



## Aundi Lesley Accepts Economic Development Manager Position with City of Canton

*(Canton, Georgia)* Aundi Lesley has accepted the economic development manager position with the City of Canton. City Manager Billy Peppers made the announcement. Lesley's started the position this week. The Chason Group (TCG) led the economic development search for the city.

"Economic development is crucial to the citizens of Canton and the community as a whole," according to Peppers. "Aundi has the skill sets and experiences we were seeking in an economic development professional. I believe her collaboration mindset will work well with other members of TeamCanton."

Most recently, Lesley served as the downtown development director for the City of Rome, a position she had held since 2020. Previous positions include main street director with the City of Carrollton and program coordinator for the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center.

Lesley earned an undergraduate degree from the University of West Georgia in business administration and a Master of Public Administration degree from Jacksonville State University.

"I am excited to become involved with the City of Canton's businesses and citizens," Lesley said. "The city has experienced a tremendous amount of growth over the past ten years. I look forward to working with other partners to continue to create an environment for the types of businesses citizens want in the community."

The economic development manager for the city is responsible for marketing, promotion, public relations, and program development to attract and retain businesses and potential investors. The professional collaborates and serves as a support mechanism for the Cherokee County Office of Economic Development. Other organizations the city works closely with include the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Development Authority, Georgia Department of Economic Development, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, utilities, and local non-profit organizations.

The executive search process for the city was divided into three segments. The first included listening to government, community, and business leaders about the successes of recent years and visions for the city in the years to come. The second phase was designed to cast the net for candidates. And finally, the third covered an extensive process of evaluating candidates and their resources.



### **New Contact Info**

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