

2021 Highlight Reel & Stats

- The city and its downtown businesses hosted 270 events, not counting December
- 474 Volunteer hours
- Opened 12 new businesses in the Downtown District- Kimsey Smiles, Hispanic Grocery, PattyKakes, The Gathering Box, Community Brew and Tap, Crossroads, Salon Avanti, Cornelia Florist, The Genesis Academy, Farm and Lavish, Jaymarz Signs, Raspas el Tigre
- Created 68 new jobs in the Downtown District
- Completed Appletree Alley FINALLY!!!
- Created a new Greenspace on Hodges Street
- Completed 6 public improvement projects in the downtown district that totaled a \$4,158,140 investment
- Had a private rehab investment into the downtown district totaling \$2,461,798
- Sold \$2,115,000 in real estate in the downtown district
- Completed the deal with the Reeder family facilitating outdoor dining
- Completed downtown landscaping project
- Designated a Historic District by the National Register of Historic Places
- Created a Historic Preservation Commission and developed Downtown Design Guidelines
- Granted 9 sign and façade grants for a total of \$6,313.13
- Opened the new Fire Station
- Began working on Level Grove phase 2 sidewalk project
- Installed two new electric vehicle car charging stations
- Restored TF X5 Caboose at no cost to the city
- Increased followers on both Instagram and Facebook
- Began working on renderings for Mural
- Hosted Northeast Georgia Mountains Travel Association- 30 tourism professionals from the region, including President of the Georgia Convention and Visitor's Bureau
- Awarded Best Placemaking by Georgia Downtown Association
- Awarded Best Transformation/Downtown of the Year by Georgia Downtown Association

- We currently have an 18% vacancy rating in downtown. This is down 4% from 2020
- If all the prospects we have who want a business in downtown had a storefront, our vacancy rating would decrease to 11%