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**City of Fairburn Empowers Future Leaders: 30 Employees Triumph in Advanced Leadership Program**

**Fairburn, GA — August 13, 2024** — The City of Fairburn celebrates the remarkable achievement of 30 dedicated employees who have successfully completed the Georgia Municipal Association's Supervisory Leadership Development Program. This accomplishment marks a significant milestone in the City's ongoing commitment to empowering its workforce and fostering a culture of excellence at every level.

The Supervisory Leadership Development Program, a key initiative spearheaded by the City Administrator's Office, began on January 24, 2024, and concluded on June 18, 2024. Over the course of 17 intensive sessions, participants engaged in a rich blend of lectures, interactive exercises, and innovative learning experiences. The program covered crucial topics such as Supervisory Leadership, Team Building, Performance Evaluation, Budget Management, Workplace Accountability, Strategic Planning, Communication, Ethics, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Mayor Mario B. Avery praised the graduates, stating, "This is more than just a certification—it's a testament to the dedication and ambition of our employees. Their commitment to growing as leaders is not only an investment in their futures but also in the future of our entire community. We are immensely proud of their accomplishments and the positive impact they will continue to make in Fairburn."

By completing this program, these employees are now better equipped to lead with purpose, inspire their teams, and contribute to the City's mission of delivering exceptional service to its residents.

The City of Fairburn also takes great pride in the achievements within its leadership team. Assistant City Administrator Jamila Criss exemplifies this commitment to professional excellence, having recently earned her Certified Public Manager certification in June 2024. Additionally, City Administrator Tony M. Phillips recently completed the ICMA High Performance Leadership Academy program which was created to equip local government professionals with leadership skills in organizational development and change management, negotiation and collaboration, effective communication, and how to deliver increased value from high performance management. These accomplishments further emphasize the City's dedication to fostering leadership growth from the top down.

"Empowering our employees through professional development is at the heart of our vision for Fairburn," said City Administrator Tony M. Phillips. "We believe that by equipping our staff with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed, we are not only investing in their personal growth but also in the resilience and vitality of our entire City."

This celebration of achievement reflects Fairburn's broader commitment to creating opportunities for continuous learning and career advancement. As the City looks to the future, it remains steadfast in its mission to provide its workforce with the tools and support necessary to lead with confidence and integrity.

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**About the City of Fairburn:**

The City of Fairburn, "Situated to Succeed," is a vibrant and thriving community located in the heart of southern Fulton County, Georgia, boasting a rich historical legacy. Dedicated to fostering a high quality of life, Fairburn is committed to sustainable development, economic vitality, and inclusive community engagement. With a focus on innovation and growth, Fairburn continuously strives to enhance the well-being of its residents while preserving its unique character and charm. Discover more about Fairburn's initiatives and community spirit at [www.fairburn.com](http://www.fairburn.com).