

Position Announcement

Economic Development Director



Overview. The City of Roswell, Georgia's Mayor and Council have initiated an executive search for an Economic Development Director. The Chason Group has been retained by the local government to lead the process.

About the City of Roswell. Located 20 miles from Downtown Atlanta, Roswell is the eighth-largest city in Georgia with a population of more than 94,000. Incorporated in 1854, the city was founded by Roswell King, who established the Roswell Manufacturing Company and built a cotton mill to harness the power of local rivers to make textiles. Roswell is recognized as one of the most desirable suburb locations in North Atlanta for families and young entrepreneurs.

The city's policies are established by a mayor and six council members. The mayor is elected to a four-year term and serves as the chief executive officer of the city. As the presiding officer at city council meetings, the mayor votes only in the case of a tie between city council members. Council members are elected for four-year terms on a staggered basis. Day-to-day operations of the city falls on the city administrator who manages the government's \$150 million budget and oversees eight departments and 30 offices and divisions.

About the Community. Known for its lush and extensive park system, Roswell boasts more than 1,000 acres of green space and community recreation areas—both passive and active. Positioned along the Chattahoochee River, Roswell is also located between Lake Allatoona and Lake Lanier and is only a short drive from the Appalachian Mountains to the north.

The city has a rich artistic and cultural history, with community events throughout the year that draw visitors from around metro Atlanta.

A number of private schools, international schools, religious schools, special needs schools, and virtual academies are located throughout Roswell and nearby areas.

Continuing higher education is also readily available, with local campuses of Georgia State University, Georgia Perimeter College, the Art Institute of Atlanta, Kennesaw State University, and DeVry University nearby.

Roswell By The Numbers*

Total Square Miles	42.02
Median Household Income	\$99,726
Median Home Value	\$374,700

*2019 US Census Data

Position Announcement - City of Roswell, Georgia

Economic Development Director

The Position. The Economic Development Director serves as the City of Roswell's chief economic development strategist with the continuous goal of putting the city on the international economic development map.

The professional is responsible for leading, directing, and facilitating inclusive and strategic economic development initiatives to grow and maintain jobs and increase the business tax base for the City of Roswell and surrounding areas. The director is accountable for both commercial and industrial recruitment and support services for existing businesses.

Other responsibilities include: developing, maintaining, and implementing an economic development strategic plan; continuous research and follow-through on various industry sectors that may be a target sector for the city; staying current on relevant trends in economic development and incentives; and present information to city management, elected officials, and other stakeholders as required. The director represents the City of Roswell during client meetings and partnership opportunities.

Partnership development will also be a key component for the success of the director. The successful candidate will work with Roswell, Inc., Visit Roswell, Roswell Downtown Development Authority Greater North Fulton Chamber of Commerce, North Fulton Community Improvement District, public-private partnerships, education institutions, governments, and business leaders on local, state and federal levels to enhance the economic development environment of the community.

Requirements. Candidates applying for the director's position must hold a Bachelor's degree, preferably with an MBA or other post-graduate work from an accredited university, or equivalent experience in economic development or a similar field.

Other requirements include extensive experience in the commercial, retail and office sector development and redevelopment; at least ten years of leadership/management experience in economic development, business, government, or non-profit sector, or a combination of these fields.

A proven track record of successfully working with an economic development organization, governments and community stakeholders is extremely important.

Key Attributes. The search committee for the City of Roswell is seeking a professional who has keen knowledge and experience in the commercial redevelopment field. Also, applicants should have a proven track record of working with existing businesses to retain employment and investments.

Building and executing the city's economic development strategy and vision of the citizens will be a key component for the director. This will include establishing and being held accountable for tactical objectives.

Excellent communication skills in terms of verbal, written, listening, and digital means will be critical to the success of the position. This will include being comfortable and adept at multi-level communications and complex relationship building scenarios.

Candidates should also be prepared to develop budgets that represent the goals and objectives of economic development for the City of Roswell.

How to Apply for the Position. Professionals interested in apply for the Economic Development Director's position with the City of Roswell may upload a cover letter and resume at www.thechasongroup.com. For more information about the position, candidates may contact Tim Chason at 404.735.0540 or Mark Lytle at 470.279.9388. The deadline for cover letters and resumes to be submitted is July 23, 2021.

Applicants will be evaluated on a weighting scale approved by the city's search committee. Leading candidates will be tasked with completing a detailed application.

