



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **DOWNTOWN WALKING TOURS TO BE DEVELOPED**

A public meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at the Augusta Public Library Auditorium, 902 Greene Street. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss a Historic Preservation Fund grant in the amount of \$8,580 to the City of Augusta that is being utilized to develop web-based walking tours of downtown Augusta.

Historic Augusta, Inc. has been engaged as the consultant to develop the tours, which are envisioned as on-line brochures for tourists contemplating a visit to the city. The on-line brochures can be printed from a home computer and local attractions and businesses will be able to utilize them as a service to their customers. Local residents can also use them as an aide to help entertain their out-of-town guests.

The tours will be developed in a way to give more detailed information on the history and architectural significance of practically every historic building along a specified route to be taken on-foot. There will be four to six routes developed in order to cover most of the Augusta Downtown Historic District. Each route will be designed in a logical fashion so that those using it as a guide will find that it is easy to walk within a reasonable period of time. Attention to details will also be included, such as areas to shop, eat and issues related to handicap accessibility.

The grant is provided through the Historic Preservation Fund from the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service and administered by the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Matching funds are being provided by the Augusta Downtown Development Authority and the Augusta Convention and Visitors Bureau, with in-kind services provided by the City of Augusta and its Historic Preservation Commission.

Those interested in attending the meeting and providing input into the design of the walking tour brochures are invited to attend. For more information contact Historic Augusta, Inc. at 706-724-0436 or [Julia@historicaugusta.org](mailto:Julia@historicaugusta.org).