



Technology & Entrepreneurship Advisory Board

Thursday, December 19, 2024, 5:30pm
Perry City Hall, 808 Carroll Street, Perry
Economic Development Conference Room

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Citizens with Input
4. Guest & Speakers - SparkMacon Representatives
5. Old Business – Review KSU Student Survey
6. New Business
 - a. Approve November 21, 2024, Minutes
 - b. Approve November Financials
 - c. Speaker Series Update
 - d. Perry Startup Week Update
 - e. Review and Discuss SparkMacon Request
7. Other Business
 - a. International Integrative Precision Agriculture Conference
 - b. Supplies Purchase Request
8. Board Member Items
9. Adjournment

Perry Survey

Dec 10, 2024 7:47 AM

Is your hometown within the Metro Atlanta area? 18

atlanta - Is your hometown within the Metro Atlanta area?	Percentage	Count
No	39%	7
Yes	61%	11

After you graduate, do you plan to: 18

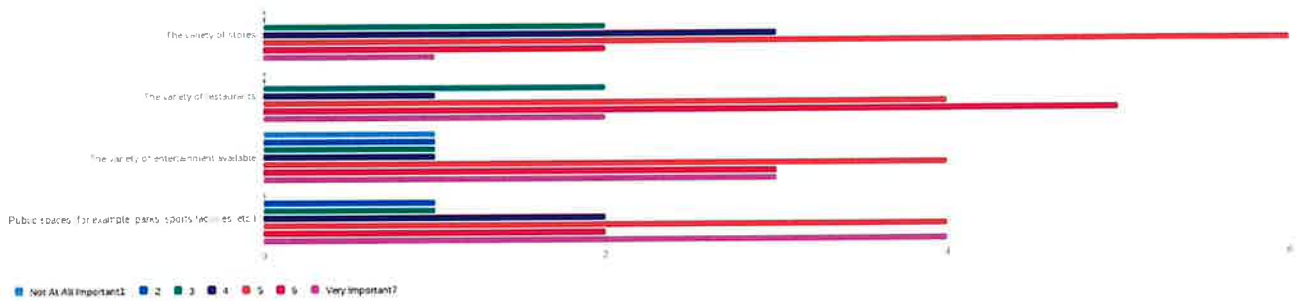
home - After you graduate, do you plan to:	Percentage	Count
Rent	67%	12
Return to parents' home	33%	6

After you graduate, do you plan to move to: 13

city - After you graduate, do you plan to move to:	Percentage	Count
2	8%	1
4	62%	8
5	15%	2
6	8%	1
Large city - over 100,000 population?	8%	1

NOTE: No students chose "Small city - under 25,000 population"

As you consider where to live after graduation, what how important are the following in the city you choose to move to? 14



As you consider where to live after graduation, what how important are the following in the city you choose to move to? 14

As you consider where to live after graduation, what how important are the ...	Not At All Important	2	3	4	5	6	Very Important
The variety of stores	0	0	2	3	6	2	1
The variety of restaurants	0	0	2	1	4	5	2
The variety of entertainment available	1	1	1	1	4	3	3
Public spaces (for example, parks, sports facilities, etc.)	0	1	1	2	4	2	4

What types of restaurants would you like to dine in? 14 ⓘ

restaurants - What types of restaurants would you like to dine in? - Selected Choice	Percentage	Count
Fast casual (e.g., Chipotle, Panera)	86%	12
Fine dining	71%	10
Casual dining (e.g., family restaurants)	93%	13
Ethnic cuisine (e.g., Italian, Mexican, Asian)	64%	9
Coffee shop/cafe	79%	11

What types of entertainment would you like to have available? 14 ⓘ

entertainment - What types of entertainment would you like to have available? - Selected Choice	Percentage	Count
Live music/concerts	100%	14
Movie theaters	57%	8
Theatrical performances (e.g., plays, musicals)	14%	2
Sports events	64%	9
Festivals and community events	93%	13

What types of public space amenities would you like? 14 ⓘ

amenities - What types of public space amenities would you like? - Selected Choice	Percentage	Count
Green spaces or parks	93%	13
Walking and biking trails	93%	13
Community gathering areas	79%	11
Outdoor exercise equipment	29%	4
Public art installations	29%	4

Technology & Entrepreneurship Advisory Board
Minutes – November 21, 2024

1. Call to Order: Chairman Joseph Richardson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
2. Roll Call -: Chairman Joseph Richardson, Vice Chairman Daniel Rhoades, Directors Laura Boman, Scott Ritchie and Donny Pearson.

Absent None.

Staff: Holly Wharton – Economic Development Director, and Joni Ary – Recording Clerk

3. Citizens with Input – None
4. New Business:
 - a. Approval of October 17, 2024 minutes.

Vice Chairman Rhoades motioned to approve the minutes as submitted; Director Pearson seconded; all were in favor, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

- b. Approval of October 2024 Financials

Vice Chairman Rhoades motioned to approve as presented; Director Boman seconded; all were in favor and unanimously approved. Ms. Wharton stated that the purchase of the nameplates was the only expense.

- c. Remote Worker Survey Update

Since completing the survey, Ms. Wharton provided the results of the Remote Worker Survey to the Board. The board proposed putting together a slide show of the results for the City Council for feedback.

- d. Fundraising Strategy Discussion

Ms. Wharton reviewed with the board the options for the board to consider as approaches to raising funds for 2025 programs. The board proposed putting together a three (3) tier sponsorship package that would recognize sponsorship for specific events, showcasing the higher-tier and lower-tier sponsorships that would be recognized.

- e. Startup Week Planning Update

The Board discussed the logistics of the events and items in the works. Ms. Wharton updated the board on the promotional flyers Ms. Hartley is working on for the event. Ms. Wharton suggested getting some swag to give out at the event, with companies possibly sponsoring items to be passed out at the event.

- f. Speaker Series Update

The board discussed the logistics of the speaker series. It was determined that the series would kick off in January 2025 and March 2025. Chairman Richardson will lead the first event in January, focusing on A.I.

5. Staff Items:

- a. Discussion items from the City Manager
 - i. KSU Survey Update

Director Boman stated that she passed out the survey to all her students and shared it with surrounding colleges, i.e., Mercer University and Middle Georgia State University.

- b. Volunteer Commitment Forms

Ms. Wharton stated that all members have signed the volunteer forms.

- c. Prospective New Board Member

Ms. Wharton updated the board on the prospective new board members. Still waiting for the official submission.

Due to the holidays, Ms. Wharton asked the Board about the scheduled meeting on December 19, 2024. The board's consensus is to keep the scheduled meeting in December.

6. Member Items:

Vice Chairman Rhoades discussed his new position at the Museum of Aviation and its STEM academy and how some work may intersect with the Board's mission.

Chairman Richardson discussed the Middle Georgia Innovation Corridor and gave the website www.middlegeorgiainnovates.com for information on spreading STEM advancements.

7. Adjournment: With no further business to come before the board, Vice Chairman Rhoades motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 pm; Director Pearson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Holland

Technology and Entrepreneurship Advisory Board (TEAB) NOV 2024
100-13.4221 Cost Center 75242
Contact Holly Wharton

mt

<u>Revenue</u>		<u>Month</u>	<u>FY25 YTD</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
100-37.1205	Income	0.00	1,792.26	1,792.26
			0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00
<u>Expense</u>				
75242.52.3300		87.35	87.35	87.35
75242.52.3930		0.00	0.00	0.00
75242.53.1100		0.00	250.00	250.00
			0.00	0.00
Balance		(87.35)	\$1,454.91	\$ 1,454.91
Less Previous Balance:				1,542.26
Reserve Adjustment				(87.35)

Budget Report

For Fiscal: 2024-2025 Period Ending: 11/30/2024

		Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Percent Remaining
100-00000.349219	EMPLOYER CONTRIB-HEALTH	2,904,800.00	2,904,800.00	242,109.00	1,210,545.00	-1,694,255.00	58.33 %
100-00000.349220	EMPLOYEE CONTRIB-HEALTH	355,200.00	355,200.00	31,733.40	170,920.42	-184,279.58	51.88 %
100-00000.349300	RETURNED CHECK FEE	2,700.00	2,700.00	175.00	945.00	-1,755.00	65.00 %
100-00000.349903	MISC SERVICES & CHARGES	2,300.00	2,300.00	0.00	66.13	-2,233.87	97.12 %
100-00000.349904	CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS	42,600.00	42,600.00	8,096.00	29,257.90	-13,342.10	31.32 %
100-00000.349910	CURB CUT/DRIVEWAY PIPE	0.00	0.00	67.00	201.00	201.00	0.00 %
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL Total:		6,134,200.00	6,134,200.00	460,360.90	2,457,943.72	-3,676,256.28	59.93%
RevCategory: 34 - Charges for Services Total:		6,134,200.00	6,134,200.00	460,360.90	2,457,943.72	-3,676,256.28	59.93%
RevCategory: 35 - Fines and Forfeitures							
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL							
100-00000.351170	COURT AND PARKING FINES	632,400.00	632,400.00	60,694.00	245,120.20	-387,279.80	61.24 %
100-00000.351171	COUNTY JAIL SURCHARGE	41,300.00	41,300.00	0.00	12,224.22	-29,075.78	70.40 %
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL Total:		673,700.00	673,700.00	60,694.00	257,344.42	-416,355.58	61.80%
RevCategory: 35 - Fines and Forfeitures Total:		673,700.00	673,700.00	60,694.00	257,344.42	-416,355.58	61.80%
RevCategory: 36 - Investment Income							
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL							
100-00000.361000	INTEREST	100,000.00	100,000.00	591.67	61,757.35	-38,242.65	38.24 %
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL Total:		100,000.00	100,000.00	591.67	61,757.35	-38,242.65	38.24%
RevCategory: 36 - Investment Income Total:		100,000.00	100,000.00	591.67	61,757.35	-38,242.65	38.24%
RevCategory: 37 - Contributions and Donations							
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL							
100-00000.371001	RECREATION DEPT DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.25	66.25	0.00 %
100-00000.371007	NEW PERRY ANIMAL SHELTER BLD	0.00	0.00	30.00	150.00	150.00	0.00 %
100-00000.371024	MAIN STREET ADVISORY DONATIO	0.00	0.00	1,305.00	16,045.00	16,045.00	0.00 %
100-00000.371037	INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL DONAT	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00 %
100-00000.371039	FARMERS MKT INCOME	2,500.00	2,500.00	565.00	2,360.00	-140.00	5.60 %
100-00000.371040	ART IN THE PARK SPONSORSHIP	0.00	0.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	0.00 %
100-00000.371100	CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CAPITAL PRO	0.00	0.00	0.00	271,272.75	271,272.75	0.00 %
100-00000.371202	INDEPENDENCE DAY SPONSORSHIP	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00 %
100-00000.371205	TECH & ENTREPRENUER BOARD	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,792.26	1,792.26	0.00 %
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL Total:		2,500.00	2,500.00	2,700.00	297,986.26	295,486.26	11,819.45%
RevCategory: 37 - Contributions and Donations Total:		2,500.00	2,500.00	2,700.00	297,986.26	295,486.26	11,819.45%
RevCategory: 38 - Miscellaneous							
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL							
100-00000.381000	PERRY EVENTS CENTER RENTAL	73,400.00	73,400.00	9,264.00	32,627.00	-40,773.00	55.55 %
100-00000.381001	CELL ANTENNA RENTAL FEE	37,100.00	37,100.00	0.00	0.00	-37,100.00	100.00 %
100-00000.381003	BILLBOARD RENTAL INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00	0.00 %
100-00000.381011	HERITAGE OAKS RENTALS	0.00	0.00	1,587.00	1,587.00	1,587.00	0.00 %
100-00000.383000	REIMBURSE FOR DAMAGE PROP	0.00	0.00	32,497.25	32,497.25	32,497.25	0.00 %
100-00000.389000	OTHER REVENUES	0.00	0.00	2,400.00	7,645.00	7,645.00	0.00 %
100-00000.389001	PD COPIES/REPORTS	0.00	0.00	586.75	1,097.78	1,097.78	0.00 %
100-00000.389010	P-CARD REBATE	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,237.03	237.03	105.93 %
100-00000.389012	WEX TAX/BILL ADJUSTMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	502.79	502.79	0.00 %
100-00000.389013	MGAG PERFORMANCE ADJUST	210,900.00	210,900.00	0.00	0.00	-210,900.00	100.00 %
100-00000.389022	SR CTR UTILITIES REVENUE	4,300.00	4,300.00	382.97	2,643.97	-1,656.03	38.51 %
100-00000.389026	TAX SALE EXCESS FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	-3,202.31	-3,202.31	0.00 %
100-00000.389028	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD	53,200.00	53,200.00	2,391.73	8,131.00	-45,069.00	84.72 %
100-00000.389029	SWAG ITEMS	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	20.00	0.00 %
100-00000.389030	PACVB - OPERATING REIMB	500,300.00	500,300.00	114,645.61	169,168.61	-331,131.39	66.19 %
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL Total:		883,200.00	883,200.00	163,755.31	261,155.12	-622,044.88	70.43%
RevCategory: 38 - Miscellaneous Total:		883,200.00	883,200.00	163,755.31	261,155.12	-622,044.88	70.43%
RevCategory: 39 - Other Financing Sources							
CostCenter: 00000 - NON-DEPARTMENTAL							
100-00000.391112	TRANS IN STORMWATER/PPFA DS	84,700.00	84,700.00	0.00	0.00	-84,700.00	100.00 %
100-00000.391117	TRANSFER IN - PPFA	0.00	0.00	0.00	329.23	329.23	0.00 %

Budget Report

For Fiscal: 2024-2025 Period Ending: 11/30/2024

	Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Percent Remaining
100-75219.512140	0.00	0.00	21.27	127.62	-127.62	0.00 %
100-75219.512200	0.00	0.00	516.63	1,776.75	-1,776.75	0.00 %
100-75219.512700	0.00	0.00	0.00	789.98	-789.98	0.00 %
100-75219.521300	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,400.00	-1,400.00	0.00 %
100-75219.521310	0.00	0.00	151.94	841.70	-841.70	0.00 %
100-75219.522300	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,138.78	-1,138.78	0.00 %
100-75219.523222	0.00	0.00	93.03	372.12	-372.12	0.00 %
100-75219.523300	0.00	0.00	22.31	445.31	-445.31	0.00 %
100-75219.523600	0.00	0.00	10.69	1,615.06	-1,615.06	0.00 %
100-75219.531100	0.00	0.00	107.50	838.31	-838.31	0.00 %
100-75219.531600	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,175.00	-1,175.00	0.00 %
CostCenter: 75219 - SPECIAL EVENTS ADMINISTRATION Total:	0.00	0.00	7,866.56	34,746.94	-34,746.94	0.00%
CostCenter: 75228 - HOLIDAY PARADE						
100-75228.521312	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00	0.00	2,200.00	100.00 %
100-75228.523850	400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	100.00 %
100-75228.531100	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	100.00 %
CostCenter: 75228 - HOLIDAY PARADE Total:	2,900.00	2,900.00	0.00	0.00	2,900.00	100.00%
CostCenter: 75233 - LIGHT THE NIGHT						
100-75233.521301	1,300.00	1,300.00	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	100.00 %
100-75233.521312	3,300.00	3,300.00	0.00	3,225.00	75.00	2.27 %
100-75233.522300	2,700.00	2,700.00	0.00	2,940.78	-240.78	-8.92 %
100-75233.523850	2,300.00	2,300.00	0.00	800.00	1,500.00	65.22 %
100-75233.523851	200.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	100.00 %
100-75233.531100	300.00	300.00	0.00	445.00	-145.00	-48.33 %
CostCenter: 75233 - LIGHT THE NIGHT Total:	10,100.00	10,100.00	0.00	7,410.78	2,689.22	26.63%
CostCenter: 75234 - PERRY'S 200TH BIRTHDAY						
100-75234.523210	0.00	0.00	11.20	11.20	-11.20	0.00 %
100-75234.531100	1,000.00	1,000.00	35.50	658.00	342.00	34.20 %
CostCenter: 75234 - PERRY'S 200TH BIRTHDAY Total:	1,000.00	1,000.00	46.70	669.20	330.80	33.08%
CostCenter: 75235 - OPEN STREETS EVENT						
100-75235.523850	3,100.00	3,100.00	0.00	0.00	3,100.00	100.00 %
CostCenter: 75235 - OPEN STREETS EVENT Total:	3,100.00	3,100.00	0.00	0.00	3,100.00	100.00%
CostCenter: 75236 - FALL FILM FESTIVAL						
100-75236.522300	9,000.00	9,000.00	2,570.60	9,118.65	-118.65	-1.32 %
100-75236.522302	0.00	0.00	4,776.00	4,776.00	-4,776.00	0.00 %
100-75236.523600	4,500.00	4,500.00	2,780.00	2,780.00	1,720.00	38.22 %
100-75236.523850	1,400.00	1,400.00	3,165.62	9,838.50	-8,438.50	-602.75 %
100-75236.531100	2,500.00	2,500.00	118.44	208.87	2,291.13	91.65 %
CostCenter: 75236 - FALL FILM FESTIVAL Total:	17,400.00	17,400.00	13,410.66	26,722.02	-9,322.02	-53.57%
CostCenter: 75241 - ROBINS REGIONAL COC						
100-75241.523600	1,200.00	1,200.00	240.00	1,485.00	-285.00	-23.75 %
CostCenter: 75241 - ROBINS REGIONAL COC Total:	1,200.00	1,200.00	240.00	1,485.00	-285.00	-23.75%
CostCenter: 75242 - TECHNOLOGY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP ADVISORY BOARD						
100-75242.523300	0.00	0.00	87.35	87.35	-87.35	0.00 %
100-75242.531100	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.00 %
CostCenter: 75242 - TECHNOLOGY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP ADVI	0.00	0.00	87.35	337.35	-337.35	0.00%
CostCenter: 75243 - PERRY'S BOURBON STREET BASH						
100-75243.522302	0.00	0.00	218.00	218.00	-218.00	0.00 %
CostCenter: 75243 - PERRY'S BOURBON STREET BASH Total:	0.00	0.00	218.00	218.00	-218.00	0.00%
CostCenter: 75410 - PACVBA BOARD						
100-75410.521300	2,000.00	2,000.00	163.87	6,456.91	-4,456.91	-222.85 %
100-75410.523110	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00	2,048.00	152.00	6.91 %
CostCenter: 75410 - PACVBA BOARD Total:	4,200.00	4,200.00	163.87	8,504.91	-4,304.91	-102.50%
CostCenter: 75420 - ADMINISTRATION						
100-75420.511100	147,400.00	147,400.00	15,845.03	43,635.88	103,764.12	70.40 %



Perry
**TECHNOLOGY &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
SHAPING GROWTH, INSPIRING CHANGE

PERRY STARTUP WEEK

INNOVATE FORWARD: SHAPING
GROWTH, INSPIRING CHANGE

Perry Startup Week 2025 celebrates the spirit of entrepreneurship, technology, and innovation, uniting bold thinkers and new business owners to ignite ideas and drive progress.

FEBRUARY 24 - 28, 2025

WEBSITE COMING SOON!



Perry
**TECHNOLOGY &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
SHAPING GROWTH, INSPIRING CHANGE

**FEB.
24**

5:30 PM KICK OFF & ESO SHOWCASE

**FEB.
25**

11:30 AM LUNCH & LEARN:
ENTREPRENEURSHIP 101

5:30 PM PANEL DISCUSSION: LEARN
THE LOCAL PROS

**FEB.
26**

11:30 AM LUNCH & LEARN: SMALL
BUSINESS MARKETING

**FEB.
27**

11:30 AM LUNCH & LEARN: HOW TO
USE AI FOR YOUR BUSINESS

5:30 PM Q&A PANEL AND
STARTUP WEEK FINALE

**FEB.
28**

9:00 AM WORKSHOP: HOW TO
PITCH YOUR BUSINESS

11:30 AM LUNCH & LEARN: HOW TO
START YOUR BUSINESS



Perry
**TECHNOLOGY &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
SHAPING GROWTH, INSPIRING CHANGE

Presenting Sponsor

\$3,000

- **2025 Presenting Sponsor Secured!**
- Exclusive naming rights as “[Your Company Name] presents Perry Startup Week 2025”
- Logo prominently displayed on all marketing materials, banners, and event website
- Opportunity to deliver opening or closing remarks at the event
- Booth space in prime location for maximum visibility
- Featured sponsor highlight in press releases and social media posts

Claimed for 2025

Innovative Sponsors

\$1,000

- Logo featured on event materials, banners, and website
- Recognition in event press releases and social media posts
- Booth space in a central location during events
- Option to sponsor a specific session or activity with on-site recognition
- Multiple Innovative Sponsors available

Community Building Sponsors

\$500

- Logo included on event website and program materials
- Recognition in event social media posts
- Booth space at designated networking or exhibit areas
- Multiple Community Building Sponsors available

Notebook and Swag Bag sponsors are also available! More information available upon request. For more information on any sponsorship, contact Holly Wharton at holly.wharton@perry-ga.gov or (478) 988-2755.

Detailed Event Outline

Day	Date	Time	Event	Info Contact	Speaker(s)/Exhibitors	Needs/To-Do	Sponsor	Food	Location	Estimated Attendance	Other Notes
Monday	2/24/2025	5:30 - 7:00	Kick Off & ESO Showcase	Holly or Alicia	*See ESO Tab	Confirm showcase attendees		Orleans on Carroll	Orleans on Carroll - Confirmed		
Tuesday	2/25/2025	11:30 - 1:00	Lunch and Learn: Entrepreneurship 101	Holly or Alicia	Dr. Joe Richardson	Identify Panelists (Scott Richie - professional, service, veterans; Michelle Rhodes - retail; Orleans or Sweet P's - food service; Home based business needed); program			Perry Events Center		A/V Needed
Tuesday	2/25/2025	5:30 - 7:00	Panel Discussion - Learn from the Local Pros	Holly or Alicia					Perry Events Center		
Wednesday	2/26/2025	11:30 - 1:00	Lunch and Learn: Small Business Marketing	Dr. Laura Borman	Moderator: Laura; Speakers: Chrissy Miner, M&R Marketing, NewTown Macon				Perry Events Center		
Thursday	2/27/2025	11:30 - 1:00	Lunch and Learn: How to Use AI for Your Business	Dr. Joe	Speaker confirmed - Liz Smoak	select moderator			Perry Events Center		
Thursday	2/27/2025	5:30 - 7:00	Q & A Panel and Startup Week Finale	Holly or Alicia		Confirm panelists; program outline			Perry Events Center		
Friday	2/28/2025	9:00 - 11:00	Workshop - How to Pitch Your Business	Charlie	Spark Macon	Confirm requests from Spark Macon			Perry Events Center		
Friday	2/28/2025	11:30 - 1:00	Lunch and Learn: How to Start Your Business - Everything You Need to Know	Holly or Alicia	Moderator: Holly; Speakers: Community Development Department; Startup Support Center	Confirm speakers; program outline		MBM - pastries and coffee	Perry Events Center		

Introduction

SparkMacon is excited to propose **Innovation Thursday**, a dynamic initiative to support entrepreneurship and economic growth in Perry, Georgia. This program will consist of monthly workshops and networking events on each month's first, second, third, and fourth Thursdays. Innovation Thursday is structured to empower small business owners, aspiring entrepreneurs, and community members with resources, education, and connections to foster business success.

Program Structure

1. Financial Literacy Workshops

- **When:** First Thursday of each month
- **Where:** Location TBD
- **Description:** These workshops will focus on essential financial skills such as budgeting, cash flow management, and financial planning to support the long-term sustainability of small businesses and startups.

2. So You Want to Start a Business Workshop

- **When:** Second Thursday of each month
- **Where:** Location TBD
- **Description:** This workshop, tentatively hosted by SCORE Middle Georgia, will guide aspiring entrepreneurs through the foundational steps of starting a business, including creating a business plan, identifying resources, and navigating the challenges of entrepreneurship.

3. Entrepreneur's Happy Hour

- **When:** Third Thursday of each month
- **Where:** Tentatively hosted by The Perry Area Chamber
- **Description:** A casual networking event to foster relationships, share ideas, and build connections among Perry's entrepreneurs and small business owners in a supportive and engaging atmosphere.

4. Entrepreneur's Night

- **When:** Fourth Thursday of each month
- **Where:** Rotating locations around Perry, highlighting local businesses
- **Description:** This event will bring the community together to spotlight local businesses. Entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to share their stories, showcase their products or services, and build relationships with the community while highlighting Perry's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Community Partners

The success of Innovation Thursday is built on collaboration. SparkMacon is proud to propose partnerships with the following organizations to enhance the reach and impact of this initiative:

- **The Perry Technology and Entrepreneurship Board**
- **21st Century Partnerships**
- **Perry Area Chamber**

- **The City of Perry**
- **Acres and Oaks (Tentative)**
- **Axis Leadership**

Sponsorship Opportunities

We invite the City of Perry and local businesses to support **Innovation Thursday** through sponsorship opportunities. Partnering with SparkMacon will enable the creation of a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem and provide critical resources to small businesses in Perry. Sponsorships will ensure access to high-quality workshops, networking events, and community-driven programming.

Vision for Growth

SparkMacon believes that entrepreneurship should be **accessible to everyone**, regardless of where they are on their journey. By offering educational workshops, networking events, and collaboration opportunities, we aim to help foster a supportive and inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem in Perry.

As partners of Georgia Tech's Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC), SparkMacon also brings a valuable network of experts and resources to Perry. This partnership will provide entrepreneurs with additional educational training and funding opportunities, equipping them with tools to grow and scale their businesses.

Conclusion

SparkMacon is excited about the opportunity to collaborate with the City of Perry and its community partners to make **Innovation Thursday** a reality. By investing in entrepreneurial education and resources, we can empower Perry's small business community to thrive and ensure long-term economic growth.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further and explore how we can partner together to create a strong foundation for entrepreneurship and innovation in Perry, Georgia.



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