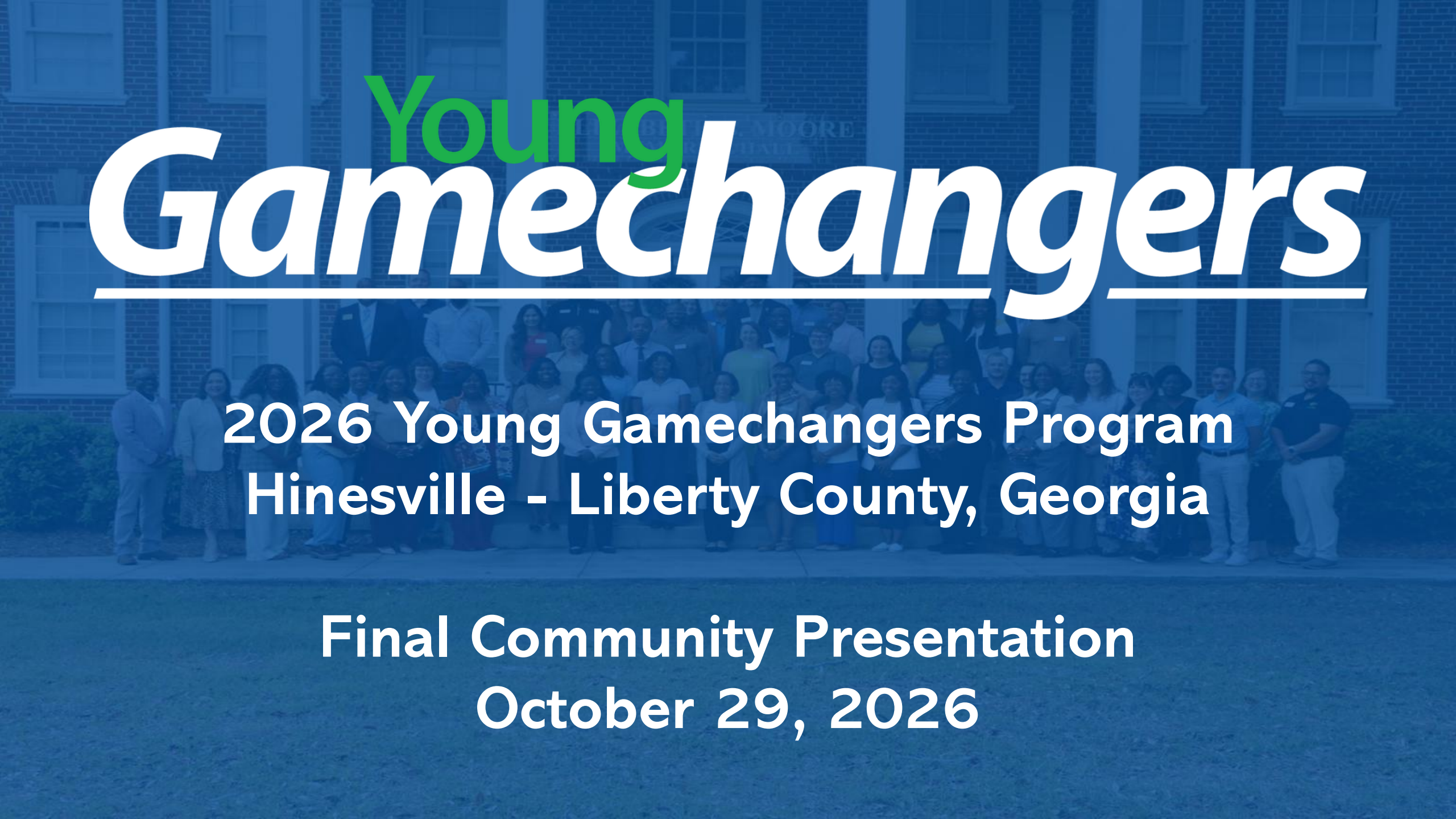




# Young Gamechangers

2026 Young Gamechangers Program  
Hinesville - Liberty County, Georgia

Final Community Presentation  
October 29, 2026

# **Young** **Gamechangers**

Thank You to Our Sponsors



# Young Gamechangers

## Welcome

Sadie Krawczyk

Managing Director, GeorgiaForward

Georgia Municipal Association



# *Young Gamechangers*

Larry Hanson

CEO & Executive Director,  
Georgia Municipal Association



# *Young Gamechangers*

Karl Riles

Mayor,  
City of Hinesville





# 1

## Liberty Rising Collaborative

### CHALLENGE QUESTION

How might Hinesville and Liberty County create community experiences and increase beautification efforts, including key gateways and public spaces, to create a compelling lifestyle that attracts and keeps young families?

# THE TEAM

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**Jesse Branch**  
Special Events Coordinator  
Newnan, GA



**Queenie Brown**  
Deputy City Clerk  
College Park, GA



**Alfred Dixon**  
City Councilman  
Jonesboro, GA



**Mikia Frazier**  
Teacher and Program Director  
Riceboro, GA



**Kimberly Hardin**  
Owner of KNS Janitorial  
Solutions  
Hinesville, GA



**Delaney Lann**  
Environmental Engineer  
Hinesville, GA



**Markie Oge**  
Juvenile Probation Parole  
Specialist  
Hinesville, GA



**Arielle Peters**  
Cybersecurity and Data  
Engineer  
Fairburn, GA



**Kendra Rolle**  
North Ward City Commissioner  
Brunswick, GA



**Xandria Shields**  
Grant Specialist  
Union City, GA



**Dana Watson-Green**  
Administrative Professional  
Albany, GA

# THREE BIG IDEAS



## Liberty Voices

*Community Input*



## The Vibe Loop Initiative

*Community Connectivity*



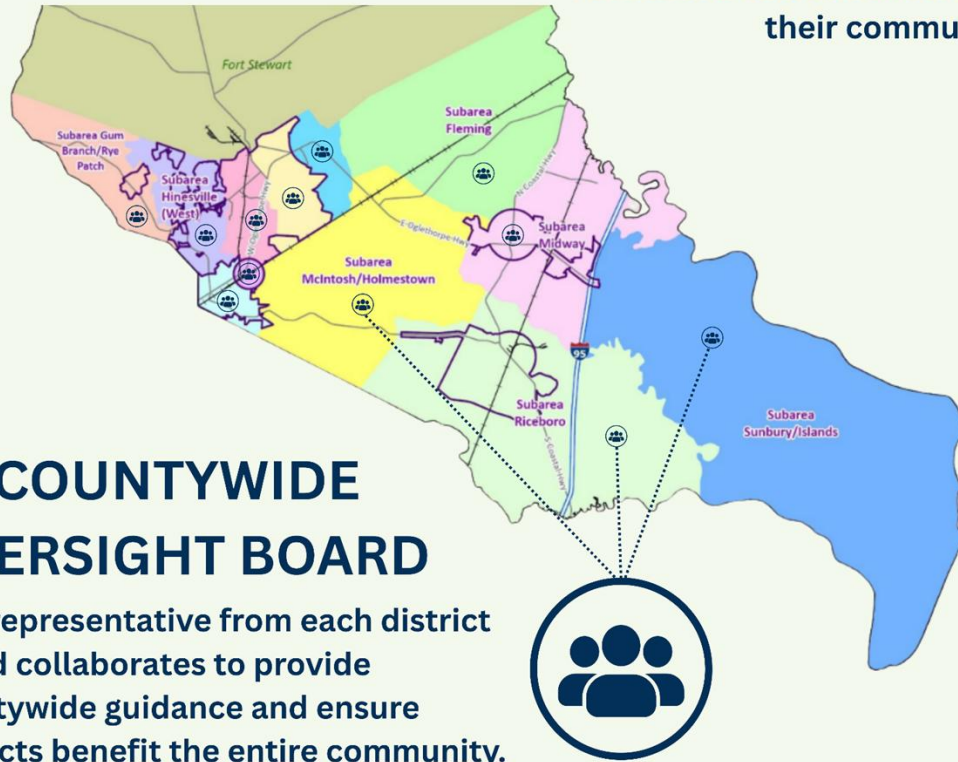
## Liberty Hydro Plan

*Community Placemaking*

# HOW IT WORKS

## 1 DISTRICT BOARDS

One board per county subarea made up of passionate residents who reflect the voice and identity of their communities.



## 2 COUNTYWIDE OVERSIGHT BOARD

One representative from each district board collaborates to provide countywide guidance and ensure projects benefit the entire community.

Establishment of a resident-led framework for community engagement and collaboration through district-based boards and a countywide advisory committee to provide residents with the opportunity to help shape their community



OUR COMMUNITY. OUR VOICE. OUR FUTURE.

# RECOMMENDATION OVERVIEW



OUR COMMUNITY. OUR VOICE. OUR FUTURE.

## WHAT WE DO



### LISTEN

Gather input from residents, neighborhood associations, faith-based organizations, civic groups, and more.



### ASSESS

Conduct community inventories to identify assets, challenges, and opportunities.



### ENVISION

Create vision plans that reflect local priorities and long-term goals.



### BEAUTIFY

Advance projects like community gardens, pocket parks, murals, public art, and more.



### IMPROVE SAFETY

Support initiatives that enhance roadway safety, sidewalks, lighting, and overall neighborhood safety.

## OUR IMPACT



### STRENGTHEN PUBLIC BUY-IN

Increase partnership in decision-making across the county.



### CONNECT & COMMUNICATE

Serve as liaisons to bring concerns and ideas from residents to leaders.



### CAPTURE LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Honor our historians, elders, and youth as we preserve our past and shape our future.



### BUILD COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

Empower residents to take pride in and care for their communities.



### DRIVE POSITIVE CHANGE

Work together on projects that create vibrant, beautiful, and safe places to live.

Create a direct connection between Liberty County governments and its neighborhoods, residents, and business owners

1. Breakdown Liberty County into Districts based on the Neighborhood Planning Unit model
2. Establish community boards for each district with consistent bylaws and appointed residents
3. Gather community input, develop vision plans, and identify residential priorities for placemaking, beautification, and community identity
4. County-wide advisory board and Appointed residents will ensure ongoing connections between residents and local governments

# ACTION STEPS

## Short-Term (Year 1)

### Creation of Boards

- Create Bylaws and Procedures
- Identify Districts
- Community Outreach and Surveying
- Board Member application and Selection

## Medium-Term (Years 2-3)

### Project Funding & Public Engagement

- Meetings Conducted in accordance with Bylaws
- District Boards prioritize first placemaking needs
- County Board Leaders meet annually
- County determines annual funding for placemaking projects
- Districts spearhead placemaking projects

## Long-Term (Years 3+ )

### Creation of Boards

- Creation of Community Priority and Impact Reports
- Integration of recommendations into county planning efforts

# BUDGET

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|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program Coordinator              | <b>\$20,000-\$40,000 (Annual)</b><br>Role established to create a central means of communicating goals, meeting times, projects/financial reporting. This position could be an additional position through the County, or a portion of existing staff time |
| Operations and Marketing         | <b>\$3,000-\$5,000 (Annual)</b><br>Operations: Meeting Supplies, Printed Materials, and Meeting Space Rentals<br>Marketing: Creation of logo, flyers, and surveys                                                                                          |
| Legal Expenses                   | <b>\$1,000-\$3,000 (One-Time)</b><br>Creation of Bylaws and Operating Procedures                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Liberty Voices and Grant Program | <b>\$30,000 (Annual)</b><br>Creation of a \$2,500 placemaking grant to be applied for by the district boards then approved and distributed by the County                                                                                                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>\$54,000-\$73,000 recurring costs</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

## Public Funding:

### Liberty County Hotel/Motel Tax Funds

Estimated Amount: \$30,000

### T-Mobile Hometown Grant

Estimated Amount: \$50,000 max.

### Keep America Beautiful Grants

Estimated Amount: \$5,000



## District Boards:

### Fundraising

This funding option would be dependent upon individual efforts and community board structure. Each district could have the opportunity to organize fundraisers for their communities which would pay for their placemaking and beautification efforts



## BIG IDEA 2

# The Vibe Loop Initiative

The Vibe Loop Initiative connects Hinesville and Liberty County through improved transit, safer walkways, public art, and beautification, making it easier for residents to access jobs, parks, local businesses, and community experiences

# RECOMMENDATION OVERVIEW

Build a framework for a more connected, vibrant, and inclusive Liberty County around three pillars:

## 1. MOVE

## 3. CARE

## 2. EXPERIENCE

MOVE: Enhance existing bus routes, explore microtransit, improve regional connections, and invest in safer sidewalks and pedestrian infrastructure

EXPERIENCE: Create memorable spaces that improve the experience of Hinesville residents and celebrate the unique identity of the local demographic

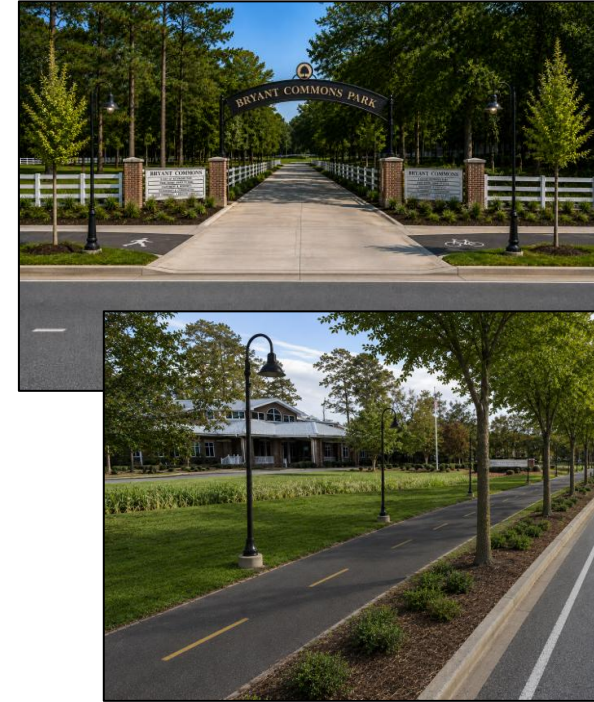
CARE: Focus on beautification by investing in the appearance, safety, and maintenance of public spaces



## Trail Recommendations

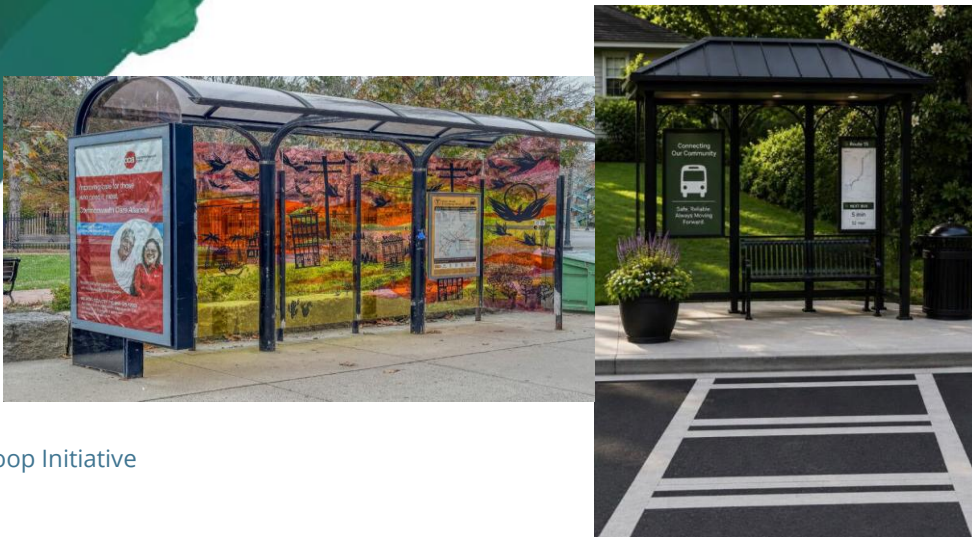


Expansion of a sidewalk to a multi-Use trail loop along Hwy 196 and Oglethorpe Hwy to Connect Veterans Parkway and 15th Street, Downtown Hinesville to Bryant Commons Park, and Residential Developments (Cherokee Station, Hacks Pasture) to Hwy 84. Crosswalk improvements, visual separations & queues, bike lanes, and extra lighting required along the trails



## Transit Recommendations

Enhance the existing transit system by increasing the route frequency, adding micro loops that will decrease overall travel time and walking distance, and incorporating regional transit loops which take riders to a single connecting spot in each community along a long route. Beautification and convenience infrastructure, as well as ADA accessibility should be added for improved rider experience.



# Vibe Loop Map



# ACTION STEPS

## Short-Term (Years 1-3)

### Baseline Development & Residential Need Determination

- Current ridership determination & surveys
- Catalog of infrastructure and transit needs
- Design PR Campaign media for LC Parks & Rec & COH programs and events

Vibe Loop Initiative

## Medium-Term (Years 4-8)

### Funding Procurement

- Grant & Loan identification & applications, obtain local business partnerships and advertisements, and allocation of City/County funds
- Artist Applications and determination
- Minor Infrastructure improvements (ads, trash, art, ADA accommodations, sidewalk & intersection safety, lighting, streetscaping)
- Distribution of PR campaign media

## Long-Term (Years 8+ )

### Infrastructure Installation

- Engineering procurement, design, and permitting
- Multi-use trail construction
- Transit System rerouting & bus shelter, crosswalk, and sidewalk installation and improvements
- Continued Streetscaping along improved corridors
- Mural and Sculpture Installations
- Conduct pop-up events to bring attention to completed construction projects and encourage residential use along beltline loop

# BUDGET

|                                                                                             |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Crosswalk Art Refresh<br>(Every 3 years)                                                    | \$15,000                                        |
| Bus Shelter Beautification & Maintenance<br>(Annual)                                        | ~\$10,000                                       |
| Local Transit Advertisements<br>(Monthly Revenue)                                           | \$550 per ad in bus<br>\$800 per bus shelter ad |
| Part, Transit, and Events PR Campaign<br>(Biannual updates as required for seasonal events) | \$1,800                                         |
| Bus Maintenance<br>(Annual)                                                                 | \$50,000                                        |
| Transit Personnel<br>(Annual)                                                               | \$500,000                                       |
| <b>TOTAL<br/>(Recurring Costs)</b>                                                          | <b>\$576,800</b>                                |

|                                                      |                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sidewalk Improv. & Installation                      | \$500,000                                |
| Multi-use Trail Installation                         | \$11,800,000                             |
| Crosswalk Installation & Art                         | \$185,000                                |
| Pedestrian Lighting & Beacons                        | \$2,300,000                              |
| Intersection Improvements                            | \$90,000                                 |
| Transit Shelters, sidewalk improv., & ADA compliance | \$0-\$1,000,000<br>(100,000 per shelter) |
| Bus Shelter Beautification & Maintenance & Bus Wrap  | \$28,500-30,000                          |
| Streetscaping & Signage                              | \$3,810,000                              |
| Public Art – Murals & Sculptures                     | \$1,000,000                              |
| <b>TOTAL<br/>(One-time Engineering Costs)</b>        | <b>\$19,713,500-<br/>\$20,715,000</b>    |

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

## Local Funding:

### **Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST)**

1%-2% of available SPLOST funds

### **State and Local Transit Funds**

### **Local Business Partnerships/Advertising Income**

Estimated Amount: \$550 per bus  
ad & \$800 per bus shelter ad

## Public Funding for Infrastructure:

### **TIFIA Rural Project Initiative (RPI)**

49% loan funding of total project

### **Transit Trust Fund Program (TTFP)**

Match grant

### **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) - GDOT**

\$1,000,00 grant with 20% match

### **Land & Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) – GA DNR**

\$25K-\$750K grant with 50% match

## Public Funding for Art and Beautification:

### **Vibrant Communities Grant (GA Council for the Arts)**

\$1,000-\$5,000 with 50% match

### **Roadside Enhancement & Beautification Council (REBC) - GDOT**

\$50,000 grant with no required  
match

### **Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – GA DNR**

\$200,000 grant with 20% match

### **Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Grant (GOSP) – GA DNR**

\$500,000-\$3,000,000 grant with  
25% match



BIG IDEA 3

## Liberty Hydro Plan

Improve community placemaking by constructing Hydro Commons through Liberty County which reflect each community's unique history and character while introducing accessible water-based play and attractive green cooling spaces which can improve stormwater management efforts and hot stops.

**OPTION 1**  
**MARSH HARMONY PLAZA**

Inspired by the rhythm of marshlands and the flow of tidal waters.



Features: Tidal pattern plaza • Marsh grass pavilion • Interactive water & sound elements • Native landscaping



**THE RAIN SYMPHONY**

Rainfall activates the Hydro-Harmonics system, creating a symphony of sound inspired by Liberty County's natural rhythms and cultural heritage.

**OPTION 2**  
**WATERWAYS STORY CIRCLE**

A gathering place for storytelling, culture, and connection.



Features: Story circle pavilion • Cultural exhibits • Sweetgrass-inspired patterns • Rain garden edges • Gathering & performance space

**OPTION 3**  
**LIVING SHORELINE GARDEN**

A naturalized park experience that heals, educates, and connects us to the coast.



Features: Living shoreline • Rain gardens • Boardwalk & overlooks • Wildlife habitat • Educational signage

RECOMMENDATION OVERVIEW

# ACTION STEPS

## Short-Term (Year 1)

### Planning and Design

- Request for Engineering Qualifications Bid
- Site Selections throughout county
- Planning and Design for each site
- Community Surveys

## Medium-Term (Years 2-3)

### Construction of Flagship Location

- Project Funding Allocation
- Bidding for contractor
- Construction of Flagship Location

## Long-Term (Years 3+ )

### Construction of County-wide Locations

- Select each low-elevation site throughout the county which can use additional stormwater management
- Continually apply for grant funding to supplement project costs
- Conduct Impact Surveys on water management successes and community satisfaction

# BUDGET

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|                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Planning and Design            | \$180,000-\$300,000            |
| Flagship Location Construction | \$850,000-\$1,350,000          |
| County-wide “Micro” Commons    | \$1,000,000-\$1,500,000        |
| Annual Maintenance             | \$120,000-\$200,000            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>\$2,150,000-\$3,350,000</b> |

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

## Local Funding:

### Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST)

1%-2% of available SPLOST funds

### Liberty County and Hinesville Hotel/Motel Tax

2% of available funds



## Public Funding:

### GA Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) - GA DNR

\$500,000-\$3M grant with 25%  
match

### Land Water Conservation Fund - GA DNR

\$25K-\$750K grant with 50% match



**QUESTIONS**

# 2

## ALICE Reduction

### CHALLENGE QUESTION

*How might Hinesville and Liberty County spark innovative solutions that remove barriers to economic advancement by increasing access to skills, resources, and pathways to financial stability, ultimately building a more equitable community where all residents can thrive?*





Arin Johnson



Atiyah Kennedy



Desiree Riley



Donovan McKelvy

## THE TEAM

---



Elliott Wilson



Hector Gutierrez



Jared Guyer



Jerrel Baker



Jessica D. Lawrence



Mollie Bogle



Rebekah Hollar



Shirka Jordan

## AT A GLANCE

52%



OF LIBERTY COUNTY  
HOUSEHOLDS ARE BELOW  
THE ALICE THRESHOLD

\$79,440



NEEDED ANNUALLY FOR A FAMILY  
OF FOUR WITH CHILDCARE TO  
MEET BASIC NEEDS

\$60,028



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD  
INCOME IN  
HINESVILLE

## OUR THREE BIG IDEAS



**1** MICRO COMMUNITY  
ECOSYSTEMS (MCEs)



**2** SKILLS-TO-STABILITY  
PATHWAYS (SSP)



**3** CAPITAL & CARE  
ACCESS FUND (CCAF)



## BIG IDEA 1

# Micro-community Ecosystems

A place-based strategy to remove barriers to financial stability by co-locating affordable housing, quality childcare, workforce opportunities, and essential services within walkable, mixed-income communities.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

---

Create a thriving community by breaking down service silos.



1

Pilot in or near City of Hinesville

2

Avoid a “stand-alone” housing development

3

Public-Private Implementation Model

# ACTION STEPS

---

## SHORT-TERM (0-12 MONTHS)

Establish leadership and community priorities.

Identify potential site(s) and define a development model.

Secure an implementation partner.

## MEDIUM-TERM (YEARS 1-3)

Secure site control and pre-development resources.

Assemble capital stack.

Complete approvals and final design.

## LONG-TERM (YEARS 3+)

Construct and lease first phase.

Operate, evaluate, expand.

# POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES

## STATE & FEDERAL

### **CDBG**

Community Development

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### **OneGeorgia**

Infrastructure

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### **LIHTC / USDA**

Affordable Housing

## PRIVATE & EMPLOYERS

### **Employers**

Financial Contributions

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### **Developers**

Investment & Construction

---

### **Local Businesses**

Resources

## LOCAL & PHILANTHROPY

### **Local Government**

Land & Infrastructure

---

### **Foundations**

Grants & Sponsorships

---

### **Financial Institutions**

Community Investment

# BUDGET

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|                                                          |                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Project coordination                                     | \$15,000-\$30,000                               |
| Site assessment                                          | \$50,000-\$100,000                              |
| Property acquisition                                     | \$1,000,000*                                    |
| Full predevelopment, design, engineering, and permitting | Approximately 8%-15% of hard construction costs |
| Site infrastructure                                      | \$500,000-\$1,000,000*                          |
| Misc.                                                    | \$2,500                                         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                             | <b>~\$2,150,000</b>                             |



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BIG IDEA 2

## Skills-to-Stability Pathways

---

Closing the gap between in-demand careers and highly motivated residents

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Strengthen the local economy by creating job opportunities that are accessible and sustainable.



*Image courtesy of Liberty County Chamber of Commerce*

1

**Build local apprenticeship programs**

2

**Model after similar programs in neighboring communities**

3

**Encourage stakeholder buy-in for long-term stability**

# ACTION STEPS

---

## SHORT-TERM (0-12 MONTHS)

Identify needs, capacity, and governing body

Choose pathways and secure funding

Select pilot employers and ideal participants

## MEDIUM-TERM (YEARS 1-3)

Build a marketing plan and recruit participants

Launch pilot program

Monitor engagement for program completion

## LONG-TERM (YEARS 3+)

Track graduate success rates and evaluate outcomes

Make necessary program revisions

Expand program and increase access throughout Liberty County

# POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES

## WORKFORCE & EDUCATION

**WorkSource Georgia**  
Training Assistance

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**TCSG / Savannah Tech**  
Apprenticeships & Credentials

---

**Georgia Southern**  
Research & Training

## PUBLIC & COMMUNITY

**Georgia CAPS**  
Childcare Assistance

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**Local Government**  
Funding & Coordination

---

**Fort Stewart**  
Potential Workforce Support

## EMPLOYERS & NONPROFITS

**Local Employers**  
Paid Pathways & Hiring

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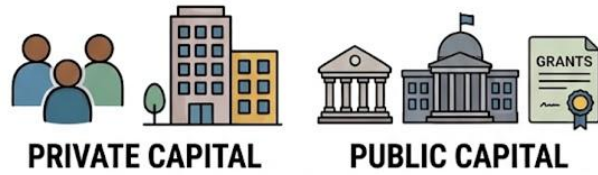
**United Way**  
Potential Fiscal Partner

---

**Foundations & Donors**  
Grants & Contributions

# BUDGET

|                                           |                          |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Workforce Needs Assessment                | \$15,000 - \$30,000      |
| Steering Committee Setup & Program Design | \$5,000 - \$10,000       |
| Data Collection, Reporting, Marketing     | \$20,000 - \$40,000      |
| Annual Staffing (1 FTE + 1 PTE)           | \$83,000 - \$155,000     |
| Participant Assistance & Incentives (5)   | \$62,500 - \$122,500     |
| Credentialing Exams (5)                   | \$7,500 - \$25,000       |
| <b>YEAR 1 TOTAL (5-PERSON PILOT)</b>      | <b>\$193K - \$382.5K</b> |



**BARE ESSENTIALS**  
Close financial gaps on household bills



**UNANTICIPATED EXPENSES**  
Address one-off disruptions



**CARE & DEVELOPMENT**  
Childcare or Professional Development cost offset



**ECONOMIC VENTURES**  
Administrative fees for small business startup/ventures

## BIG IDEA 3

# Capital & Care Access Fund

The Capital & Care Access Fund (CCAF) provides flexible, gap-filling financial support to ALICE households, enabling residents to address immediate needs, stabilize their finances, and invest in opportunities like childcare or career advancement without relying on traditional lending structures.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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Turn 'getting by' into 'getting ahead' by turning the tide on restrictive lending.



1

**Solicit private and public capital**

2

**Build a robust support and delivery ecosystem**

3

**Implement a phased, targeted pilot approach**

# ACTION STEPS

## SHORT-TERM (0-12 MONTHS)

Establish and advisory board and identify a Fund Manager

Align on scope, requirements, and capitalize the fund.

Build grassroots capacity and trust; launch pilot.

## MEDIUM-TERM (YEARS 1-2)

Validate fund impact and optimize operations.

Increase scale and scope of funding allocations.

Foster long-term wealth building and career mobility.

## LONG-TERM (YEARS 3+)

Monitoring and evaluation.

Economic mobility tracking and reporting.

# POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES

## LOCAL, STATE & FEDERAL

### Local Municipalities

Potential Public Support

### Georgia DCA / CDBG

Community Development

### Federal Programs

Childcare & Economic Mobility

## PRIVATE & CORPORATE

### Local Banks

Community Investment

### Employers

Corporate Contributions

### Individual Donors

Private Giving

## PHILANTHROPY

### United Way

Program Partnerships

### Community Foundations

Grants & Donor Funds

### Corporate Foundations

Targeted Assistance Grants

# BUDGET

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|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Advisory board formation        | \$3,000-\$5,000  |
| Fundraising campaign            | \$6,000          |
| Vendor-licensing agreements     | \$10,000         |
| Opportunity Ambassador Training | \$5,000-\$8,000  |
| Application portal development  | \$5000           |
| Wealth-building initiatives     | \$10,000*        |
| Process audits                  | \$7,000-\$12,000 |
| Longitudinal impact study       | \$15,000         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>~\$70,000</b> |



**QUESTIONS**

# 3

## **The Chalkboard Collective** A Liberty Education Collaborative

### **CHALLENGE QUESTION**

How might the broader Hinesville and Liberty County community work together inside and outside the classroom to improve educational outcomes for K-8 students?

# The Chalkboard Collective





WELCOME TO  
**HINESHAW**  
HOME OF PROJECT E.L.E.V.A.T.E.



LIBERTY EARLY CONNECTIONS



LIBERTY PARENT ALLIANCE



LIBERTY VILLAGE

**TOGETHER, WE ELEVATE.**

**FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**

# PROJECT E.L.E.V.A.T.E.

*"Empowering Learners through Education, Village-Alignment, and Transformative Ecosystems"*



**LIBERTY EARLY  
CONNECTIONS WING**



**LIBERTY PARENT  
ALLIANCE CENTER**



**LIBERTY VILLAGE  
HUB**

# BIG IDEA 1

A scholarship-based model expanding access to high-quality childcare, designed to improve Kindergarten readiness, support parental workforce participation, and foster long-term economic connectedness across diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

**Unlocking the power of early childhood education to fuel workforce participation and intergenerational upward mobility**

- Establish the Liberty Early Connections Coalition
- Launch a Childcare Scholarship Pilot
- Design for “Economic Connectedness”
- Pair Childcare with Holistic Wraparound Services
- Position to Leverage Innovative Outcomes-Based Financing
- Explore Repurposing the Historic Hineshaw School



# ACTION STEPS

Year 1

## Establish Coalition (Short-Term)

- Engage Stakeholders
- Identify Funding
- Develop Model, Governance & KPIs

Years 2-3

## Launch Pilot & Secure Funds (Medium-Term)

- Secure Scholarship Pilot Funds
- Launch Pilot
- Establish Data Collection Systems
- Track and Evaluate Outcomes
- Report to Funders & Stakeholders
- Refine and Iterate

Years 3+

## Sustain & Scale (Long-Term)

- Position for Innovative Outcomes-Based Financing
- Benchmark 5-year Outcomes of Pilot Participants Against Peers
- Expand Access Sustainably
- Feasibility Study for Adapting Historic Hineshaw School as Permanent Resource Hub

# BUDGET

## Liberty Early Connections

|                                            |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Personnel                                  | \$150K–\$250K                                                                                                                                                            |
| Childcare Scholarships                     | <b>\$1.50M–\$2.40M</b><br>\$6,000 per child annually. 250 children in Years 1–3, with ~25% growth in Year 4 (~315) and Year 5 (~400). 5-year scholarship total: \$8.79M. |
| Childcare Provider Incentives              | <b>\$100K</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
| Developmental Screenings & Family Supports | <b>\$60K–\$75K</b>                                                                                                                                                       |
| Evaluation & Data Systems                  | <b>\$30K</b>                                                                                                                                                             |
| Provider Professional Training             | <b>\$15K</b>                                                                                                                                                             |
| Community Outreach                         | <b>\$20K</b>                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>ESTIMATED YEAR 1</b>                    | <b>\$1.88M–\$1.99M</b>                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>ESTIMATED 5-YEAR TOTAL</b>              | <b>\$10.0M–\$11.1M</b>                                                                                                                                                   |

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

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## Public & Government

Get Georgia Reading  
Campaign Community  
Coalition Grant Initiative

DECAL

Hinesville/ Liberty County  
Governments

Child Care and  
Development Fund

## Philanthropy

Corporate/ Stakeholder  
Sponsorship (Fort Stewart,  
Gulfstream, Hyundai  
suppliers, etc.)

National Endowment for  
the Humanities

W.K. Kellogg Foundation

## Special Focus

Innovative Outcomes-  
Based Financing via  
WorkSource Coastal  
Georgia

## BIG IDEA 2

Develop a countywide parental support network that engages, equips, and empowers caregivers to be active partners in their children's educational outcomes.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

**Establish the Liberty Parent Alliance as a countywide network that empowers parents and caregivers as active partners in student success. The Alliance will strengthen connections between families, schools, and community partners while creating a lasting culture of family engagement.**

- Increase Family Engagement
- Build Parent Leadership
- Expand Parent Support & Resources
- Strengthen Family-School Partnerships
- Improve Student Outcomes



# ACTION STEPS

---

Year 1

## Establish Alliance (Short-Term)

- Build Community Partnerships
- Create for long term success

Years 2-3

## Launch & Test the Model (Medium-Term)

- Officially Launch & Grow Alliance
- Expand Parent Engagement
- Build Sustainable Partnerships

Years 3+

## Sustain & Scale (Long-Term)

- Sustain the Alliance
- Develop Parent Leaders
- Measure & Demonstrate Impact

# BUDGET

Liberty Parent Alliance

|                                           |           |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Part-time Parent Alliance Coordinator     | \$45,000  |
| Enhanced Parent University & Support      | \$25,000  |
| Parent-to-Parent Mentorship               | \$15,000  |
| Data, Evaluation & Program Sustainability | \$8,000   |
| Marketing & Communications                | \$8,000   |
| End-of-Year Annual Celebration            | \$2,500   |
| ESTIMATED 1-YEAR INVESTMENT               | \$103,500 |
| ESTIMATED 5-YEAR INVESTMENT               | \$517,500 |

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

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## Public & Government

**Title I, Part A Family  
Engagement Funds**

**Fund Education  
Programs & Initiatives**

**Georgia Foundation  
for Public Education  
Prototype Grant**

## Philanthropy

**W.K. Kellogg Foundation**

**Local and regional private  
foundations**

**Corporate and community  
sponsorships**

**Nonprofit partnership and  
collaborative funding  
opportunities**

## Special Focus

**Georgia Parent Support  
Network**

**Parent to Parent of  
Georgia**

**Youth MOVE / YouthBuild  
Chapters** (Youth focused  
chapter development and  
activities)

# BIG IDEA 3

Liberty Village is the cornerstone of Project E.L.E.V.A.T.E., delivering comprehensive academic, health, and family support to students while uniting schools and the local community.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

**Establish Liberty Village as a countywide Community Schools initiative that transforms schools into hubs for coordinated academic, literacy, health, and family support. The initiative will align existing community resources and partnerships to address barriers to learning and improve outcomes for students and families.**

- Strengthen Literacy Outcomes
- Coordinate Wraparound Services
- Build Stronger Community Partnerships
- Increase Family & Community Engagement
- Improve Attendance & Student Success



# LIBERTY VILLAGE COMPONENTS

## 1. The One Liberty Youth Collective

Functions as the supportive services arm of the initiative, coordinating community resources and service delivery pathways to ensure students and families can access the assistance they need.

## 1. Liberty Literacy Network

Serve as the academic improvement arm of the initiative, expanding literacy-focused programming, family literacy opportunities, educator support, and evidence-based interventions grounded in the Science of Reading.



# ACTION STEPS

---

Year 1

## Building the Liberty Village Program (Short-Term)

- Establish Funding for the Liberty Village Director.
- Build Community Partnerships
- Launch the Youth Collective

Years 2-3

## Launch Pilot School & One Liberty Youth Collective (Medium-Term)

- One Liberty Youth Collective convenings and shared data
- Conduct a community needs assessment
- Launch the Liberty Literacy Network

Years 3+

## Sustain & Scale (Long-Term)

- Formal evaluation of the pilot site outcomes.
- Expand the Liberty Village program
- Refine operations.

# BUDGET

Liberty Village Hub

|                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Staff                       | <b>\$150,000</b><br>Liberty Village Director (\$115,000) + Administrative Support (\$35,000).                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Programming                 | <b>\$204,000</b><br>Educator development; tutoring/intervention; after-school & summer literacy; literacy ambassadors; Community Impact Forum; youth mentoring; health & wellness; family engagement; attendance initiatives; marketing/communications; data/evaluation; travel & conferences. |
| Supplies                    | <b>\$55,000</b><br>Literacy hub materials (\$25,000) + office supplies & technology (\$20,000) + startup supplies & furniture (\$10,000).                                                                                                                                                      |
| Direct Costs                | <b>\$409,000</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Contingency (5%)            | <b>\$20,450</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| ESTIMATED 1-YEAR INVESTMENT | <b>\$429,450</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| ESTIMATED 5-YEAR INVESTMENT | <b>\$2,147,250</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

---

## Public & Government

**FSCS Grant Program**

**Promise Neighborhoods Program**

**21st Century Grants**

**USDA Farm to School Grants**

**Title IV-A Grant**

**Local gov contributions**

## Philanthropy

**United Way of the Coastal Empire**

**Private foundations and education grants**

**Corporate sponsorships**

**Community and faith-based partnerships**

**Business sponsorships**

## Special Focus

**Literacy and youth development grants**

**Health and family wellness funding**

**Donated building, materials, space, food, and community services**

# A Vision Built by a Village



## HINESHAW SCHOOL

LEARNING. COMMUNITY. OPPORTUNITY.

EST. 1931

### WITH DEEP GRATITUDE TO OUR CHAMPIONS

Reba Adams  
Brenda Addie  
Sharita Barnett  
Crystal Bell  
Kamaria Boston  
Amanda Castle  
Velma Donnell  
Melissa Donovan  
Pamela Farrie  
Debra Frazier  
Mikia Frazier  
Gary Gilliard

Rep. Lydia Glaze  
Krystal Hart  
Lashunda Harvey  
Miranda Hawkins  
Richard Hayes  
Carissa Hendricks  
Sidney Houck  
Kenneth Howard  
Dr. Anthony Johnson  
Stephanie Jones-Heath  
Sadie Krawczyk  
Donald Lovette

Betsy McCullar  
Betsy McGriff  
Leah Poole  
Fanchon Powe  
Mayor Karl Riles, City of Hinesville  
Dr. Marcus Scott  
Yulanda Shipman  
Brooke Smith  
Rep. Rick Townsend  
Elaine West  
Nick Westbrook  
Rep. Al Williams  
Jermaine Williams  
Liberty County Development Authority

REIMAGINED FOR TODAY.  
PREPARING FOR TOMORROW.

THANK YOU

FROM OUR  
HISTORY.  
TO OUR  
FUTURE.



HINESHAW SCHOOL  
BUILT 1931  
A LEGACY OF LEARNING

PROJECT  
E.L.E.V.A.T.E.



ONE SCHOOL.  
ONE COMMUNITY.  
ENDLESS  
POSSIBILITIES.



# 4

## Launch Liberty

### CHALLENGE QUESTION

How might Hinesville and Liberty County leverage cultural and historical heritage, natural landscapes, and creative talent to expand entrepreneurial pathways and small business supports for current residents and future talent?

# THE TEAM



**Sarah Ballance**  
Accounting Manager  
City of Hinesville



**RenQuista Brooks**  
Operations Manager  
Synovus



**Carissa Hendricks**  
Regional County Director  
United Way of the Coastal Empire



**Danielle Jefferson**  
County Administrator  
Dooly County



**Eric Jones**  
AVP, Business Banking Treasury  
Management Officer  
Ameris Bank



**Dr. Kia Monique Jones**  
Founder & CEO  
Thrive



**Mercy Montgomery**  
Assistant City Manager  
City of Snellville



**Alex Reed**  
Member Development  
Manager  
Cobb Chamber of Commerce



**Cameron Riles**  
Marketing & Sales Specialist  
AIO South



**Dr. Henry Smith**  
Director of Organizational  
Development  
City of Powder Springs



**Moses Tanyi**  
Senior Contact Manager  
Equifax



**Xavier Walker**  
Marketing & Cultural Arts  
Manager  
Union City

## THREE BIG IDEAS

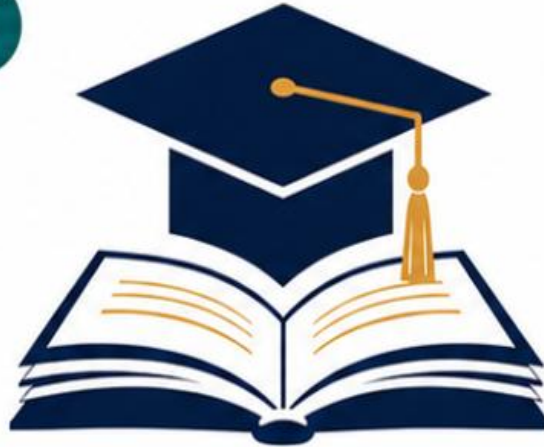
1



Launch Liberty  
Navigator

**COORDINATE**

2



Launch Liberty  
Academy

**DEVELOP**

3



The Launch Pad

**DESTINATION**

PEOPLE  
RESOURCES  
OPPORTUNITY

LIBERTY COUNTY  
GEORGIA



BIG IDEA 1

# Launch Liberty Navigator

*An Entrepreneur's Roadmap*

***One clear starting point.  
The right resource at the right time.***

# RECOMMENDATION OVERVIEW



# ACTION STEPS

---

## Short-Term

### PILOT

- Establish Navigator leadership & governance
- Map existing entrepreneurial resources countywide
- Create the Entrepreneur Journey & Referral Framework

## Medium-Term

### BUILD

- Expand mentoring, technical assistance & partner connections
- Launch and integrate the digital Navigator platform & Launch Liberty Academy
- Evaluate outcomes and continuously refine services

## Long-Term

### SUSTAIN

- Institutionalize governance, operating processes & sustainable funding
- Expand regional partnerships throughout Coastal Georgia

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

## LAUNCH

- Georgia Southern University
- Local Government / Liberty County Development Authority
- WorkSource Georgia / WorkSource Coastal Georgia

## SCALE

- U.S. Economic Development Administration
- OneGeorgia Authority
- Other State & Federal Grants

## SUSTAIN

- Corporate Sponsorships
- Private Foundations
- Partner / In-Kind Support

**Diversified funding supports launch, scale, and long-term sustainability.**

# BUDGET

| Startup Investment                           |                            |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Digital Navigation Platform                  | \$10,000 - \$25,000        |
| Resource Inventory & Ecosystem Development   | \$3,000 - \$8,000          |
| Interactive Business Roadmap Integration     | \$5,000 - \$10,000         |
| Entrepreneur Navigator (Pilot)               | \$15,000 - \$25,000        |
| Performance Measurement & Reporting Software | \$1,500 - \$4,000          |
| Platform Maintenance & Data Hosting          | \$2,000 - \$5,000          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                 | <b>\$36,500 - \$77,000</b> |
| Annual Operating Investment                  |                            |
| Entrepreneur Navigator (Pilot)               | \$15,000 - \$25,000        |
| Performance Measurement & Reporting Software | \$1,500 - \$4,000          |
| Platform Maintenance & Data Hosting          | \$2,000 - \$5,000          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                 | <b>\$18,500 - \$34,000</b> |



## BIG IDEA 2

# Launch Liberty Academy

Develop entrepreneurial capability through a countywide academy that equips aspiring and existing business owners with practical education, mentorship, coaching, and community connections needed to launch, grow, and sustain successful businesses.

## RECOMMENDATION OVERVIEW

---

- **Reduce barriers to entrepreneurship by connecting** participants with mentors, technical assistance, financing opportunities, and professional networks.
- **Support the creation of new businesses** while improving the long-term success and sustainability of existing small businesses through education, mentorship, and coaching.
- **Expand collaboration** among government, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, financial institutions, and private-sector employers through a shared entrepreneurship initiative.
- **Equip participants** with leadership, financial management, communication, and business skills that are transferable across industries and career pathways.



# ACTION STEPS

---

## Short-Term

### ESTABLISH

- Steering Committee
- Inaugural cohort
- Deliver first 13-week Academy
- Inaugural Launch Day Business Showcase and Graduation

## Medium-Term

### STRENGTHEN

- Expand community faculty and mentor participation
- Develop specialized business tracks
- Secure sponsorships and long-term funding
- Expand to two cohorts

## Long-Term

### GROW

- Expand regional partnerships
- Develop a digital entrepreneur resource

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

---

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT & GRANT FUNDING

---

- Liberty County Board of Commissioners
- Liberty County Development Authority
- State & Federal Grants

## SPONSORSHIPS & EARNED REVENUE

---

- Local Financial Institutions
- Participant Registration Fee (Future Cohorts)

## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

---

- Georgia Southern University
- Local Businesses
- Savannah Technical College
- SCORE
- UGA Small Business Development Center

# BUDGET

| Annual Operating Investment                       |                |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Community Asset Experiences & Site-Based Learning | \$2,500        |
| Marketing & Recruitment                           | \$1,500        |
| Program Supplies & Administrative Expenses        | \$1,000        |
| Technology & Registration Platform                | \$500          |
| Participant Materials                             | \$1,500        |
| Launch Day Business Showcase                      | \$2,500        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                      | <b>\$9,500</b> |



**LAUNCH  
LIBERTY**  
— **ACADEMY** —  
EDUCATE • EMPOWER • ELEVATE



# LAUNCH LIBERTY

—ACADEMY—  
EDUCATE • EMPOWER • ELEVATE

## LIBERTY COUNTY ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM

Connected Communities. Stronger Businesses. Brighter Future.



**TOGETHER, WE BUILD A THRIVING ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITY**  
Educate today. Empower talent. Elevate tomorrow.

### OUR ECOSYSTEM PARTNERS



#### EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Liberty County School System
- Georgia Southern University Liberty Campus
- Coastal Pines Technical College
- Ogeechee Technical College



#### BUSINESS SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

- Liberty County Chamber of Commerce
- Hinesville Area Development Authority
- Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
- SCORE Mentors
- Georgia Department of Community Affairs



#### FUNDING & FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs)
- Local Banks & Credit Unions
- Georgia Microenterprise Network
- Investors & Angel Networks



#### COMMUNITY & COLLABORATION

- Faith-Based Organizations
- Nonprofits & Community Groups
- Veterans Business Outreach Center
- Youth Entrepreneurship Programs



#### INFRASTRUCTURE & RESOURCES

- Co-working Spaces & Business Incubators
- Digital Access & Technology Partners
- Transportation & Logistics Networks
- Utilities & Broadband Providers



# COMMUNITY CLASSROOMS

## LEARN IN THE PLACES THAT INSPIRE US.

Real-world learning beyond the classroom. Local businesses, organizations, and experts open their doors to share knowledge, tools, and opportunities.



### LOCAL BUSINESS VISITS

See how local businesses operate, innovate, and serve our community.



### EXPERT SESSIONS

Learn from industry professionals and community leaders.



### RESOURCE CONNECTIONS

Get connected to organizations, tools, and support services.



### SEEING LIBERTY COUNTY IN ACTION

Experience the people, places, and opportunities that make our county thrive.



LEARN FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES



HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES



INSIGHTS FROM EXPERTS



CONNECT TO RESOURCES



DISCOVER OUR COMMUNITY

## WHY IT MATTERS



### REAL CONNECTIONS

Build relationships that lead to partnerships, mentorships, and growth.



### REAL KNOWLEDGE

Gain practical insights from those who do it every day.



### REAL IMPACT

Strengthen local businesses and create opportunities across Liberty County.



### REAL GROWTH

Apply what you learn to grow your business and our community.



### REAL FUTURE

Build a stronger, more innovative Liberty County together.



# LAUNCH LIBERTY

—ACADEMY—

EDUCATE • EMPOWER • ELEVATE

# LAUNCH DAY

— THE FUTURE STARTS HERE. —

Celebrating entrepreneurship, education, and opportunity in Liberty County.



#### NETWORK

Connect with local leaders, mentors, and entrepreneurs.



#### LEARN

Workshops and resources to help you start and grow.



#### GROW

Discover tools and support to elevate your business.



#### COLLABORATE

Build partnerships that strengthen our community.



#### INSPIRE

Celebrate innovation and the spirit of Liberty County.

TOGETHER, WE BUILD A THRIVING ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITY.

*Educate today. Empower talent. Elevate tomorrow.*



BIG IDEA 3

## The Launch Pad

Activate downtown Hinesville as a vibrant entrepreneurial destination by transforming a historic community landmark into a collaborative marketplace that showcases local businesses, celebrates Liberty County's identity, and supports long-term economic growth.

# RECOMMENDATION OVERVIEW

- **Transform a historic Hinesville landmark** into a vibrant mixed-use destination.
- **Create an entrepreneurial hub** for restaurants, retailers, makers, and emerging businesses.
- **Lower barriers to entrepreneurship** with affordable, flexible spaces to test and grow.
- **Activate downtown** with dining, retail, events, and gathering spaces.
- **Celebrate Liberty County's identity** through local culture, military heritage, art, and placemaking.
- **Attract residents and visitors** with a unique downtown destination.
- **Catalyze broader investment** by creating momentum for private development.
- **Strengthen the community** by bringing entrepreneurship, culture, and economic development together.

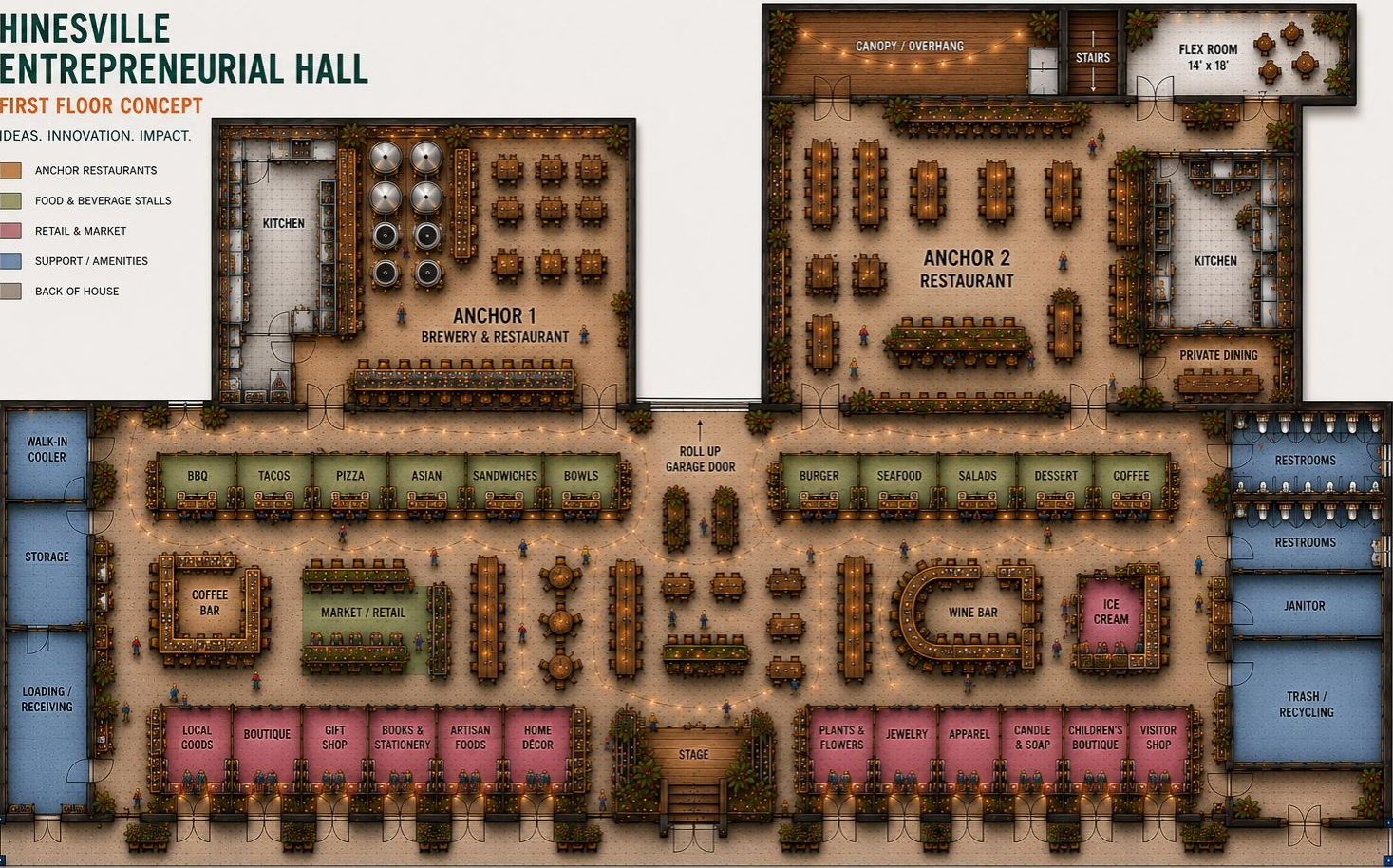


# HINESVILLE ENTREPRENEURIAL HALL

## FIRST FLOOR CONCEPT

IDEAS. INNOVATION. IMPACT.

- ANCHOR RESTAURANTS
- FOOD & BEVERAGE STALLS
- RETAIL & MARKET
- SUPPORT / AMENITIES
- BACK OF HOUSE



**EAT & GATHER**  
Diverse dining and gathering spaces for everyone.



**SHOP LOCAL**  
Support small businesses and local entrepreneurs.



**EXPERIENCE**  
A vibrant, welcoming space for the community.



**CONNECT**  
Where ideas, people, and opportunities come together.



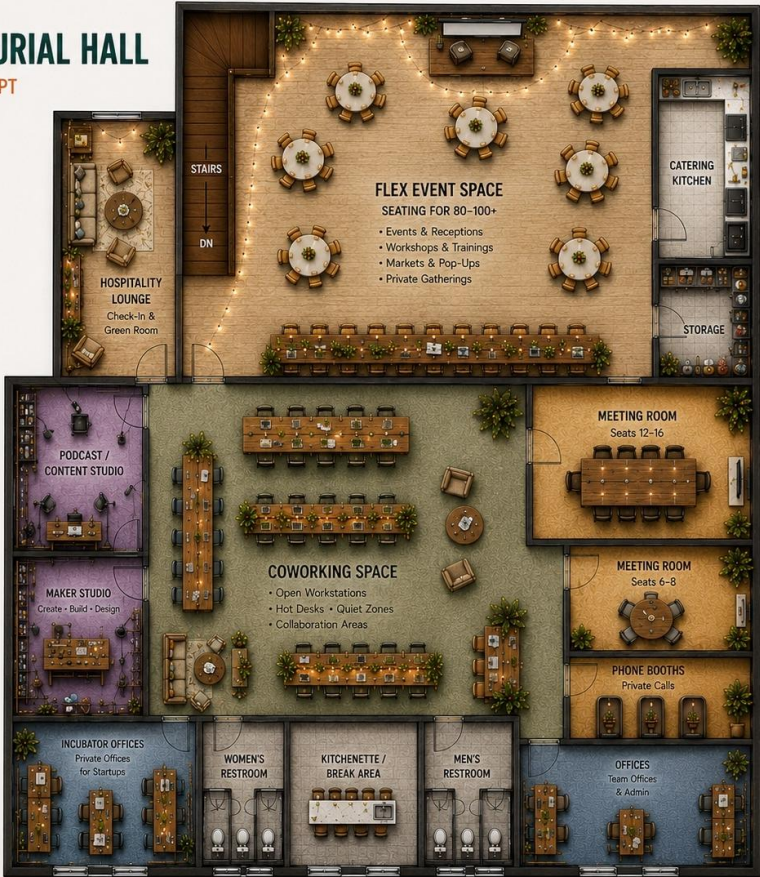
**GROW**  
Fueling local innovation and economic development.

# HINESVILLE ENTREPRENEURIAL HALL

## SECOND FLOOR CONCEPT

IDEAS. INNOVATION. IMPACT.

- FLEX / EVENT SPACE
- COWORKING
- OFFICES / INCUBATOR
- MEETING / CONFERENCE
- CREATIVE / MEDIA
- SUPPORT / AMENITIES



**HOST & CONNECT**  
Flexible event space for gatherings that inspire and build community.



**WORK & COLLABORATE**  
Modern coworking spaces designed for focus and teamwork.



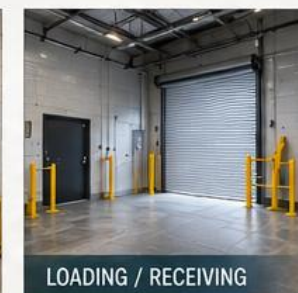
**INNOVATE & CREATE**  
Studies and resources that turn ideas into real-world impact.



**GROW & SUCCEED**  
Offices and support services that empower entrepreneurs.

# HINESVILLE ENTREPRENEURIAL HALL

A SPACE TO EAT. SHOP. CONNECT. GROW.



# HINESVILLE ENTREPRENEURIAL HALL

## SECOND FLOOR CONCEPT

A SPACE TO COLLABORATE. CREATE. CONNECT.



### FLEX EVENT SPACE

Seating for 40-100+  
Events, workshops, trainings, & more



### COWORKING SPACE

Open Workstations,  
Hot Desks  
Quiet Zones  
Collaboration Areas



### MEETING ROOMS

Seats 6-16



### MAKER STUDIO

Build. Create. Prototype.



### CATERING KITCHEN

Full-Service Kitchen for  
events & private gatherings



### PODCAST / CONTENT STUDIO

Record. Stream.  
Share.



### INCUBATOR OFFICES

Private Offices  
for Startups



### KITCHENETTE / BREAK AREA

Recharge.  
Refuel. Reset.

# ACTION STEPS

---

## Short-Term

### PLAN & VALIDATE

- Confirm feasibility
- Develop the redevelopment vision
- Engage the current property owner
- Engage the community

## Medium-Term

### DEVELOP & BUILD

- Secure funding and partnerships
- Finalize design and agreements
- Begin construction
- Recruit anchor tenants and entrepreneurs

## Long-Term

### LAUNCH & SUSTAIN

- Complete construction
- Launch the Hall
- Activate programming and events
- Evaluate economic and community outcomes
- Continue to recruit and grow operations

# POSSIBLE FUNDING

---

## PUBLIC GRANTS & LOW-INTEREST FINANCING

---

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Redevelopment Fund
- Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance
- USDA Rural Development Business Grants
- Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Downtown Development Revolving Loan
- Georgia Cities Foundation Revolving Loan Fund

## REDEVELOPMENT & CAPITAL INVESTMENT TOOLS

---

- Federal & State Historic Preservation Tax Credits
- Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST)
- Tax Allocation District (TAD)

## PRIVATE INVESTMENT & EARNED REVENUE

---

- Corporate Sponsorships
- Philanthropic Foundation Funding
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Tenant Lease Revenue

# BUDGET

| Capital Investment                                                                                                                         |                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Property Acquisition                                                                                                                       | \$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000    |
| Design & Engineering                                                                                                                       | \$500,000 - \$1,000,000      |
| Historic Restoration & Infrastructure Improvements                                                                                         | \$3,000,000 - \$5,000,000    |
| Utility Upgrades                                                                                                                           | \$2,000,000 - \$3,500,000    |
| Interior Build-Out                                                                                                                         | \$1,000,000 - \$2,000,000    |
| Project Management & Contingency                                                                                                           | \$1,000,000 - \$2,000,000    |
| TOTAL                                                                                                                                      | \$8.5 million - \$15 million |
| Annual Operating Investment                                                                                                                |                              |
| Operations & Maintenance – Facility management, security, insurance, maintenance, utilities, cleaning, landscaping, and common area upkeep | \$250,000 - \$500,000        |
| TOTAL                                                                                                                                      | \$250,000 - \$500,000        |



**QUESTIONS**