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## Business Innovation Group (BIG) News

Georgia Southern University

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# City Council Gets the Dirt on Living Wall

May 31, 2015



Katie Reams and Abbie Pelech presented the final design for the Living Wall Downtown at the May 5 City Council meeting.

The Georgia Southern University Business Innovation Group and Center for Sustainability are working together to bring Green Space to the alley between the E-Zone and soon to be constructed Incubator and FabLab downtown. City Campus was awarded the sustainability fee grant earlier this year.

This grant uses student sustainability fees to improve environmental sustainability across the Georgia Southern Campus. Students finalized the design of the Living Wall, which is what they presented to City Council. The design includes welded trellis panels to hold seasonal vegetables and native plants. The wall will also have solar pendant lamps, a reclaimed brick planter, and a reclaimed wooden bench. Students hope to make irrigation as sustainable as possible by connecting the wall to a rain barrel drip irrigation system.

Over the next couple of months, students will work to construct and, then, install the new living wall. Students will also be responsible for maintaining the wall once it is in place.

The living wall will be a great new addition to the space downtown. Not only will it be a great aesthetic improvement, but it will also reduce the urban heat island effect and improve air quality. City Campus staff members are excited to see the BIG improvements through Student Sustainability Fees at work in Downtown Statesboro.

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