicant's Name: Denise Hoggins
Applicant's Address: 784 South Main St. P.O. Box 849
City/State/Zip: Cleveland GA 30528
Applicant's phone: 706-878-6495
Email address: dhoggins@gfbco.org

Non-profit Agency/Group &
501 (c)3 Identification:

Additional Emergency Contact: Nathan Eason
Phone number: 706-255-0267
Email Address: neason@uga.edu

Event Type (Provide a description of event and the related benefit to the community):

farmers market Arts + Crafts Festival
Kids Zone Food Trucks

Anticipated number of attendees: 5000 Number of staff: 200

Will food be provided/given away/sold by vendors or food trucks? ☒ yes ☐ no

If so, have you made contact with White County Environmental Health? ☒ yes ☐ no

Will electrical service be needed (if held at Freedom Park)? ☐ yes ☒ no

Electrical service will need to be coordinated by the applicant with the White County

Board of Commissioners.

Will canopy tents be used? ☒ yes ☐ no

How Many: 80-120 Size: 10x10

(enclosed tents are prohibited) 10x20

Clean up of location will be provided by: ☒ Event volunteers ☐ Private Contractor

City of Cleveland Sanitation Department (must be coordinated with City Hall. Additional fees will apply.

Will fireworks be displayed? ☐ yes ☒ no (*separate approval must be obtained by Cleveland Fire Department)

Will speakers, microphones, amplifiers, or sound systems be used? ☒ yes ☐ no

Are street closures requested? ☒ yes ☐ no

*Street closures must be approved by the Mayor and City Council.

N. Brooks + Quillian St. around Freedom Park

Any requests for assistance from the Cleveland Police Department for traffic control, security, or pedestrian crossing assistance must be coordinated directly with the Cleveland Police Department by calling 706-348-7078. Such requests for personnel will incur additional costs which are the sole responsibility of the applicant.

Required supporting documents: copy of Photo ID, list of vendors if applicable, sketched layout to include vendor locations, parking, and tent locations.

Applicant's Signature

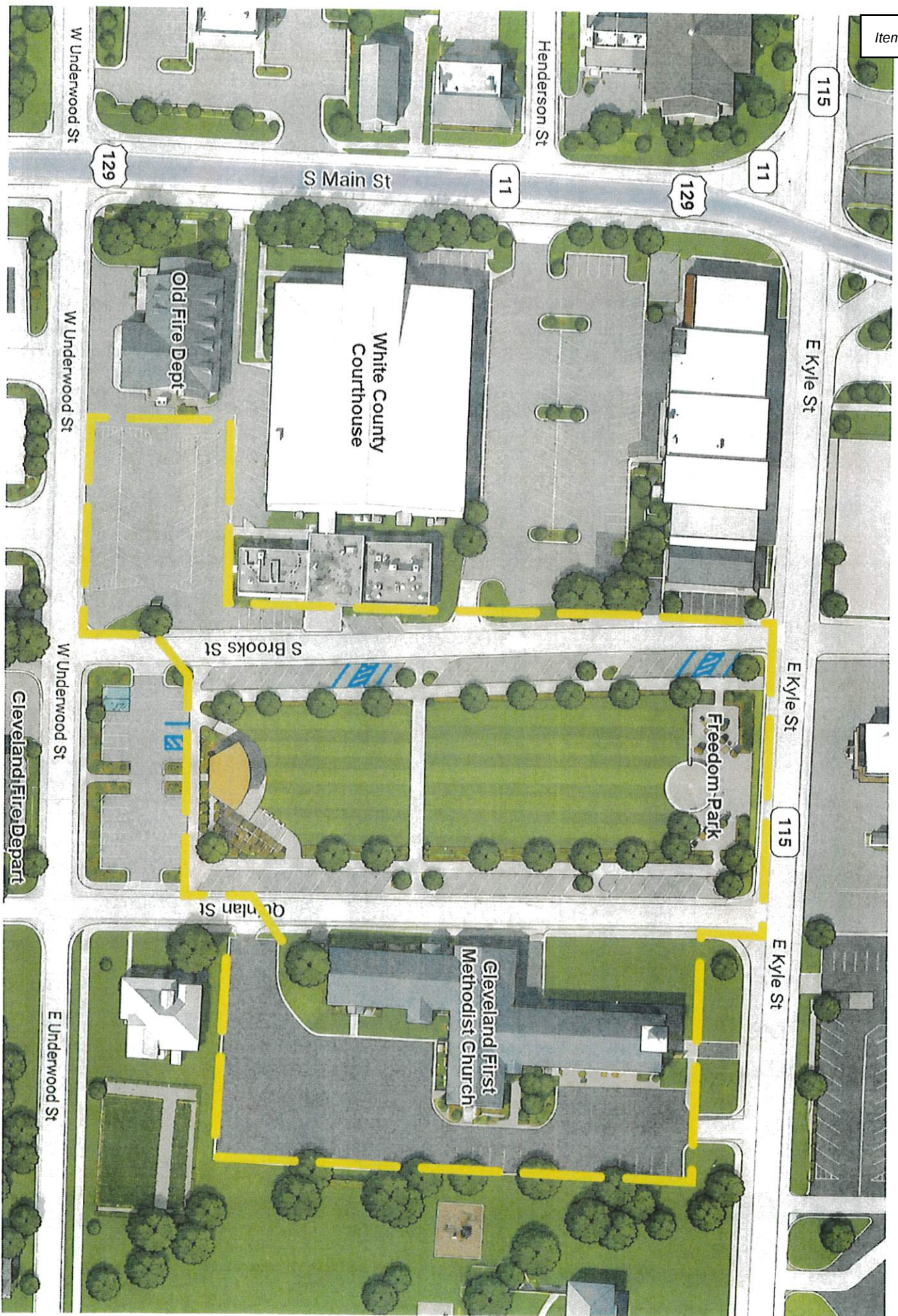
Denise Hoggins
Kim McEntire

Date: 6/11/26

(Boc)

Kim McEntire

7/2/26



To the Honorable Mayor Turner & the City Council Members

Agriculture is a cornerstone of the economy in White County. The county features over 300 farms. Agri-Fest's central theme is set up to appreciate and celebrate White County's farmers and their families, who work to produce food, fiber and shelter; and to feature a glimpse into the past history of agriculture in our county. Along with vendors, there will also be active agricultural demonstrations (e.g. quilting, cider press, bee keeping, etc.).

We know we cannot be successful without the encouragement and support from the City of Cleveland. We are requesting the closure of South Brooks Street & Quinlan Street, police support, and trash. We hope to continue Agri-Fest as an annual event to spot light our farmers and agriculture businesses.

The following areas have been addressed for the 2026 Agri-Fest:

PROPOSED VENDOR COUNT

- 124 Vendors, selling produce, consumables & unique crafts

NET PROCEEDS

- Net proceeds will be used to fund the White County Agri Business Council

POLICE

- Requested street closures (South Brooks St. & Quinlan St).
 - Barriers to be placed so there is access to the parking lot along West Underwood St. & to also allow access to Cleveland First Methodist Church's parking lot.
- Traffic & crowd control to use Cleveland's Police officers.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Safety/first aid
- Will adhere to Cleveland's Fire Department's requirements for Food Truck spacing, etc. (planning on 3-4 trucks)

CLEVELAND FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

- In conjunction with Agri-Fest, the Cleveland First Methodist Church will be hosting their annual FALL FESTIVAL.

WHITE COUNTY PERMIT

- Approved: Kim McEntire (White County)

INSURANCE

- Kim McEntire (White County) checked insurance; Agri-Fest will be covered by current policy; no additional insurance required.

TRASH CONTROL

- Along with the existing trash containers in the park, we are asking for high-capacity waste receptacles to be placed throughout the event & an additional dumpster. Agri-fest will provide all bags for the cans.

Thank you for reviewing the application for the 2026 Agri-Fest!

Animal Milking Station

For a temporary festival setup, a single animal milking station typically requires **150 to 300 square feet** of physical operating space. This accommodates a standard **4' x 9'** or **6' x 6'** milk stand/headgate & leaves room for the handler, sanitation buckets, & safe animal access. However, the exact footprint heavily depends on the layout & the type of setup used:

- **Basic Milk Stand (Hand Milking):** Requires a footprint of about **6' x 9' per animal**. This includes the headgate, the elevated standing platform, & standing room for the demonstrator.
- **Mobile Dairy Classroom:** Many festivals host traveling exhibits (such as Georgia's [Mobile Dairy Classroom](#)). These self-contained trailer units typically require an unobstructed parking & setup footprint of **45' to 50' in length for truck & trailer**.
- **Holding & Waiting Pens:** If the animal is on display for multiple hours, an adjacent waiting/holding pen is needed so animals aren't crowded. Depending on whether it is a goat or a full-sized cow, this requires an additional **15 to 20 square feet per animal**.

Event Planning:

- What types of animals are planned for this event?
- Is this a **hand-milking demonstration** or a **portable milking machine**?
- Prefer _____ 10' x 10' or _____ 15' x 10' for the holding pen?
- No tent, fencing, or sanitation equipment will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set up on grass along the tree line.
- Vendor must bring water/food for the animals.

Vendor: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Special Requirements: _____

Pottery Wheel

A historic pottery wheel demonstration typically requires a footprint of at least **10' x 10'** to comfortably fit the wheel, historic display, clay supplies, & a buffer for onlookers. Larger historical setups with **multiple wheels or interactive clay-wedging stations** often need **10' x 20'** or more.

Key space requirements include:

- **Operating Radius:** The potter needs a 3' x 3' minimum for the wheel itself, plus at least 3' of clearance on all sides to throw, pivot, & maneuver.
- **Safety & Spatter Buffer:** A distance of 3' to 4' is necessary to protect festival-goers and their clothing from flying water & stray clay.
- **Supply & Display:** Additional table space is needed for raw clay, tools, finished "greenware" pieces, & historical context signage.

Event Planning:

- **How many potters** are doing the demonstration?
- Will this be a **static display** or an **interactive/hands-on** booth for guests?
- No tent or fencing will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set up on grass along the center sidewalk on the grass.
- Will vendor also be selling demo related items?

Vendor: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Special Requirements: _____

Quilting station

A historic quilting or live-demonstration station at a festival generally requires a minimum space of **10' x 10'** (the industry standard for festival booths). If you are using a **longarm machine**, you should scale up to **10' x 15'** or **10' x 20'** to accommodate the frame & safe visitor walkways.

Breaking Down the Space Requirements

- **The Machine & Frame:** Traditional sit-down quilting stations only need a single **6'** table space. However, a historic longarm or quilting frame setup spans about 10' x 8' on its own, requiring a deeper footprint.
- **The "Demonstrator" Buffer:** Need at least **3' of clearance** around any machine or table so demonstrators can comfortably maneuver without turning their backs on the crowd.
- **Auxiliary Stations:** If the historic station includes interactive elements (like hand-piecing or historical pattern stamping), a space is needed for a separate **6-foot folding table** for visitors to sit or stand.

Essential Setup Considerations

- **Floor Protection:** Because historic stations are often stationary & heavily trafficked, consider bringing interlocking foam floor mats to prevent demonstrator fatigue.
- **Electrical Needs:** Historic demonstrations may be purely mechanical or hand-driven, but if the demo area requires lighting, a sewing machine, or a modern iron, power needs & wattage must be confirmed with festival organizers in advance.
- **Display Elements:** Since quilting displays perform best vertically, utilize the back of the tent or hanging grids to display finished historic quilts, which will draw a crowd while keeping the workspace clear.

Event Planning:

- **How many quilters** are doing the demonstration?
- **What specific tools or machinery** (e.g., hand-quilting hoops, a sit-down machine, or a longarm frame) are planned to be used.
- Will this be a **static display** or an **interactive/hands-on** booth for guests?
- No tent or fencing will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set up on grass along the center sidewalk on the grass.
- Will vendor also be selling demo related items?

Spinners & Spinning Demo

Wool Spinners

A historic wool spinning demonstration requires a minimum space of **10' x 10'** (100 square feet) to comfortably accommodate the spinner, an antique wheel, raw materials, & an audience without violating event fire codes.

The specific equipment and space requirements vary by the type of wheel being demonstrated:

- **Saxony / Castle Wheels:** These traditional, treadle-operated wheels measure about 3' to 4' in length. A 10' x 10' footprint provides enough room for a chair, supply baskets, & a safe boundary for spectators.
- **Walking / Great Wheels:** These antique wheels stand up to 6' in height & span about 4' to 5' in wheel diameter. Because the spinner must step back & forth to draft & wind the fiber, a **10' x 20'** or larger space is ideal.

Cotton Spinners

A historic cotton spinner demonstration requires a minimum space of **10' x 10'** (the standard festival footprint), though **10' x 20'** or larger is ideal for safely showcasing large antique machines like a Great Wheel (or walking wheel) & accommodating crowds.

Key Space and Setup Considerations

- **The Machine's Footprint:** A Great Wheel (commonly associated with spinning cotton in colonial times & living history events) is large, often measuring 5' to 6' in diameter. You will need extra clearance for the drive band & moving parts.
- **The Spinner's Movement:** Unlike modern wheels, great wheels require the spinner to stand & physically walk backward & forward to draw out the cotton. The layout needs a clear, unobstructed pathway of at least 3' to 4' behind or beside the wheel for this motion.
- **Crowd Control:** Spectators love to gather & see how cotton fuzz is joined and twisted into thread. A 10' x 10' space leaves little room for equipment if a line forms. Upgrading to a 10' x 20' space allows the vendor to set up roped-off "flow space" so spectators do not accidentally bump the wheel or step on dropped cotton.

Essential Layout Equipment

- **Display Tables:** An 8' table is perfect for laying out raw cotton bolls, rove, & historical artifacts for hands-on touching.
- **Safety & Sun Canopy:** If outdoors, a standard 10' x 10' or 10' x 20' popup tent is a necessity to protect the historical wheel from direct sunlight or sudden rain.
- **Display Elements:** A blanket or small table positioned in front of the demonstration area is great for labeling different fiber stages.

Event Planning:

- **What type of historic machine** are you using (e.g., Great Wheel, Charka, or a smaller Castle wheel)?
- Are festival attendees going to be allowed to **try spinning themselves**?
- No tent or fencing will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set up on grass along the center sidewalk on the grass.
- Will vendor also be selling demo related items?

Blacksmith Demo

A standard blacksmithing demonstration needs a minimum footprint of 10' × 10' to 15' × 15' (about 100 to 225 square feet). This space accommodates a forge, anvil, vise, & a safe safety perimeter from sparks & hot steel.

Key spatial and logistical requirements include:

- **Safety Perimeter:** A clear 5' buffer zone is required around the anvil & forge to protect the public from flying scale & radiant heat.
- **Clearance:** The area must have an open-air setup or a very high ceiling with fire-resistant overhead clearance (at least 10') if placed in a tent.
- **Surface:** The ground must be non-flammable—packed dirt, gravel, concrete, or protective fire-rated mats are ideal. Grass requires significant soaking or a flame-proof tarp underneath.
- **Power & Ventilation:** Forges run on solid fuel (coal/coke) or gas (propane). Gas setups are best for confined festival spaces, while coal requires good wind circulation for smoke dissipation.

Event Planning:

- Will the demo be using **coal/coke or propane**?
- Need access to **electricity**?
- Vendor shall provide their own water?
- No tent or fencing will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set up in parking lots along the sidewalk on South Brooks St.
- Will vendor also be selling demo related items?

Vendor: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Special Requirements: _____

Butter Churn

A historic butter churn demonstration requires a footprint of at least **10' x 10'** (the standard festival booth size). This space easily fits the churn, a small prep table, & creates a buffer zone so festival-goers can watch without spilling cream or water.

Space Breakdown & Requirements:

- **The Churn & Operator (4' x 4')**: Whether using a vertical "dasher" churn or a table-top glass "Daisy" churn, Room is needed to comfortably sit or stand & crank the handle.
- **Prep Table (6' x 2.5')**: A folding table is required to hold heavy cream, cheesecloth, bowls, & ice water needed for washing & straining the butter.
- **Crowd Buffer:** The remaining space ensures the audience remains a safe distance from the inevitable splashing that occurs when the butter & buttermilk separate.

Logistics to Consider:

- **Floor Type:** Churning can be messy. Outdoor demonstrations are best placed on grass, while indoor or pavement demos will require a tarp or drop cloth.
- **Electrical:** If running an antique motorized churn (rather than hand-cranked), this demo will need to be positioned near a power outlet.
- **Weather:** If demonstrating outdoors, will likely need a tent to shield the churn from direct sunlight, which can prematurely melt the butter.

Event Planning:

- Is the churn **hand-cranked, manual dasher, or motorized?**
- Will **samples be handed out** or just doing a visual **display**?
- No tent or fencing will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set up on grass along the center sidewalk.
- Will vendor also be selling demo related items?

Vendor: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Special Requirements: _____

Food Trucks

A food truck typically needs a flat space of **25'–35' in length** for a truck, while **food trailers or trucks with generators often require at least 50'** to accommodate towing vehicles & maneuvering. For optimal operation, safety, & customer flow, a **width of 10'–15'** is required, typically allowing **8'–10' of clearance between trucks**.

Ideal Space Requirements

- **Total Length:** 30'–50'+ (including space for tongue, generator, or truck + towing vehicle).
- **Total Width:** 10'–15' (allowing for side serving windows & safety egress doors).
- **Spacing Between Trucks:** 10' buffer is ideal to separate generators & allow for quick exit.

Key Considerations

- **Maneuvering Room:** Trucks require significant space to turn around & enter/exit the area; 28'+ in width is often needed for departure.
- **Serving Side:** Confirm whether the service window is on the driver or passenger side to orient the truck correctly in the space.
- **Behind the Truck:** An extra 5'–10' behind the truck is helpful for additional storage or cooking prep.
- **Safety Zones:** Ensure there is dedicated space for lines to form without blocking pedestrian pathways or other vendors.

Note: Always verify minimum space requirements with your local fire marshal, as they dictate safety clearances between food units.

Historic Shingle Mill Demo

An historic shingle mill demonstration generally requires a footprint of at least **20'x 30'** (600 square feet). This space comfortably houses the mill itself, operational clearance for the carriage, log staging, the operator, & a safe spectator viewing distance.

Key Space Requirements

- **The Footprint:** While the mill itself may only measure about 6'x 10', you need additional room around it to safely handle bulky log bolts, load the carriage, & stack the finished cedar/wooden shingles.
- **Safety Buffer:** Spinning saw blades & flying wood debris demand a clear perimeter. It is best practice to set up heavy-duty stanchions, barricades, or ropes at least 5' to 6' away from the moving parts to protect festival attendees.
- **Material Staging:** Extra room will be needed to store incoming raw wood (bolts) & stacks of finished shingles.

Operational Considerations

- **Debris & Cleanliness:** Shingle mills produce a massive amount of sawdust. Festival layout places should be on pavement or gravel, & leave room for a designated drop zone for waste or sawdust collection.
- **Power Source:** If the historic mill is running off an antique gas engine or a belted tractor (like an old Farmall), you must account for the space of the power unit & the connecting flat belt.

Event Planning:

- Will the demo be using a hand-fed swing mill, automatic, or horizontal saw?
- Will a tractor, gas engine, or electric motor be used to power it?
- No tent or fencing will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set up in parking lots along the sidewalk on South Brooks St.
- Will vendor also be selling demo related items?

Vendor: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Special Requirements: _____

Cider Press

A historic cider press requires a festival footprint of at least **10' × 10'** for a small hand-cranked basket press, up to **15' × 20'** for a large, horse-drawn or beam-style antique press. This space accommodates the equipment, operating zones, & crowd flow for public viewing.

Key Space Requirements to Plan For

- **The Machine Footprint:** The central press & grinder typically measure between **4' to 6' long & 2' to 4' wide**.
- **Operating Zone:** Need **3' to 4' of clearance on all sides** for volunteers to operate the cranks, load apples, & switch out baskets or collection buckets.
- **Crowd Buffer:** Historic presses draw crowds. Add an extra **3' to 5' of perimeter** space as a safety barrier so spectators remain at a safe distance from flying apple pomace & moving parts.

Essential Setup Zones

To run the press efficiently and cleanly, the space should be divided to allocate festival space into these four micro-zones:

1. **Washing Station:** A table with tubs to clean the apples before they hit the grinder.
2. **Grinding & Pressing Station:** The primary machinery needs level, stable ground, preferably with a tarp underneath to catch spills & discarded pomace.
3. **Juice Collection:** A table for food-grade collection buckets, cheesecloths/mesh bags, & pouring pitchers.
4. **Sanitation & Waste:** Trash cans for discarded apple cores and a wash station for volunteers to clean their hands and equipment.

Event Planning:

- What **specific model or type** of press is being used?
- Will **the cider be sold** or just doing **educational demonstrations**?
- No tent or fencing will be provided by AgriFest.
- Area will be set in the parking spaces along sidewalk of South Brooks St.

Vendor: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Special Requirements: _____

AgriFest/Country Market
Saturday, September 26, 2026

Vendord

Madison Alford	Baked Goods	
Emily Allison	Wooden Door Hangers	
Nanette Boughman	Non Profit/Family Connection	Non Profit
Jordan & Julie Bell	Sprout/Soaps/Salves/Candels	Paid
Laurie Carpenter	Baked Goods	Paid
Ginny Davidson	Soaps	Paid
Jillian Deleon	Baked Goods	
Cami Downey	Family Promise	Non Profit
Debby Duncan	Jams/Jellies	Paid
Renee Gable	Shirts/Tumblers	Paid
Tracey Gazaway	Jams/Jellies	Paid
Earl Gooch	Produce	Paid
Melissa Howitz(2)	Meat/Pigs/Chickens	Paid
Melissa Jackson	Baked Goods	
Scott Jones	Grinola	Paid
Undre Cia Kelley	Wood Crafts	
Jeanne Latta	Baked Goods	
Lauren Marshall	Pickles	
Emily McConnell	WC Public Library	Non Profit
Megan McKellar	Baked Goods	
Haley Moore	Jewelry	Paid
Emily Nguyen	Jewelry	
Michell Orr	Salves	Paid
Cole Partin	Garlic	Paid
Mary Ranson	Gnomes	Paid
Megan Rhoades	Baked Good	Paid
Ann Showalter	Hot Pads, Bowl covers	
Jane Sims	Embroidery	Paid
Paula Spicer	Soap/lotion	
Hartwell Taylor	Pellet Fiber	
Charlie Thomas	Produce	Paid
Anna Toms	Baked Goods	
Amada Wade	Crochet Items	Paid
Tiffany Wehunt	Hand Dyed Items	
Lane Westfall	Produce	Paid
Jennifer Whitaker	Tshirts	Paid
Heather Williamson	Baked Goods	Paid

Food Vendors

Michael Meaders	Boiled Peanuts	
FT Randal Summerour	Kitchen of Dana	BBQ, Mac & Cheese
FT David Enriquez	Tacos El Norteña	
Sandra Poulsen	Burgers, Hotdogs, Fries, Chicken	
Ruby Anderson	Lemonade	

Demo

Barbara Collins	Quilting
Avery Hutto	Kids Zone Bridge Church
Alan Latty	Hit and Miss Tractor
Bridget Tuckey	Master Gardener
Beth Tuttle	Honeybees
Lane Westfall	Hydroponic Demonstration
Nadine Wardenga	Apple Press
David Howington	Tractors
Brook Crump	Cows/Large Animal Vet
Bob Slack	Wood Working
Hardman Farms	Butter and Canning
Georgia Beef Board	Information
NEGA Cattleman's	Cattle Equipment
North GA Tech	Rusty Logan Ag Program
Georgia Dairy Trailer	Milking Cow
Melissa Howitz	Farm Animals
Cheryl Sluder	Spinner
David Howington	Blacksmith

August 5, 2026

**RISK MANAGEMENT
AND EMPLOYEE
BENEFITS SERVICES**

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Larry H. Hanson
CEO and Executive
Director

Randy Logan
Deputy Executive
Director

Lisa Ritchie
City of Cleveland
85 S Main St
Cleveland, GA 30528-1301

Dear Lisa,

Each year, the GMEBS actuary team reviews the premium levels and plan designs offered by the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Life & Health Insurance Fund to determine if rates are sufficient to support claims and medical cost trends for the next plan year.

At the June 2026 GMEBS Board of Trustees meeting, the actuaries presented the annual premium review and renewal for the Life & Health Trust to the Trustees. The renewal for the Trust was approved, allowing the commencement of the renewal period for the 2027 plan year.

**ACTION
REQUIRED**

- 1) Please review the information contained in this letter and (if needed) consult with your organization's management or council as soon as possible to determine health plan selections for 2027.
- 2) Upon decision, please [click here to complete the Renewal Form](#) by **Friday, September 4, 2026** to affirm no changes, request changes, and/or request a virtual meeting.

Note: A timely response is required from all employers, whether changing or keeping plans the same.

Important Changes for Open Enrollment 2026 and Plan Year 2027

NEW! Employee Self Service with COMPASS

- Employees will be able to make their own Open Enrollment elections and updates using the COMPASS portal.
- A webinar and additional information will be available to your HR or Admin team in September.

Medical Option Updates

- **New plan option:** High-Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) qualified for use with a Health Savings Plan (HSA). The new plan design is a POS 80/60 with a \$6,000 deductible.
- **Plan deductible update:** The current HDHP/HSA plan POS 80/60 \$3,400 deductible *will change to the POS 80/60 \$3,500* due to IRS guidelines.

NEW! Dental Plan Enhancements & Pricing

- The Annual Maximum benefit for those covered will increase from \$1,500 per covered member to \$1,750 per calendar year.
- The Lifetime Maximum benefit for Orthodontia coverage will increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500.
- **New Premiums for 2027:** Employee Only - \$30.00 per employee per month
Employee + Dependents - \$90.00 per employee per month

No changes or updates to the Vision Plan

- Plan design and premiums remain the same for 2027.

NEW! Employee Assistance Plan (EAP)

We launched a new EAP in Spring 2026 - now is a great time to add this benefit for your employees! The monthly cost is only \$1.85 per employee per month. Contact us today to get started!

**RISK MANAGEMENT
AND EMPLOYEE
BENEFITS SERVICES****Important Renewal Information for Life & Health Benefits****EXECUTIVE STAFF**

Larry H. Hanson
CEO and Executive
Director

Randy Logan
Deputy Executive
Director

- This year's **Renewal Period** begins on July 27, 2026, and ends on September 4, 2026.
- It is very important we receive your confirmation of health plan changes (or other program updates) **by the deadline of Friday, September 4, 2026** to allow time for us to prepare your organization's benefit materials and for our vendors to prepare to process your employees' Open Enrollment changes.
- Open Enrollment materials will be delivered via email by the first week of October.
- Virtual Open Enrollment meetings may be scheduled from October 1st through November 1st.
- Employee coverage changes (if any) should be submitted either by the employer via Manager Access Point (MAP) or by the employee via COMPASS between November 1st and November 15th.
- 2027 premiums for new rates and any plan or program changes will be on the January 2027 invoice.

The Life & Health Services team is available during the renewal and open enrollment periods to assist you in balancing the costs and care of your employees. We are here to help you with budgeting for next year's health costs as well as planning open enrollment events or education sessions for your employees.

We also offer wellness programs at no additional charge. For more information about wellness, please contact Candace Amos, Sr. Health & Financial Wellness Consultant, at wellness@gacities.com

Thank you for your continued membership in the Life & Health program. Please let us know how we can assist you during this year's Renewal period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kiara Dyson'.

Kiara Dyson
Sr. Manager, Life & Health Insurance Services

CC: John Solmon, Finance Officer

RISK MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SERVICES

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Larry H. Hanson
CEO and Executive
Director

Randy Logan
Deputy Executive
Director

RENEWAL SUMMARY

City of Cleveland

PLAN YEAR: JANUARY 1, 2027 – DECEMBER 31, 2027

Instructions

Please carefully review the information below and [click here to complete the Renewal Form](#) by **Friday, September 4, 2026** to indicate if you **accept the Renewal** rates for plan year 2027 OR would like to **change coverages offered**.

You may also contact Life & Health Services at lifeandhealthadministration@gacities.com or 678– 651-1039 for assistance with setting up a virtual Renewal Meeting.

CURRENT MEDICAL PLANS & RATES (2026)

	HSA 3400	POS 80/60 - 2000	PPO 90/70 - 1500
Employee Only	\$1,049.00	\$1,106.00	\$1,255.00
Employee and Spouse			
Employee and Child			
Employee and Family	\$2,562.00	\$2,702.00	\$3,067.00

RENEWAL MEDICAL PLANS & RATES (2027)

	HSA 3500	POS 80/60 - 2000	PPO 90/70 - 1500
Employee Only	\$1,049.00	\$1,106.00	\$1,255.00
Employee and Spouse			
Employee and Child			
Employee and Family	\$2,562.00	\$2,702.00	\$3,067.00

CURRENT DENTAL & VISION RATES (2026)

	Dental	Vision
Currently Participating in Plan?	Yes	Yes
Employee Only	\$25.00	\$7.46
Employee and Spouse	\$76.00	\$14.91
Employee and Child	\$76.00	\$15.29
Employee and Family	\$76.00	\$22.74

NEW DENTAL & CURRENT VISION RATES (2027)

	Dental	Vision
Employee Only	\$30.00	\$7.46
Employee and Spouse	\$90.00	\$14.91
Employee and Child	\$90.00	\$15.29
Employee and Family	\$90.00	\$22.74



Cleveland City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 03, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Oak Springs Community Center – 342 Campbell Street, Cleveland, GA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Josh Turner, Council Members Nan Bowen (Mayor Pro Tem), Annie Sutton, Jeremy McClure, and C.J. McDonald

Also, present were City Manager Kevin Harris, City Attorney Keith Whitaker, and City Clerk Lisa Ritchie

INVOCATION

1. Associate Pastor Dennis Turner, Cleveland First Baptist Church, and White County Ministerial Alliance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Sutton, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Resolution 2026-12 to Amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget

Deputy City Manager/Finance Director John Solmon addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He stated the need for an amendment to the FY 2025/2026 budget.

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve Resolution 2026-12 to amend the FY 2025/2026 budget.

3. Resolution 2026-13 Affirming the Relocation of City Council, Boards, Commissions and Authority Meetings to the new Cleveland Municipal Complex

Mr. Harris addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He stated that the Resolution formally establishes the Cleveland Municipal Complex, located at 55 Cantrell Road, as the official location for all Council, Board, Commission, and Authority meetings, effective September 21, 2026.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve Resolution 2026-13 affirming the relocation of city Council, boards, commissions and authority meetings to the new Cleveland Municipal Complex.

CALLED MEETING/MEETING MINUTES

4. Approval of the July 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Sutton and voted, unanimously, to approve the July 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

5. Approval of the July 20, 2026 Executive Session Minutes

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the July 20, 2026 Executive Session Minutes.

CITY ATTORNEY KEITH WHITAKER

Mr. Whitaker did not have any items to report.

CITY MANAGER KEVIN HARRIS

Mr. Harris discussed the following items:

- Move to the Cleveland Municipal Complex
- New Water Resource Director Scott Brown
- Pending retirement of Water Resource Director Andrea Smith
- Operations and Communications Coordinator interviews

Mr. Harris presented information regarding the proposed millage rate. He stated that a Notice of Property Tax Increase would be published later in the week. He explained that the previous millage rate was 5.056 mills and that the proposed rate is 1.938 mills. Although the proposed rate is lower than the previous year's rate, it exceeds the calculated rollback rate by 0.012 mills; therefore, Georgia law requires the City to advertise a tax increase and hold public hearings.

Mr. Harris further stated that FLOST revenue in the amount of \$454,060, representing only a portion of the year's collections, contributed to a reduction in the City's 2026 property taxes. He noted that 60.35% of the City's property tax revenue will be replaced by voter-approved local sales tax revenue.

He announced that public hearings on the proposed millage rate are scheduled for August 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., and August 20, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. He further stated that adoption of the millage rate is scheduled for August 20, 2026, at 6:15 p.m.

Council Member McDonald summarized Mr. Harris's presentation, stating that citizens would receive a significant property tax reduction in 2026 and that property taxes are projected to decrease further in 2027, potentially to zero.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Ritchie gave the announcements.

6. The White County Water Authority Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at the White County Water Authority
7. The Turner Creek Water Treatment Plan Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at the White County Water Authority
8. The next Cleveland City Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 17, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Oak Springs Community Center
9. The Planning and Zoning Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Oak Springs Community Center

ADJOURN

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member Sutton and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Meeting of August 3, 2026, at 6:47 p.m.



Cleveland City Council Called Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Oak Springs Community Center – 342 Campbell Street, Cleveland, GA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Josh Turner, Council Members Nan Bowen (Mayor Pro Tem), Annie Sutton, Jeremy McClure, and C.J. McDonald

Also, present were City Manager Kevin Harris, Deputy City Manager/Finance Director John Solmon, and City Clerk Lisa Ritchie

INVOCATION

Council Member Annie Sutton gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen, and voted, unanimously, to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. First Public Hearing - Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Millage Rate and Digest

Mayor Turner opened the Public Hearing. He stated that the current millage rate is 5.056 mills and that Georgia law requires the City to advertise a notice of property tax increase if the full rollback millage rate is not adopted. He stated that the city intends to retain the current millage rate of 5.056 mills.

Mayor Turner provided additional information regarding the Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST). He explained that the 1% tax approved by the citizens of White County may only be used to reduce property taxes. The FLOST revenue is divided among White County, the City of Cleveland, and the City of Helen, with the City of Cleveland eligible to receive up to 15% of the revenue.

Mayor Turner further explained that, although FLOST revenue is being used to help reduce property taxes, under Georgia tax laws, the City's proposed millage rate of 1.938 mills, which is 0.012 mills higher than the rollback rate of 1.926 mills, constitutes a millage rate increase. However, by applying the FLOST revenue toward property tax relief, the City can retain the 5.056-mill rate while providing the equivalent of a 1.938-mill property tax reduction.

Mr. Harris stated that the city collaborated with the City of Helen and White County to place the question before the voters, which was subsequently approved by the voters.

Mr. Solmon addressed the Mayor and Council Members and provided a presentation regarding the 2026 tax digest and five-year history of the levy. He stated that the current tax digest reflects a 60.35% decrease in taxes for this year. He also reviewed the millage overview, which reflects an increase of \$1,847.

Mayor Turner asked if there were any public comments. Ms. Ritchie stated that there were none.

Council Member Sutton expressed her appreciation to staff for their work.

Mayor Turner closed the Public Hearing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Turner stated the dates and times for the upcoming Public Hearings regarding the millage rate.

2. The Second Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Millage Rate and Digest will be held at a Called Meeting on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. at the Oak Springs Community Center, located at 342 Campbell Street

ADJOURN

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Called Meeting of August 13, 2026, at 6:13 p.m.

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of Cleveland announces the intent to increase the 2026 property taxes by 0.02% (percent) over the rollback millage rate. The rate increase is to support the growing expenses for public safety, public works, and administration.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this tax increase to be held at the Oak Springs Community Center, 342 Campbell Street, Cleveland GA on **August 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** and on **August 20, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

The 2026 millage rate will be voted on immediately following the third hearing on **August 20, 2026 at 6:15p.m.**

This tentative increase will result in a millage rate of **1.938 mills**, an increase of **.012 mills** over the rollback rate. Without this proposed tax increase, the millage rate would be no more than **1.926 mills**. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of **\$300,000** is approximately **\$1.44.**

WHITE COUNTY, CLEVELAND AND HELEN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TRAINING
AUGUST 20, 2026, FAIRFIELD SUITES, 8035 South Main Street, Helen, Georgia

9:00am	WELCOME AND KICKOFF
9:30am	ROLES OF DIFFERENT AUTHORITIES
10:00am	WHO IS INVOLVED IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
10:20am	Break
10:30am	WHAT YOU DO vs. WHAT THE PUBLIC PERCEIVES
11:15am THAT MATTERS	FUNDING FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES & WHY
12:00pm	Lunch Break
1:00pm COMMUNITY	VALUE OF DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT WITHIN YOUR
1:15pm YOUR COMMUNITY	VALUE OF “TRADITIONAL” ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITHIN
1:30pm	VALUE OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY
1:45pm YOUR COMMUNITY	WORKING TOGETHER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GAINS IN
2:00pm	Break (optional)
2:10pm	WRAP-UP ACTIVITY...