

# PRESIDENT, DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY

**DeKalb County, Georgia** 





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# PRESIDENT, DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY

# **DeKalb County, Georgia**

The Development Authority of DeKalb County (DADC) is a key entity responsible for the coordination and execution of the County's economic development initiatives and programs. In February 2014, DeKalb County entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the DADC that made the DADC the primary entity for promoting economic development in DeKalb County. Through their partnership with DeKalb County Government, DADC works to create quality jobs and investments to expand the tax base and supporting balanced growth. The DADC will also be responsible for implementing DeKalb's Economic Development Strategic Plan. Click on the following links to review the <u>Strategic Plan</u> and read entire <u>Intergovernmental Agreement</u>.







Created by the Georgia General Assembly for the purpose of promoting trade, commerce, industry, and employment opportunities for the public good and to promote the general welfare of the State.

#### VISION

The vision of the DeKalb County Development Authority of DeKalb County is for the county to become a premier location for global business creating a "One DeKalb" with balanced quality business growth that is environmentally sensitive with sustainable jobs in industries that expand the economy and strengthen the tax base.

#### **MISSION**

The Development Authority of DeKalb County is charged with bringing prosperity to DeKalb County through stimulating new investment, expanding existing industry and developing sustainable economic strategies for balanced growth in every DeKalb community through the following services:

- Loan And Grant Programs
- Business And Film Site Selection Services
- Business Recruiting And Retention
- Business Start-Up Assistance And Capacity Building
- Incentive Programs
- International Business Facilitation

The DADC works closely with local and state wide governments, including Workforce Development, DeKalb-based Chambers of Commerce, business associations, utility companies, colleges and universities, large private sector employers, as well as neighborhood and community groups. Through collaboration with local governments, businesses and citizens we can expand DeKalb's economy, strengthen our tax base, support local businesses and create an IDEAL DeKalb! For more information, visit <a href="https://www.DecideDeKalb.com">www.DecideDeKalb.com</a>.

#### 2013-2014 DADC BOARD MEMBERS



Vaughn Irons, Chair



Kevin Greiner, Vice Chair



Lani Wong, Secretary



Gregory Baranco, Treasurer



Judy Turner, Board Member



Bobbie Sanford, Board Member

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### **DEKALB COUNTY GEORGIA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

#### **MISSION**

To improve the quality of life for the stakeholders of DeKalb County through governance, representation, and accountability.

#### **VISION**

The Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County, the Legislative Branch, is committed to excellence in public service as a way for the people to participate in a responsive government

The Board of Commissioners serves as the legislative branch of the DeKalb County government. The Board is comprised of seven part-time commissioners. all elected to a four-year term. DeKalb County is divided into five districts with one commissioner serving each district. There are also two "super districts," one on the east end of the county and the other on the west end, each making up about half of the county population. Each super district is served by one commissioner. Therefore, every citizen of DeKalb County is served by two commissioners, one with the district and one with the super district.

The Commission has the power and authority to fix and establish policies, rules and regulations governing all matters reserved to its jurisdiction by the DeKalb County Organizational Act with specific powers granted by Section 9.

Additionally, the commission may adopt all such ordinances or regulations as it may deem advisable, not in conflict with the general laws of this state and of the United States, for the governing and policing of the county for the purpose of protecting and preserving the health, safety, welfare, and morals of the citizens of the county and for the implementation and enforcement of the powers and duties of the commission.

Meetings discussing the regular business of the county are typically held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month and begin at 9:00 am in the Maloof Auditorium at 1300 Commerce Drive unless otherwise noted. All regular Board meetings are open to the public. All regular Board meetings are televised live on Channel 23. Commissioners also hold committee meetings, which are open to the public as well. There are currently five standing committees within the County Operations & Public Safety; Employee Relations & Community Services; Finance, Audit & Budget; Planning & Economic Development; and Public Works & Infrastructure.

#### STATEMENT OF VALUES

Commitment We strive to give our very best.

We will be honest Honesty

> with each other and our stakeholders by communicating openly and

professionally,

**Fairness** We strive to ensure

all sides have equal consideration.

We adhere to Integrity

ethical and professional values and behaviors. which include common courtesy.

respect, and trust.

Stewardship We believe that

> accountability and fiscal responsibility are essential for public confidence

in government.

#### **INTERIM CEO**



Lee May

Commissioner **District 2** Jeff Rader



Commissioner **District 3 Larry Johnson** 



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** 

Commissioner **Sharon Sutton** 



Commissioner **Kathie Gannon** 



Commissioner **Super District 7 Stan Watson** 

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#### **FAST FACTS ABOUT DEKALB COUNTY**

- As of the 2010 U.S. Census, population of 691,893 with an average Household Income of \$72,494.
- Founded in 1822 and named in honor of Johann Baron de Kolb.
- City of Decatur is the County Seat.
- Georgia's most culturally diverse county with over 64 spoken languages.
- Over 100 hotels & over 12.000 rooms.
- Home to the nation's second most affluent African American population.
- Much of the Battle of Atlanta during the Civil War took place in DeKalb County.
- Home to the world's largest dinosaur replicas - the Argentinasaurus and the Gigantosaurus - are on prominent display at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History.
- Home to the world's largest indoor farmers market, Your DeKalb Farmers Market, which sells spices, seafood, vegetables, sauces, fruit, teas, coffees and more from every part of the world.
- County's Top Employers include Emory University, DeKalb County School System, DeKalb County Government, Internal Revenue Service (Chamblee), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and BellSouth.

DeKalb County is Georgia's third largest county with almost 700,000 residents calling it home. Known for its business and education hub, growing international community and natural wonders, DeKalb County Government is administered by Interim Chief Executive Officer Lee May and legislative policy is set by a Board of Commissioners.

#### **CROWN JEWEL OF THE METROPOLITAN ATLANTA REGION**

The County consists of a portion of Atlanta and the cities of Avondale Estates, Brookhaven, Chamblee, Clarkston, Decatur, Doraville, Dunwoody, Lithonia, Pine Lake, Stone Mountain, and several unincorporated areas. Four major interstates and MARTA (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) public transportation are easily accessible. DeKalb is also home to DeKalb Peachtree Airport which is only second to Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson Airport.

#### **BUSINESS AND EDUCATION HUB**

DeKalb is the headquarters of some of the county's most prominent businesses and organizations including: Siemens, Zurich Insurance; the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the only federal agency based outside of Washington, DC, the Yerkes Primate Center and Emory University's Rollins Research Center. Academic institutions calling DeKalb County home include Emory University, one of the Ivy League schools of the South, Agnes Scott College, one of the top liberal arts colleges in the U.S., Oglethorpe University and Georgia Piedmont Technical College.

#### **GROWING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

DeKalb has emerged as one of Georgia's most culturally diverse communities. More than 64 languages representing Asian, Hispanic, European and African cultures are spoken. The county has also become a haven for African, Iraqi and Latino asylum seekers displaced by war or turbulent political circumstances.

#### **NATURAL WONDERS**

One of DeKalb's most well-known attractions is Stone Mountain Park,

home to the world's largest free-standing piece of exposed granite and the world's largest relief sculpture. Another natural attraction is Davidson



Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve, 2,000 acres of granite outcrop, wetlands, pine and oak forests, streams, and a lake.

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#### **NATURE OF JOB**

Develop and implement strategies to assist with business growth and expansion. Facilitate, coordinate, and stimulate progressive economic development in the community by attracting new businesses to DeKalb County, and strengthening and expanding existing business enterprises. Highly professional and technical full time work directing and coordinating the County's efforts toward improving the local economy, creating jobs and diversifying the tax base.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree with coursework in economic development, planning, business or public administration or a
  related field, and ten years of increasingly responsible experience in economic development, planning and/or
  policy development or an equivalent combination of education and relevant experience is preferred. Certified
  Economic Developer (CEcD) certification preferred.
- Five years of professional-level experience supervising or managing a complex organization is preferred.
- Must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills to deal with public.
- Must be able to comprehend, speak, and write the English language.
- MUST CURRENTLY LIVE IN OR BECOME A RESIDENT OF DEKALB COUNTY WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF EMPLOYMENT.

#### SPECIFIC DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

- Develops, plans, organizes and implements strategies to promote DeKalb County as an ideal business and industry location with site consultants, investors, business owners, organizations (public and private) and all economic development clients or prospects interested in the County.
- Promotes business and industrial development through personal contacts with community leaders, management officials of existing business and industry, the industrial real estate community, area and state agencies, etc.
- Coordinates a unified economic development effort with and among the DeKalb County Development Authority, local municipalities, the Office of the CEO, the Board of County Commissioners, County Staff, DeKalb County Chamber of Commerce and other government or community service organizations.
- Provides a high level of customer service using a proactive approach towards solving problems and expediting development, as well as assisting developers, businesses and property owners to resolve issues with the County.
- Performance assessment will include results oriented benchmarks and an annual success reporting system.
- Participates in County's comprehensive planning process by recommending strategies for improvements to
  County services, facilities, utilities and related resources involving transportation, water and sewer, and parks
  and recreation as well as work force training and apprenticeships to improve infrastructure to support economic
  development.
- Acts as the business recruitment, retention and commercial development facilitator within the County.
- Maintains an updated comprehensive file of business and development opportunities.
- Responsible for annual budget for the DADC and EDC.
- Advises County staff regarding capital improvements and funding mechanisms for projects that serve as a catalyst for economic development and redevelopment programs.
- Attends public meetings to provide information regarding County activities associated with economic development.
   Prepares and presents action requests to the County Manager and County Commission.
- Collects and provides relevant data to businesses and individuals in making investment decisions.
- Establishes harmonious working relations and communicates with community, economic and industrial development allies, and stimulates regional cooperation.
- Represents the County on local, regional, state, international and national levels in matters pertaining to promoting and achieving economic development objectives.
- Develops and implements grant requests as appropriate.

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- Raises funds from private sector grants and governments.
- Assists with housing opportunities through new subdivisions, senior housing, low income housing.
- Collaborates with DeKalb cities in development of new inventive programs for business, housing, or other infrastructure needs related to economic development.
- Responsible for monthly financial reports and analyses.
- Coordinates the identification, assessment and development of competitive industrial sites.
- Oversees data collection, research and analysis to include a database of existing buildings and available sites.
- Responsible for adhering to the terms of the agreement outlined in the Intergovernmental Agreement with DeKalb County, Georgia.

#### **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Reports to the Board of the DADC and serves at their pleasure in executing their responsibilities and any contracts or inter-governmental agreements entered into.
- Attends conferences, seminars, workshops, classes, lectures, etc., as appropriate to enhance and maintain knowledge of trends and developments in the field of economic development; attends professional, civic, and social gatherings, as appropriate, to represent and promote interests of County and to collect information pertinent to advancement of interests of the County.

#### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Knowledge of the principles, practices and procedures of economic development; industrial and commercial business attraction and retention; private sector business and development practices; and the relationships among federal, state, regional and local agencies in matters of economic development planning and policy.
- Considerable knowledge of the methods and techniques used in business solicitation or industrial promotion.
- Knowledge of laws and ordinances affecting the economic and industrial development process.
- Considerable knowledge of land and building values, urban design, municipal finances, tax credit incentives and funding sources for economic development or redevelopment.
- Considerable knowledge of the available resources of the County.
- Working knowledge of general management and business organization principles and practices.
- General knowledge of current and projected economic trends.
- Skilled in the collection, analysis and presentation of technical data.
- Able to organize workflow and coordinate activities for short-term and long-term projects.
- Exercise considerable independent judgment and discretion establishing, applying and interpreting policies and procedures.
- Ability to gather, analyze and interpret industrial and economic data and to make sound recommendations from the information.
- Supervise subordinate personnel.
- Effectively express ideas orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with governmental officials, business and industrial representatives, and as otherwise necessitated by work assignments.

#### **BACKGROUND CHECK**

All offers of employment are contingent upon successful completion of background check.

For potential consideration or to suggest a prospect for this role, please contact:

Traci Brown at tbrown@roystergroup.com or Ken Taunton at krtaunton@roystergroup.com

The Royster Group (770) 507-3353