



# The Development Authority of Fulton County Newsletter

May 2014

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From the Chairman...

Robert J. (Bob) Shaw



The longest economic downturn since the Great Depression is finally over. Activity still isn't totally back to normal, but there is renewed interest in housing, office and industrial projects around the

## DAFC's e-Newsletter

Welcome to the Development Authority of Fulton County's (DAFC) e-newsletter. Each quarter, we will bring to you the latest economic development news in Fulton County.

We welcome the opportunity to explore taxable and tax-exempt revenue bond financing options and can assist in identifying all existing resources and incentives available to your organization. We invite you to contact us directly at 404-612-8078 or search our website at [www.developfultoncounty.com](http://www.developfultoncounty.com) for additional information.

## Dr. C. Clayton Powell Honored by Morehouse College

Recently, Dr. C. Clayton Powell was awarded the Presidential Citation of Merit by Morehouse College for his lifetime of service and extraordinary accomplishments as a medical practitioner and civil leader. The DAFC's former Executive Director received this distinguished award at the Alumni Day Crown Forum on April 10, 2014.

Dr. Powell's legacy is a life of distinction and service in scholarship, optometry, business, civic involvement and civil rights. Powell earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Morehouse College and in 1949 was the only African American in his class at Illinois College of Optometry (formerly known as the Chicago College of Optometry.) Among the first practicing optometrists--and the first African American--Powell was appointed to the National Eye Institute and the National Institutes of Health.

During his career, Powell served as vice president of the Atlanta Branch of the NAACP and was active in the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Morehouse Alumni Association, 100 Black Men of America and 100 Black Men of Atlanta.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Powell on this distinguished award!

region. Yet, in spite of this renewed interest, job growth remains both a local and global issue.

Last year, Gallup calculated global unemployment at over 50% and worldwide we face a 1.8 billion-job shortfall. Thus, job creation persists as a critical government mission.

In addition, Gallup estimated that the US must maintain a 7% GDP growth rate to retain its global presence and decrease US unemployment, almost doubling the most generous US GDP growth rate expected today.

This increased global competition for jobs, plus an expected subpar GDP growth rate even in 2014, means Georgia must aggressively continue to pursue business opportunities. Our state leaders - particularly our legislators - must realize that the competition is not Fulton County versus Cobb County or Atlanta against Peachtree City. It's truly Georgia against the world.

The General Assembly's limited action on economic development in 2014 was expected. Legislative leaders vowed to tighten the session's duration and scope to accommodate the new electoral calendar.

However, the 2015 legislative session may be an economic development watershed for Georgia and Fulton County. Rather than tying the hands of local economic developers, the General Assembly must again assess our competitiveness compared to other jurisdictions.

Earlier this year, Site Selection Magazine named Georgia as a leader in business friendliness. In 2015, our legislators must take steps to keep us there.

*Bob Shaw*

## Board of Directors

Robert J. Shaw  
Chairman  
[rshaw@dafc.us](mailto:rshaw@dafc.us)

Dr. Samuel Jolley, Jr.

## Powell Honored for Years of Service to DAFC



Dr. C. Clayton Powell receives an award from Doris Coleman for his 41 years of distinguished service to the DAFC at a reception in his honor on May 7.

## Kaplan-Morgan JV to Build Mixed Use Project in Sandy Springs

In February, the DAFC closed on a joint venture between Kaplan Residential and George S. Morgan Development Company for One City Walk, a 203-unit luxury mid-rise, mixed-use community in Sandy Springs, GA. Construction is slated to begin in June with completion of the first units expected in August 2015.

Besides residences, the project will include 8,000 square feet of street-facing retail space. Amenities include a rooftop deck with dramatic skyline views of Central Perimeter, Buckhead, Midtown and Downtown Atlanta. Also, the rooftop deck features a pool, grill station and bocce ball court in addition to a fitness center, clubroom, business center and dog park.

Morris Kaplan, chairman and CEO of Kaplan Residential noted, "This smart-growth plan is transforming the desirable Roswell Road Corridor into a highly walkable, mixed-use town center that will serve as the new downtown for the city."

## DAFC Board Members Re-appointed to Four-Year Terms

Vice Chair

Walter Metze  
Treasurer

Patrise Perkins-Hooker  
Secretary

Dr. Michael Bell

Penn Hodge

Dr. John E. Maupin, Jr.

Sam Bacote

Steve Broadbent

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**Senator Leroy R. Johnson**

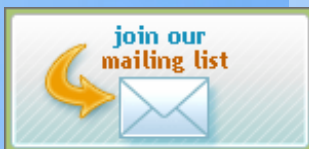
*Authority Counsel/ Attorney at Law*

**Lewis C. Horne, Jr.**

*Authority Counsel/ Attorney at Law*

**Sandra Zayac**

*Authority Counsel/ Attorney at Law*



L-R: Samuel D. Jolley, Jr., Steve Broadbent, Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Sam Bacote, Walter Metze, Bob Shaw. Not pictured: Penn Hodge, who was also re-appointed.

## Fulton & Douglas County Development Authorities Collaborate on Resort and Sporting Club

At a recent meeting, the development authorities of Douglas and Fulton Counties, agreed to a regional partnership involving the Foxhall Resort and Sporting Club in Douglas County. This unique, upscale, residential, mixed-use development features an urban sporting club and world-class event facilities along approximately 1,100 acres of Chattahoochee River front.

Located just 25 minutes south of Atlanta, the Foxhall Resort offers close proximity to the South Fulton Parkway, which provides a direct link between the resort and Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. The collaboration of the Foxhall Resort and the South Fulton Parkway demonstrates a regional approach to marketing and promoting the area.

Additionally, Douglas County will return to the Joint Development Authority of Metropolitan Atlanta as it's newest member, pending a final vote by Boards of Commissioners from Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton, Rockdale and Henry counties.

## Newly-Appointed JDAMA Officers Sworn-in During February Meeting at Villa Christina





L-R: Vaughn Irons, Bob Shaw, Larry Vincent

## Georgia Mentor Protege Connection Accepting Nominations for 2015 Program

The Georgia Mentor Protégé Connection Program announced recently it is accepting nominations and applications from high growth potential, small businesses for its 2015 program.

Deserving companies should be ready to revamp their businesses and take them to the next level. Eligible companies must have: 1) minimum of three years in business in the State of Georgia; 2) \$1M to \$30M in annual revenue; and 3) a minimum of three full time employees. Interested businesses should apply by June 2.

For an application form, visit [http://georgiampc.org/documents/2013-2014\\_Mentor\\_Protege\\_Application\\_form.pdf](http://georgiampc.org/documents/2013-2014_Mentor_Protege_Application_form.pdf)

## South Metro Smart Growth Conference Held in Atlanta

In February, the South Metro Development Outlook (SMDO) Conference convened professionals with an interest in fostering smart growth in the southern crescent. The conference was entitled "2014: Gaining Momentum," and speakers, who included industry experts and government officials, provided valuable information on the effects of today's changing economy on the South Metro area.

In its 12th year, SMDO is the largest of its kind in the South Metro Atlanta area and attracted more than 500 attendees, including elected officials from a seven-county region: Clayton, Coweta, Douglas, Fayette, Henry, South



L-R: Valerie Edwards, David Ellis, Vaughn Irons, Kevin Kern, Dale Royal

Fulton, Spalding, and the City of Atlanta.

Michael Hightower, managing partner of The Collaborative Firm, a land use planning, program management and real estate development company, established the South Metro Development Outlook Conference in 2002.

## Few Economic Development Bills Pass During 2014 Georgia Legislative Session

The 2014 Georgia General Assembly gaveled to a close just after midnight on the 40th day in a session that largely lived up to its billing: fast, non-controversial and limited in scope. After last year's highly active session on economic development issues, very little new ground was plowed in 2014. Here is an overview of key bills:

SB 353 - DAFC-supported legislation that closed loopholes in state economic development statutes, which made it to the cusp of passage, only to fail when the House Rules Committee recommitted it to the House Economic Development Committee at session's end. Also endorsed by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the bill is expected back next legislative session.

HB 921 - required development authorities to report quarterly to their governing authorities and local school boards. It failed to pass. Meanwhile, HR 1239 created an economic development authority study committee and was approved by the House Budget & Fiscal Affairs Committee. HR1239 also died. DAFC actively worked to prevent the passage of these bills.



GA legislators pass few ED bills under the Gold Dome

HB 128 - Georgia Downtown Renaissance Fund Act created a fund to make direct investments in Georgia's downtown areas. The fund, administered by the Department of Community Affairs, is authorized at \$5 million annually for four years, for a total of \$20 million. It passed and is on the Governor's desk.

HR 1573 - Joint Study Committee on Critical Transportation Infrastructure Funding created a 16-member joint House/Senate study committee to look at transportation infrastructure funding. The study committee must make recommendations by Nov. 30, 2014.

HB 855 - changed state development laws to assist the City of Atlanta's effort to develop its Beltline projects. Largely supported by most in the economic development community, it passed the House and made it to the Senate floor, where it was tabled.