



# City of Douglasville Development Authority

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## Jamie Gilbert Named Finalist To Lead City of Douglasville's Economic Development Initiatives

Jamie Gilbert, an economic development professional with experience in the private and public sectors, has been chosen as the top candidate to serve as executive director of the City of Douglasville Development Authority. The announcement was made this week following a called meeting of the authority.

"Proven economic development experience, communications and government relations were the leading characteristics the authority looked for in the candidates," according to Darren Bak, chair of the authority. "Jamie met all three of these criteria exceptionally well. His knowledge, personality and business acumen will serve Douglasville well for years to come."

Gilbert currently serves as deputy director of planning and economic development for Genesis Consulting Group in Columbia, South Carolina. He is responsible for assisting clients with strategic planning for economic development, recreation and transportation projects, as well as support services for site certifications and environmental assessments.



**Jamie Gilbert**  
Finalist For Executive  
Director's Position

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“Leading the economic development initiatives for a community like Douglasville is exactly where I want to be in my professional career,” according to Gilbert. “I wanted to return the day-to-day operations of a local development authority. The City of Douglasville also offers a great place for my wife and two daughters to enjoy a quality of life that is only found where the leadership of a community has planned for the future.”

After graduating from Clemson University with a master’s degree in city and regional planning, Gilbert began his professional career in 1992 at the Cecil County Office of Economic Development in Elkton, Maryland. He has also held leadership positions with the Baltimore County Department of Economic Development in Towson, Maryland; Greater Baltimore Alliance in Baltimore, Maryland; Abbeville County Development Board in Abbeville, South Carolina; and the Greenwood Partnership Alliance in Greenwood, South Carolina. Gilbert has facilitated projects totaling more than 12,000 new jobs and \$600 million in capital investments.

The council and mayor re-activated the development authority in 2008 with the goal of building a strong economic development program for both existing and new businesses inside the City of Douglasville. Since January, the appointed members of the authority have been working with community, government and business leaders to lay the foundation for the first executive director of the organization.

“The process of selecting an executive director began last fall,” says Bill Osborne, city manager and interim executive director of the authority. “The members of the authority have worked diligently to stay focused on increasing employment opportunities for the citizens of this region and increase the tax base for the City of Douglasville with the type of businesses that are compatible with our infrastructure.”

A total of 28 candidates submitted résumés for the position. Fourteen of the candidates completed a detailed application in order to move to the next step in the selection process. The candidates were from Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Florida, Missouri, Massachusetts, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

The authority is required by state law to wait 14 days before voting to employ an executive. A called meeting of the organization will be held on March 31 to finalize the selection process.

In addition to Bak, other members of the authority include Charles Clark, Janet Kelley, Mike Kendall, Cindy Pocali, and Doug Dean. Mayor Mickey Thompson serves as an ex-officio member.

The Chason Group, Inc. of Cartersville, Georgia has assisted the authority with the executive search.

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