**City of Dunwoody Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Opportunities**

1. **Certified City of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging**

The Certified City of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (Certified City of DEIB) was created by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) in 2022 to recognize cities that adopt policies and practices promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging within their municipal government and community.

Pre-application requirements:

* Resolutions: The city must adopt two resolutions. The first resolution states the city's intent to apply for certification. The second is adopted annually and declares the city's continuing commitment to the program. GMA has examples that can be adapted for our use.
* Training: A majority of the council must complete at least 3 hours of approved Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training. This requirement can be met with GMA’s “Making Cultural Diversity Work” training course, Embrace Webinars, regional workshops or other comparable training.
* Stakeholder Involvement: The city must host at least 2 interactive Community Stakeholder meetings within one calendar year, targeting city residents, community interest groups, or stakeholders such as business owners or community leaders. The purpose of the meetings is to allow for discussion and feedback on current projects and city services, and to learn about community needs.
* Certification Categories: A city must apply for certification in at least two categories to receive initial certification. The Community Dialogue/Stakeholder Engagement category is required. The seven categories are:
* Workforce Housing
* Education
* Health & Wellbeing
* Public Safety & Restorative Justice
* Community & Economic Development
* Municipal Workforce Development & Employment
* Community Dialogue/Stakeholder Engagement *(required)*

*​*There are four tiers of certification based on the number of categories a city chooses to address. The tiers are as follows:

* **Bronze:** 2 *(including the required Community Dialogue/Stakeholder Engagement)*
* **Silver:** 3-4
* **Gold:** 5-6
* **Platinum:** 7

Certification is valid for three years as long as the city fulfills the following requirements:

* Adopt a resolution every year affirming its commitment to the program.
* Hold two community stakeholder meetings each year to listen, help identify barriers to engagement, seek input, and develop solutions.

At the end of the initial three-year certification period, the city will need to apply for recertification. To be recertified, the city must demonstrate that it continues to work towards equity and inclusion in the categories in which it is certified.

1. **One Region Initiative**

The One Region Initiative is a Metro-Atlanta program (Dekalb, Fulton, and Gwinnett counties) focused on creating and adopting welcoming/inclusion practices for immigrants and refugees. It is part of a nationwide Welcoming America program. Participants include non-profits, local government elected officials, local government staff, and consular officials. Rob Price is the City of Dunwoody’s representative. Amy Campbell of Corners Outreach is the current chair.

A Strategic Welcoming Plan was developed in May, 2021 ([One-Region-Initiative-Welcoming-Plan.pdf (welcomingamerica.org)](https://welcomingamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/One-Region-Initiative-Welcoming-Plan.pdf). It’s focus areas include:

* Civic Engagement
* Government Leadership
* Safe Communities
* Connected Communities
* Equitable Access
* Economic Development
* Education

Welcoming Week in 2023 is September 8-17. Cities, counties, and community organizations often host or highlight immigrant and refugee supportive activities during this week.