



2026 Strategic Summit

Friday, February 20, 2026
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

McMinn Higher Education Center
Facilitated by Southeast Tennessee Development District (SETD)

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome & Introductions
9:15 – 9:30 a.m.	<u>Review of Previous and Current Accomplishments</u> • Review of FY 2024-25 Previous Year's Accomplishments • Review of Feb. 2025 Strategic Summit Priorities and their Outcomes • Review of FY 2025-26 Current Program of Work
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	<u>Athens in Context for Future Planning</u> • City and County Population Growth Chart and City Demographic Data • U.S. Population Projection, Consumer Sentiment, and Delinquency Rate Charts • City School Enrollment Growth Chart • City Single-Family Home Building Permit Issuance Chart • Number of City Sanitation Customers and Collection Chart • Parks & Recreation Program Participation Chart • Local Sales Tax Collection Charts • City Hotel/Motel Tax Collection Chart (4%) • Cash Balances & Investment Sheet as of December 2025 • LGIP Interest Rate Chart • Adjacent City and County Total Property Tax Rates for 2025
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.	<u>What Should the City's Future Planning Strategy Be Based on Current Context?</u> (Including a Seven-Year CIP)
10:45 – 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 – 12:00 p.m.	<u>Departmental Presentations to Discuss Specific Budget Priorities for FY 2026-27 and Specific Long-Term Projects Based on the Seven-Year CIP</u> • Parks & Recreation / SE TN Trade & Conference Center • Police Department • Fire Department
12:00 – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 – 3:00 p.m.	<u>Departmental Presentations to Discuss Specific Budget Priorities for FY 2026-27 and Specific Long-Term Projects Based on the Seven-Year CIP</u> • Community Development / Codes Enforcement / Cemeteries • Information Technology • Tourism (Hotel/Motel Tax Fund) • Public Works / Sanitation / Capital Projects • HR / Finance / Purchasing
3:00 – 3:15 p.m.	Break
3:15 – 4:30 p.m.	Discussion and List of Specific Budget Priorities for FY 2026-27 and Specific Long-Term Projects for the Seven-Year CIP