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## For Immediate Release



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## Downtown Development Authority of Augusta Awarded \$2,350,000 for Microenterprise Center in Partnership with Augusta Technical College

Augusta, GA - September 12, 2022

Through the advocacy of Senator Reverend Raphael Warnock, the Downtown Development Authority of Augusta, Georgia (DDA) has received \$2,350,000 in Congressionally Directed Spending to be dedicated to the creation of a microenterprise center that will serve as both an incubator and active commerce location for new entrepreneurs. This center will be developed through a partnership with Augusta Technical College and will be located within the Broad Street corridor.

On behalf of the DDA, Executive Director Margaret Woodard expressed, "We are thrilled and thank Senator Warnock for sharing our vision. We look forward to working with Dr. Whirl and Augusta Tech to make sure small businesses are developing and thriving in downtown Augusta."

Regarding the partnership and project next steps, Augusta Technical College President Dr. Jermaine Whirl said, "The college looks forward to establishing a home for the microenterprise in the heart of Downtown Augusta. Years ago, the college operated an incubator on campus and the need for such a space is at an all-time high following the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. We're thankful for Senator Warnock's support, and we look forward to bringing this project to fruition in the near future."

A press release will be held in the near future to discuss project details. For any immediate inquiries, please contact Executive Director Margaret Woodard at 706-836-7629 or Project Coordinator Katherine Bonner at kbonner@augustadda.com.

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## About Augusta Technical College

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Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit <u>augustatech.edu</u>.

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