

HEADLINES

- [Renaissance Fellows Develop Downtown Revitalization Projects](#)
- [New Budget Webinar Produced through Institute Collaboration](#)
- [Institute Helps State Charter Schools Produce Strategic Plans](#)
- [Jekyll Island Gets New Master Plan through Institute Partnership](#)

Read below about these and other stories.

[Renaissance Fellows Develop Downtown Revitalization Projects in Three Cities](#)

A trio of Georgia cities are getting technical and design expertise for revitalization projects this summer through the Institute's Downtown Renaissance Fellows program, a partnership with the Georgia Municipal Association and the UGA College of Environment and Design. (more)

Did you know?

An Institute workshop to help communities lower their flood insurance costs will be held Aug. 28 in Savannah in partnership with Georgia Sea Grant and the UGA Marine Extension Service.

Planning and Environmental Services

We introduced the Institute's new Planning and Environmental Services unit this spring in a series of faculty question-and-answer sessions that we shared

New Budget Webinar Produced through Institute Collaboration with State Budget Office

Working with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the Institute produced a two-hour webinar on posting to budget and accounting systems in accordance with the Appropriations Act—the first webinar the Institute developed exclusively for state government. ([more](#))

Institute Helps State Charter Schools Produce Comprehensive Strategic Plans

Board members and staff with 9 of 15 state-approved charter schools across Georgia are working with the Institute this summer to draft or update their strategic plans through an Institute collaboration with the State Charter Schools Commission. ([more](#))

Jekyll Island Authority Gets New Master Plan through Institute Partnership

The state of Georgia has approved a new master plan that will guide the protection of Jekyll Island. The plan clarifies how to define developed and undeveloped land on state-owned barrier island on Georgia's coast. ([more](#))

Georgia DOT Engages Institute to Assist with Crash Location Database Update

The Institute is using its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) expertise to map five years of automobile crash data for a Georgia Department of Transportation update of its crash database known as GEARS, the Georgia Electronic Accident Reporting System. ([more](#))

City, County Leaders Enhance Skills through Institute Training during Annual Conferences

Hundreds of city and county government leaders sharpened their expertise through training delivered by the Institute at Georgia Municipal Association ([more](#)) and Association County Commissioners of Georgia ([more](#)) annual conferences.

City Leaders Gain Technical Assistance on Local Issues through Institute Collaboration

Leaders in 10 Georgia cities received practical information they can use to address local challenges through an Institute partnership with the Georgia Municipal Association and the UGA School of Public and International Affairs. ([more](#))

on Facebook. The unit combines the knowledge, skills, and expertise of our environmental and planning faculty to better serve our clients. Now, we've collected all **seven Q&A sessions** in one convenient location for our Newsworthy readers!



Visit us at

www.vinsoninstitute.org

Upcoming Events

ACCG Leadership Institute: July 14–18

Development Authority Training: August 1

GMA Municipal Training Institute: August 22–23

Newsworthy Notable



Kris Sikes

Public Service Assistant

Kris recently joined our Local Government Services team to work on budgeting, finance, and tax policy after having served for several years as an Institute fiscal analyst assessing how proposed legislation affects Georgia's tax base.

Our Partners in Training:



Local Officials Enhance Financial Management Knowledge through Institute Courses

Twenty local government officials from throughout Georgia earned finance officer certification through the Institute's Financial Management Training Program, which provides a series of courses designed to enhance understanding of public finance topics. [\(more\)](#)

South Korean Leaders Study American Governance through Institute Training Program

Sixteen representatives from the Governors Association of Korea enhanced their knowledge of effective local and state governance during a two-week training program administered by the Institute of Government's International Center. [\(more\)](#)

Institute Completes Analysis for Center for State and Local Government Excellence

The Institute recently completed a national study for the Center for State and Local Government Excellence to examine how the practice of automatic escalation—gradually increasing employees' contributions to a defined contribution retirement plan—can be used in the public sector. [\(more\)](#)

Undergraduates Explore Governance Challenges through Vinson Fellows Program

Four undergraduate students selected through the university's Roosevelt Institute chapter as spring semester Vinson Institute Fellows gave presentations on their research projects at a recent gathering of Institute faculty and staff. [\(more\)](#)