



Sylvania Downtown Development Authority

Incentive Program

Business Incentives for Sylvania Downtown Development Area

Incentives Include:

- **Waiver of Occupation Tax**
- **Waiver of Pouring License Tax for Restaurants**
- **Waiver of Natural Gas Connection Fees**
- **Waiver of Water and Sewer Tap Fees**
- **Waiver of Base Rates for Water, Sewer, Gas, and Electricity**

The Sylvania Downtown Development Authority Incentive Package

Who Can Participate?

The Sylvania Downtown Development Business Incentives program applies to:

1. New businesses which locate within the Downtown Development Area of the City of Sylvania (see map for guidance).
2. Existing businesses located within the Downtown Development Area of the City of Sylvania which either add two full-time employment positions (greater than or equal to 35 hours per week per position) **OR** invest \$50,000 or more in a building located within the district.

What is the Time Frame

The Sylvania DDA Incentives Program began on June 1, 2019 and will end May 31, 2024.

What is Included?

Waiver of Pouring License Tax for

Restaurants: For qualifying restaurants within the designated district, the application fee and license tax will be waived for two (2) years – the first year being either the year during which the business first qualifies for incentives, or the subsequent year, at the option of the business; the next succeeding year will be the second year that the waiver will apply.

Waiver of Base Rates for Water,

Sewer, Gas, and Electricity: Qualifying businesses within the district will receive a waiver of base rates for water, sewer, gas, and electric services from the City of Sylvania beginning with the billing period beginning in the month subsequent to the initial qualification and continuing for 12 subsequent months. The value of this to a qualifying business who receives water, sewer, gas, and electricity from the City of Sylvania would be \$63.15 per month – which equals more than \$750 in annual savings for the business.

Example of Cost Savings

A newly constructed restaurant located in the Sylvania Downtown Development Incentives District has 2 full-time employees, is located in a 4,000SF building, is connected to all city services (water, sewer, gas, and electric) and is receiving alcohol license for beer and wine would save:

	Without Incentives Plan	With Incentives Plan
Business License (1 Year):	\$132	FREE
Alcohol License (2 Years):	\$1120	FREE
Water Tap Fee:	\$660-1155	FREE
Sewer Tap Fee	\$330-440	FREE
Gas Tap Fee:	\$150	FREE
Waiver of Base Rates for Water, Sewer, Gas, & Electric		
(1 Year):	\$757.80	FREE
Natural Gas Water Heater:	\$300	REBATE
TOTAL SAVINGS:	\$3,449.80 - \$4,054.80	

Waiver of Occupation Tax: For qualifying businesses, the payment of occupation tax will be waived for either the year during which the business first qualifies for the incentives, or the subsequent year, at the option of the business.

Waiver of Water and Sewer Tap Fees:

The initial fees charged for connections to City of Sylvania water and sewer lines will be waived for qualifying businesses within the district.

Waiver of Natural Gas Connection

Fees: The initial fees charged for connections to City of Sylvania natural gas lines will be waived for qualifying businesses within the district. The City of Sylvania Gas Department will also provide up to \$600 in rebates on natural gas products.



For a full explanation of these incentives,
please visit:

<https://www.cityofsylvaniaga.com/incentives.cfm>



City of Sylvania

104 South Main Street
Sylvania, GA 30467
(912) 564-7411

Business License & Alcohol License
City Clerk
(912) 564-7411

Building Permits and Zoning
John Rosier
(912) 564-2055

Downtown Development Authority
Kylie Forehand
(912) 564-7878
Sylvaniagadowntown@gmail.com



Are There Other Programs?

Façade Grant:

A matching grant provided by the Sylvania Main Street Program for qualified building and business owners for renovation and improvements to store fronts. You could receive a match of up to \$500 for façade improvements or \$500 for signage. For more information, call Kylie Forehand at (912) 564-7878.

Federal Opportunity Zone:


A portion of the Downtown Development Area of the City of Sylvania is located within a Federal Opportunity Zone (see map for clarification). Opportunity Funds allow investors to defer federal taxes on any recent capital gains until December 31, 2026, reduce that tax payment by up to 15%, and pay as little as zero taxes on potential profits from an Opportunity Fund if the investment is held for 10 years. Contact Rachel Barnwell at Screven County Development Authority at (912) 564-7850 to discuss your project if you are interested in taking advantage of this program.



**A map of the Sylvania
downtown boundaries
including an outline of our
Federal Opportunity Zone.**

Questions?

Contact Stacy Mathis, City Manager
at (912) 546-7411 to find out more
about the listed programs or to
schedule a time to speak with the
board of the City of Sylvania
Downtown Development Authority.

 @downtownsyvaniaga

