

The City of Gainesville, through the Office of Equity and Inclusion, marked the commencement of the 2024 Small Business Mentoring Initiative by hosting the Small Business Mentoring Kickoff in January 2024. This initiative was established to foster an environment that supports the development of small businesses within the City of Gainesville and surrounding communities.

The Mentor-Protégé Program is a year-long program that pairs emerging businesses (protégés) with established businesses (mentors) to build a strong network of local, diverse companies that are well-equipped and qualified to do business with the City of Gainesville.

Today marks the culmination of the 2024 Small Business Mentoring Initiative, where we look to recognize and commend all of the participants of this 2024 Small Business Mentoring Class. We would like to extend special thanks to each of the mentors for volunteering their time and sharing knowledge to help propel our emerging entrepreneurs onto a path of continued success. We congratulate each of the participants of the 2024 Small Business Mentoring Initiative and wish them much success in the future growth and development of their businesses. Again, thank you for your commitment and participation.

Mayor Harvey L, Ward Jr. January 6, 2025