



# City of Jonesboro

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## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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### **JONESBORO RECEIVES \$80,000 FROM THE ARC'S LIVABLE CENTERS INITIATIVE FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING STUDIES & TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

**JONESBORO, GA** – The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) has awarded \$800,000 in Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) study grants to nine metro Atlanta communities and \$12 million in transportation funding to 11 other communities that have previously implemented completed LCI studies. Of the \$800,000, the City of Jonesboro was awarded \$80,000 to complete a major plan update that will account for the new MARTA bus service in the area and begin the process of planning for a future rail station, along with the expected economic growth.

The City of Jonesboro anticipates the following outcomes from the study: a tool to inform current and future stakeholders about its vision and goals for the downtown area, assist City Council in identifying and prioritizing public investment initiatives in the district, provide marketplace data regarding retail service, commercial and residential capacity of the downtown area, establish a development framework for site-specific redevelopment opportunities and to develop a basis for land use and zoning policies reflecting community desires.

City Clerk Ricky L. Clark, Jr. stated, "At the City of Jonesboro Annual Mayor & Council retreat, the most recurring desire was to enhance economic development opportunities for the downtown district. The initial LCI action plan dates back to 2003 and identified types of businesses that are needed, including appropriate restaurant and retail additions, tourism marketing plans and transportation structure. This major plan update simply furthers our commitment to ensuring that our goals for revitalizing our downtown district are attained," stated Mr. Clark.

The LCI program is funded with federal transportation dollars. The grants provide 80 percent of funding for each study or transportation project, with the recipient making a 20 percent match. "Our intent is to revitalize our community, while constantly focusing on tenaciously preserving our historical attributes. The City has come a long way and we are committed to continuing to build our brand as the #1 City in Clayton County to live, work & play," stated Mayor Day.

For additional information you may reach Ricky L. Clark, Jr., City Clerk at 770-478-3800.

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