

PRESS RELEASE

Mayor and Two City Council Members Represent Tifton at 2025 Georgia Municipal Association's Cities United Summit



Figure 1: Mayor Julie Smith with state Reps. Ford and O'Steen Figure 2: Councilman M. Jay Hall receives Certificate of Recognition

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ATLANTA, Ga. – City of Tifton Mayor Julie Smith and Councilmen M. Jay Hall and Lester Cromer Jr. attended the 2025 Georgia Municipal Association's (GMA) Cities United Summit January 24 through 27.

GMA's Cities United Summit brought together approximately 1,000 Georgia city officials to discuss priorities in municipalities throughout the state. Accordingly, during

the Cities United Day at the state Capitol, attendees were able to meet with state legislators and policy makers to discuss issues and opportunities affecting cities across Georgia.

Mayor Julie Smith reflected, "We always look forward to the opportunity to network with municipal leaders from across the state to gain ideas, gauge success in our community, and take advantage of new opportunities for economic development and community growth."

Tifton's mayor and councilmembers in attendance took Municipal Institute classes at the Cities United Summit that were offered in partnership with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government. These were courses that will better equip Tifton's city leaders to navigate their roles as elected officials.

Councilman M. Jay Hall was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from the Harold F. Holtz Municipal Training Institute at the Annual Awards luncheon on Sunday. The Harold F. Holtz Municipal Training Institute is a continuing education program designed to help city officials enhance their knowledge and skills in municipal-related matters.

Mayor Smith attended the Legislative Networking and Capitol Connection Breakfast Program on Monday where state Sen. Carden Summers, state Reps. Jaclyn Ford and Angie O'Steen were present.

Additionally, the City of Tifton was re-designated as a City of Civility at the Cities United Summit. Read more here: <https://www.tifton.net/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=133>

GMA's Cities United Summit is a four-day event in Atlanta featuring various classes, awards ceremonies and receptions that gather and educate Georgia city officials. On the last day of the Summit, Georgia Cities Day combines city leaders with state legislators and policy makers. To learn more about the GMA's Cities United Summit and other events, please visit: www.Gacities.com/Events

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