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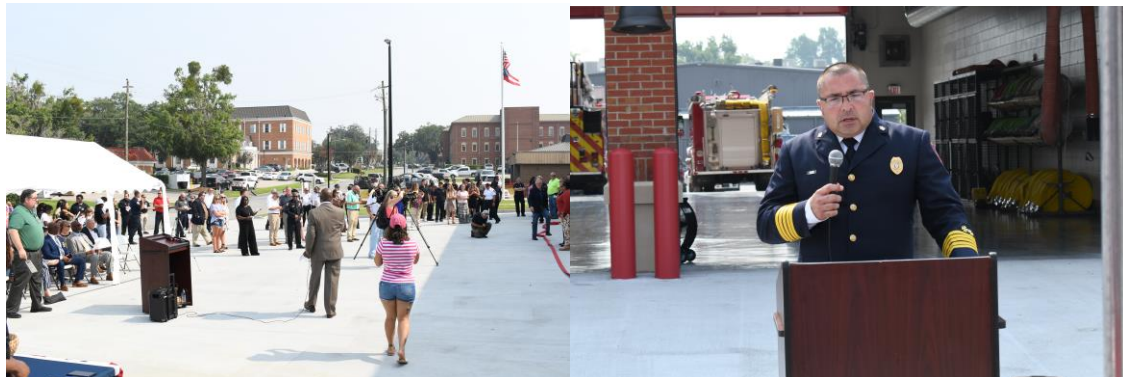
# NEWS RELEASE

## Grand Opening for New Hinesville Fire Station

**HINESVILLE, Ga. (July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023)** – The City of Hinesville held its grand opening ceremony for the new District 3 Fire Station. Although the heat was intense, there was a great crowd of elected officials, City staff and local supporters. Hinesville broke ground on this project back in February of 2022, and 17 months later the new HFD fire station has been completed.



“I was here when we broke ground on the first Hinesville Fire Station building, how many Mayors can say that they outlived the building? It’s a great day for the City of Hinesville,” said Hinesville Mayor Allen Brown. “As we continue to enhance the quality of life in Downtown Hinesville, this new fire station is another example of the commitment of our Mayor and City Council,” said Hinesville City Manager Kenneth Howard.





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The new fire station was named in honor of the late Captain Earnest “Moe” McDuffie. McDuffie passed away on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 while performing mandatory physical training for the Hinesville Fire Department. McDuffie joined the HFD in 2001. He progressed through to the rank of Engineer in 2007. In 2010, he was promoted to Lieutenant/Deputy Fire Marshal and in 2013 was promoted to Captain and became the first African-American Fire Marshal/Chief Fire Investigator.



“We started with the planning of building a new fire station when I first took office in 2016, and it’s finally come to fruition. I am so proud to be a part of the new state of the art Hinesville Fire Department,” said District 3 Council member Vicky Nelson.



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The architecture of the new brick building was designed to match with the aesthetic of the downtown, and to fit the staffing and equipment needs of the Hinesville Fire Department. “While we will all miss the fire house that raised us, it’s time to move forward and grow with our city. This new fire station is a symbol of the support given to us by the citizens of Hinesville, and once again shows that our city has progressive leaders that understand the needs of our community”, said Hinesville Fire Chief Robert Kitchens.







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The new 2-storey fire station is equipped with 5 bays and is approximately 17,000 square feet. The facility is a self-contained station with 24-hour operation, with over 13 dorm rooms, coed shower stations, workout facility and an administrative building. The new HFD fire station was funded through utilizing City SPLOST funds, and it's located at 103 Liberty Street in downtown Hinesville.

For more information, please contact Shantez Herrington at [sherrington@cityofhinesville.org](mailto:sherrington@cityofhinesville.org) or **912-876-3564**.

**ABOUT THE CITY OF HINESVILLE:**

The [City of Hinesville](http://CityofHinesville) was established in 1837 and is recognized as one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Georgia in both size and population. As the largest city in Liberty County, it serves as the county seat and is home to more than 35,000 people. For more information, visit [cityofhinesville.org](http://cityofhinesville.org).

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