

MAYOR

James Thomas, Jr.

CITY MANAGER

Billy Edwards

CITY CLERK

Sarah Lumpkin

CITY ATTORNEY

Linnie L. Darden, III



MAYOR PRO TEM

Charles Frasier

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jason Floyd

David Anderson, Sr.

Keith Jenkins

Kenneth Shaw

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Hinesville wins national innovation award

Hinesville, GA— The City of Hinesville won the Sister Cities International's 2014 Innovation Award - Economic Development for a city with a population less than 100,000 during the Sister Cities International's 58th Annual Conference on Aug. 2.

The 2014 Sister Cities International Innovation Award for Economic Development recognizes the accomplishments of outstanding community and individual sister city programs that promote peace through mutual respect, understanding and cooperation. The City of Hinesville won the award for its economic development relationship with the City of Yichun, China.

The City of Hinesville was extended a personal invitation by Mr. Wang Xia, Chairman of the CCPIT Automotive Subcouncil and host of the Global Auto Forum (GAF) to attend the fourth annual GAF October 17-18, 2013 in Wuhan, China. Attending the GAF provided the City of Hinesville with an exclusive opportunity to meet key decision makers within the Chinese automotive industry.

Through the efforts of Lily Yang, Hinesville's Chinese Sister City Representative, the Hinesville delegation was given a special closed-door meeting with key executives from the Chinese automakers. Mayor Thomas and Liberty County Development Authority CEO Ron Tolley made presentations introducing the City of Hinesville/Liberty County as prime candidates for potential site locations as Chinese automakers look to expand to the U.S. market.

"As a result of our visits, we are confident that the established rapport with industry leaders and continuing relationships with current representatives will position Hinesville/Liberty County as a logistical center and prime prospect for Chinese industry entry into the U.S. market," said Hinesville Mayor James Thomas, Jr.

"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"

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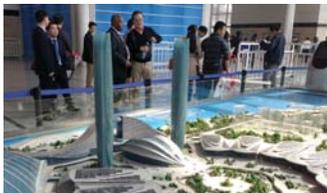
To successfully participate in this forum, the City of Hinesville collaborated with International Auto Processing and the Liberty County Development Authority.

SCI is a national membership organization for individual sister cities, counties, and states across the United States. It advances peace and prosperity through cultural, educational, humanitarian, and economic development exchanges.

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Hinesville Mayor James Thomas viewing automobiles at the Global Auto Forum in Wuhan, China October 2013. The project earned the City of Hinesville the 2014 Innovation Award for Economic Development from Sister Cities International.



Hinesville Mayor James Thomas attending the Global Auto Forum in Wuhan, China October 2013. Mayor Thomas and LCDA CEO Ron Tolley were invited to the conference and gave a presentation on Liberty County economic development opportunities to Chinese automakers.

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